

ON-SITE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT EVALUATION AND PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE SAFETY OF ACCESS TO WORKPLACES

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Resume

Transport is a phenomenon currently used in almost every sector. That is why attention is to be paid to transport safety, which should not only be addressed in relation to situation in cities or urban areas, but it is also necessary to deal with transport safety in larger enterprises where motor traffic encounters non-motorized traffic. The authors elaborated a similar research study. The introductory two sections analyze the current situation in terms of identifying bottlenecks of the traffic organization on the industrial site and possible separation of motor from non-motorized traffic to ensure safe access to workplaces and improve safety of transport on the site. In the most important part of the study, the obtained results are presented, wherein the “load” of the individual entry and exit points is specified. Thereafter, based on the acquired data, particular solutions related to transport safety with appropriate discussion are proposed.

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1 Introduction

Transport safety represents a fundamental issue for any state or region and public, as well as private, authorities concerned are confronted with a problem of identifying a certain location wherein the specific safety restrictions and improvement measures are to be undertaken [1]. The very aspects associated with the three elements of transport safety; i.e. driver, vehicle, transport infrastructure and its surroundings, are often evaluated and investigated by implementing a variety of advanced information systems and technologies and have an influence on the particular consideration of transport safety and quality [2-3].

Transport safety will continue to be a crucial issue for each society, especially for the low-income states. The most relevant aspects affecting a road safety level and hence, may be considered to be key attributes in the context of introducing specific safety measures are as follows [4-7]:

- parameters of route (foundation, slopes, curves, gradients, designed parameters for vehicles and so forth),
- parameters of an entrance to the area concerned (access point),
- parameters of vehicles,

- infrastructure maintenance level,
- infrastructure network saturation degree,
- location visibility,
- long-term and short-term weather conditions,
- drivers and population features,
- previous statistics of drivers associated with transport safety in the given territory,
- preferences and special requirements.

Analogous topics have been addressed in a series of publications presented by numerous authors. For instance, the subject of the traffic safety in terms of social and economic aspects, such as working conditions, job strain and driving accidents, is emphasized in [8] by Useche et al. by Meszaros et al. [9] and by Malka et al. [10].

As far as another similar aspect is concerned, literature sources [11-12] deal with an issue of traffic safety systems in water transport, while Jurkovic et al. designed an advanced technology to increase navigation safety encompassing a system for monitoring the life functions of a crew member, as well as a position of the vessel towards the fairway/shore [11], whereas Wang et al. [12] tried to eliminate a risk of occupational hazards and thus improve safety conditions when strengthening hazard knowledge and enhancing safety behavior for water port employees.

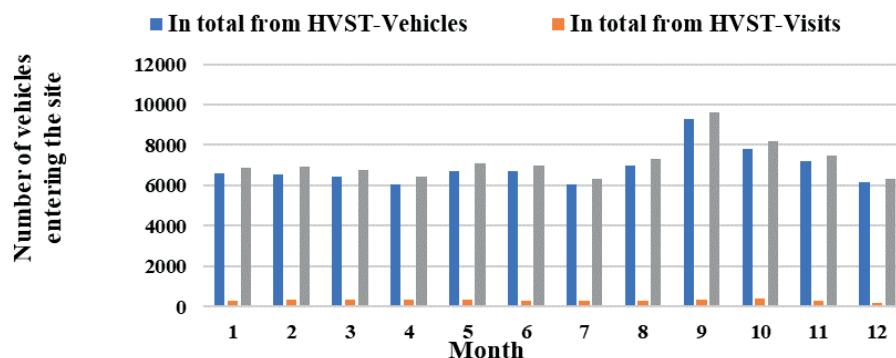


Figure 1 Number of vehicles entering the site through the main entrance in the reference period

Table 1 Daily average of vehicles entering the site through the main gate (HVST-overall)

day of the Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	total daily average for 5 days of the week in the reference period
total daily average in the reference period	303.7	333.75	334.82	317.4	277.6	43.8	39.1	313.6

On the other hand, in publications [6, 13-14], a topic concerning an effect of a human factor on generating the traffic congestions is analyzed. Lizbetin and Bartuska were focused on creation of the traffic congestions, specifically on urban roads, wherein they confirm that the driver reaction (perception) time affects a number as well as an extent of such congestions [6]. In relation to manuscript [13], Kubanova and Poliakova highlighted importance of scheduling the truck-driver time, as one of the essential elements associated with the transport safety. As for Useche et al., their practical research study [14] investigates a relation between the stress-creating work conditions of bus-rapid-transport drivers and risky driving behaviors, as well as looks into whether fatigue entails a factor intermediating a relationship between these two attributes.

