

## **INFLUENCE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL FEATURES OF THE DRIVER ON ROAD TRAFFIC SAFETY**

*Polchouskaya Anna*

*Supervisor, Powlovich An., Candidate of Technical Sciences  
(Belarusian National Technical University)*

Psychological features of a person make up an original style of all of his or her activity and behaviour. Taking into account this fact will allow to increase not only safety of traffic, but also its efficiency.

In the system «driver - automobile – road» special attention is given to such elements, as road and the automobile. But according to statistics only 20 % of road accidents are caused by technical reasons, the other 80 % of road accidents happen due to driver's fault. Therefore, a comprehensive study of driver behaviour in various road conditions is necessary. The results of a research conducted in the USA, have shown: when the drivers who repeatedly got in road traffic accident had informed about their psychological and physiological features, the breakdown rate of their guilt decreased by  $\frac{2}{3}$ .

In the report, an attempt to analyse the interrelation of psychological features of a driver and road traffic safety is presented. Recommendations depending on the type of temperament are presented to help to choose the sphere of driver's activity.

The choleric person reacts very quickly, frequently thoughtlessly, has no time to constrain itself, shows impatience, impetuosity, irascibility. He accepts the cyclic activity exacting big, but the periodic expense of power. Therefore the choleric person can work as a taxi driver or driver of a special destination vehicle. But he should not train to drive a vehicle, carry hot cargoes or carry out international transportations. Such driver creates an atmosphere of nervousness and aggression on road, provokes other drivers to display impatience and haste as haste of actions increases road accident risk.

To the sanguine person, as well as the choleric person, a variety of activities is necessary, they do not accept monotonous work. The sanguine person will accept work as a driving teacher, a taxi driver or a driver of

a special destination vehicle. His acts are considered; therefore he is capable to act successfully in extreme situations. But in case of normal and reduced traffic he can make mistakes.

The phlegmatic person is characterized by patience, endurance and self-control. He accepts work as a public transport driver, a driving teacher or work in the sphere of international carriages. Besides he can successfully discharge technological carriages, and work as the driver of the off-highway tractor.

The melancholic is a person with weak nervous system. Activities demanding significant pressure, connected with unexpectedness and complications are not recommended him. Melancholics are not advised to work as drivers. Such people successfully fulfil work in the minimal and normal modes, but sharply reduce reliability and safety in an extreme mode. In a non-standard situation they become flustered, take incorrect decisions that do not depend on their experience, length of service and knowledge. Therefore melancholic drivers aspire to minimize the possibility of an extreme situation (checking of the vehicle before trip, accurate driving, observance of traffic rules).

The vehicle is a source of increased danger, therefore the driver accounts not only for himself, but also for other participants of traffic. Knowledge of psychological preconditions of those or other actions of drivers in a road situation allows not only to predict their conduct, but also to correct it (including motivation) with the purpose of traffic safety.

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