Even Posuniak et al. elaborated related publication, in which they presented the restraint safety systems for children (i.e. booster seats) when carrying in vehicles [15]. In particular, they conducted several experiments when utilizing child dummies under simulated traffic circumstances to better comprehend an impact on both the traffic dynamics and kinematics of the technology being applied.

And last but not least, description of different techniques for vehicle data detection used when the road traffic counting, during the largest traffic survey conducted in the Czech Republic, focused mainly on the traffic safety data, is outlined in article compiled by Hanzl et al. [16].

2 Data and methods

The objective of this manuscript is to analyze the current state on the specific industrial site

regarding the traffic organization, identify potential bottlenecks in this particular regard and thereafter, propose possible scenarios in terms of separating motor from non-motorized traffic, as well as streamlining parking situation in order to secure safe access to individual workplaces and enhance transport safety on this site.

To this end, as alternative methods to be applied, following recommendations for their implementation into the examined industrial site are presented in the next sections of this research study: a) classification of roads and pathways on the site to secure better traffic management resulting in a more favorable orientation of drivers and pedestrians; b) design of a new parking area for heavy trucks to eliminate traffic jams currently emerging on the main road); c) design of new parking bays allowing vehicles to wait for handling while not obstructing the free passage of other vehicles; d) separation of road transport from pedestrians; i.e. establishment of a new pathway method for more convenient orientation of employees.

As for the access to workplace, regarding the examined enterprise, the main entrance (hereinafter referred to as HVST) is designed for employees, contractors, visitors and vehicles up to 3.5 tones. Persons enter the site through turnstiles 1 to 5 at the gate and only one person passes through in the car - the driver. The modified data set includes a breakdown of incoming vehicles into vehicles of visitors (hereinafter referred to as HVST-Visits) and other vehicles (hereinafter referred to as HVST-Vehicles) [17].

During the reference (examined) period, it was identified that about the same number of vehicles entered the site through the main entrance, which is over 6,000 vehicles per month, with a daily average of more than 200 vehicles (see Figure 1). However, these

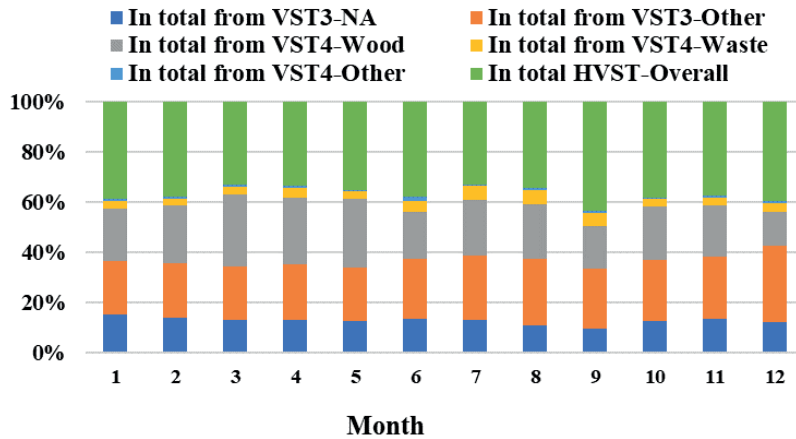


Figure 2 Percentage of vehicles per site entrance investigated in the reference period

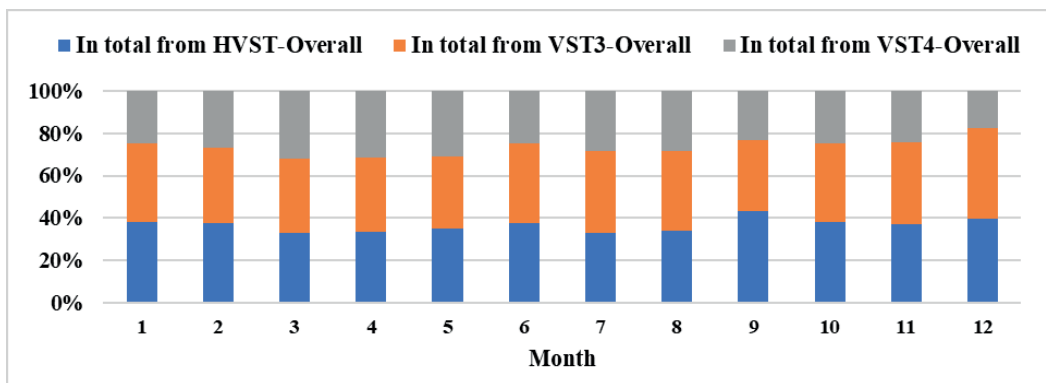


Figure 3 Percentage of the sum of all the vehicles per site entrance investigated in the reference period

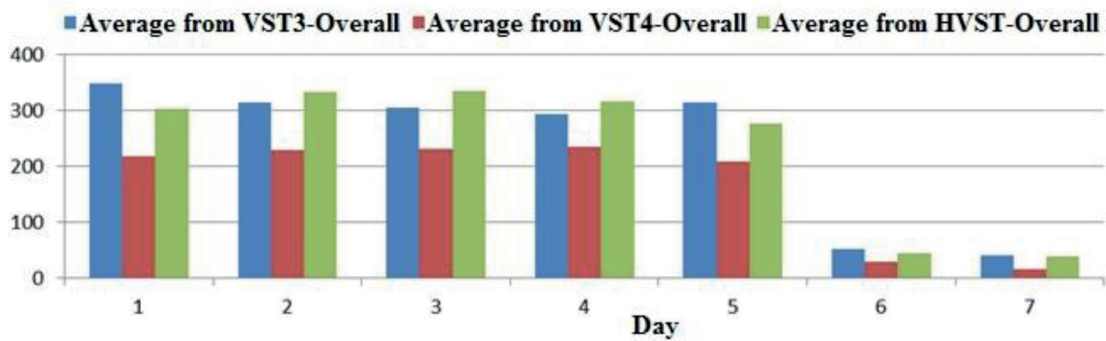


Figure 4 Daily average of vehicles per site entrance investigated in the reference period by day

values are affected by a significant decline in vehicles on Saturday and Sunday.

That is why the daily average of vehicles passing through the main entrance every day of the week is also provided (see Table 1). The daily average in the reference period was 300 vehicles from Monday to Friday with Tuesday and Wednesday (330 vehicles) being the busiest days and with a partial decline on Monday (300 vehicles) and especially on Friday (280 vehicles). The average on Saturday and Sunday was 40 vehicles.

In addition to the main entrance, two other entrance gates on the site, identified as entrance 3 (in figures and tables, referred to as VST3) and entrance 4 (in figures and tables, referred to as VST4) of the enterprise, were considered. Based on the processed data, Table 2

provides statistical evaluation of those entrances during the reference period [18-19]. As far as the number of vehicles during the reference period is concerned, entrance 3 with a total of 86,535 vehicles was the most occupied, followed by the main entrance with 86,347 vehicles and entrance 4 with a total of 62,820 vehicles.

The percentage of vehicles entering the site per entrance and month of the reference period is shown in Figures 2 and 3.

The overall data shows that this percentage does not even change with the day of the week [19].

The daily average of vehicles entering the site through the entrances investigated on each day of the week is shown in the following Figure 4. The average of 300 vehicles enter the site through entrance 3 and

Table 2 Number of vehicles entering the site through the entrances investigated

month	VST3-NA	VST3-other	VST3-overall	VST4-wood	VST4-waste	VST4-other	VST4-overall	HVST-vehicles	HVST-visits	HVST-overall
01	2,770	3,846	6,616	3,747	560	163	4,470	6,592	293	6,885
02	2,587	4,002	6,589	4,269	514	178	4,961	6,571	339	6,910
03	2,681	4,440	7,121	5,857	640	125	6,622	6,419	351	6,770
04	2,552	4,249	6,801	5,079	829	113	6,021	6,058	363	6,421
05	2,569	4,391	6,960	5,577	620	120	6,317	6,734	369	7,103
06	2,546	4,399	6,945	3,486	778	316	4,580	6,690	310	7,000
07	2,513	4,945	7,458	4,300	1,087	120	5,507	6,059	271	6,330
08	2,394	5,652	8,046	4,684	1,204	232	6,120	7,006	312	7,318
09	2,147	5,328	7,475	3,741	1,228	171	5,140	9,266	341	9,607
10	2,783	5,177	7,960	4,641	597	157	5,395	7,787	381	8,168
11	2,687	5,032	7,719	4,072	646	124	4,842	7,177	312	7,489
12	2,003	4,842	6,845	2,177	586	102	2,845	6,147	199	6,346
in total	30,232	56,303	86,535	51,630	9,289	1,921	62,820	82,506	3,841	86,347

Table 3 Number of personnel using the access points at a distance of less than 500m

no.	description	distance from the main entrance in meters	number of employees using the given entrance			
			shift 1	shift 2	shift 3	shift 4
5	PM 16 - material preparation plant	100	22	10	6	6
6	channel storage system of finished goods PS 16/17	145	6	6		
1	finished goods store	200	30	11		
37	electric motor store	200	2			
8	treatment plant for PS 7 - processing machine hall	217	31	20	8	8
2	PS 1 - preparation plant	218	23	12		
7	administrative building of the timberyard + workshops	260	5	0		
10	timberyard - decortication and cutting machines ANDRITZ	409	22	11	11	
12	near mechanical workshops	477	5	0		
11	sanitation facilities	478	3	0		
13	mechanical workshops	500	23	2		
	total		172	72	25	14

the main entrance daily from Monday to Friday and the average of over 200 vehicles through entrance 4.

3 Use of the main entrances to the site by pedestrians

A breakdown of workplaces by distance from the main entrance was based on the available data [13]. Table 3 shows workplaces at a distance of less than 500m from the main entrance - a total of 11 workplaces. Table 4 shows workplaces at a distance of 500m to 1,000m from the main entrance - 10 workplaces. Table 5 shows workplaces at a distance of more than 1,000m from the main entrance - 10 workplaces. Two

“unattended” workplaces and two workplaces with zero number of employees were not included in calculations. In addition, the office building (3) with the largest number of employees (300) of all the workplaces was not considered, since this building is not accessed through the main entrance [20]. In addition, the administrative building (97) was not considered, since it is used for training of contractors - the west entrance from the parking lot or the east entrance to the site for the foreign language courses.

Consequently, tabular data is presented graphically for all the shifts (see Figure 5).

Based on the analysis of the input data (number of employees, the expected financial investments, etc.), a proposal may be made to prioritize repairs/

Table 4 Number of personnel using the access points at a distance of 500m to 1,000m

no.	description	distance from the main entrance in meters	number of employees using the given entrance			
			shift 1	shift 2	shift 3	shift 4
14	mechanical maintenance workshops	550	17	6		
15	chemical store	600	1	1		
17	COV - chemical water treatment plant	650	1	1	1	
16	celpap warehouses + new cafeteria	680	5	0		
18	COV - operations building	740	32	7	7	
19	control room of the cooking plant	760	15	5		
20	administrative building of the pulp mill	900	36	2		
21	boiler house (RK1 + KB)	972	38	12	12	
27	workshops and locker room	997	4	1		
28	water treatment plant	1,000	5	2		
	total		154	37	20	0

Table 5 Number of personnel using the access points at a distance of more than 1,000m

no.	description	distance from the main entrance in meters	number of employees using the given entrance			
			shift 1	shift 2	shift 3	shift 4
25	paper processing plant PM18	1,300	65	30		
26	solo packaging	1,300	25	8		
23	paper making machine hall PM 18	1,400	31	11	9	9
31	warehouses	1,400	3			
33	porter's lodge - entrance CIII	1,400	3	3		
34	finished goods store PM 18	1,400	13	6		
32	spare part store	1,500	6			
35	dock and workshop	1,550	3	0		
30	fire station - SD-pallets	1,600	17	12	4	
36	entrance gate for vehicles	1,954	4			
	total		170	70	13	9

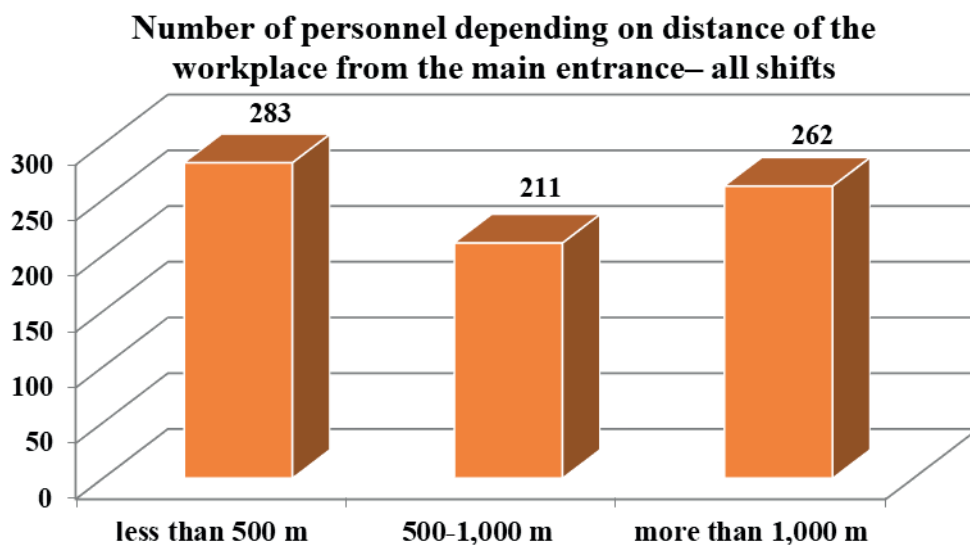
**Figure 5** Number of personnel depending on distance of the workplace from the main entrance - all shifts

Table 6 Workplaces with more than 20 employees

no.	description	distance from the main entrance in meters	number of employees using the given entrance			
			shift 1	shift 2	shift 3	shift 4
25	paper processing plant PM18	1,300	65	30		
21	boiler house (RK1 + KB)	972	38	12	12	
20	administrative building of the pulp mill	900	36	2		
18	COV - operations building	740	32	7	7	
23	paper making machine hall PM 18	1,400	31	11	9	9
8	treatment plant for PS 7 - processing machine hall	217	31	20	8	8
1	finished goods store	200	30	11		
26	solo packaging	1,300	25	8		
13	mechanical workshops	500	23	2		
2	PS 1 - preparation plant	218	23	12		
10	timberyard - decortication and cutting machines ANDRITZ	409	22	11	11	

Table 7 Number of pedestrians and vehicles moving through the main entrance and entrance 3 during week

day of the week	pedestrians			vehicles			Total
	VST1 01	VST1 02	VST1 /P	VST1 /O	VST3 /P	VST3 /O	
1	1,135	1,070	314	314	384	359	3,576
2	1,217	1,143	319	342	371	334	3,726
3	1,253	1,195	336	349	374	356	3,863
4	1,333	1,226	345	368	303	263	3,838
5	1,085	1,056	269	263	287	273	3,233
6	578	574	39	36	48	37	1,312
7	13	52	29	32	46	29	201
total	6,614	6,316	1,651	1,704	1,813	1,651	19,749
weekly average Monday-Friday	1,204.6	1,138	316.6	327.2	343.8	317	

constructions of pavements leading to the workplaces at a distance of less than 500 m, or the most occupied roads. In the next stage, the workplaces at a distance of over 500 m, or cycling solutions for workplaces at a distance of more than 1,000 m can be provided.

4 Use of the existing roads and pavements by pedestrians

To evaluate how the existing roads and pavements are used by pedestrians, workplaces with more than 20 employees in the first shift were selected. The largest number of employees is in the PM18 Paper Processing Plant (25). There are 65 employees in the first shift and this also applies to the second shift with 30 employees as illustrated in Table 6. The most occupied part of the road accounts for 160 employees in the first shift. This road should be prioritized to take into consideration a possible construction of a separate pavement [10].

Table 6 does not include workplaces where the roads

investigated are not used and workplaces with less than 20 employees in the first shift.

5 Analysis of the most occupied access points for vehicles and pedestrians

The data obtained from an analysis of the most occupied access points for vehicles and pedestrians is provided here. Persons who access the site through the main entrance are hereinafter referred to as VST1 01 and persons who exit the site through the main entrance as VST1 02 and cars entering (P) or exiting (O) the site.

Table 7 summarizes values concerning a number of pedestrians and vehicles entering and exiting the site through the main entrance and entrance 3 during one selected week. Figure 6 depicts all the values regarding a number of pedestrians and vehicles entering and exiting the site through the main entrance and entrance 3 by days [21-23].

The analysis identifies the largest number of

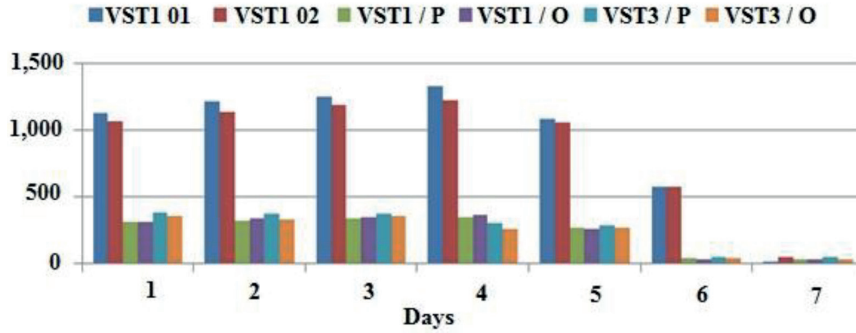


Figure 6 Number of pedestrians and vehicles entering and exiting the site through the main entrance and entrance 3 - by days

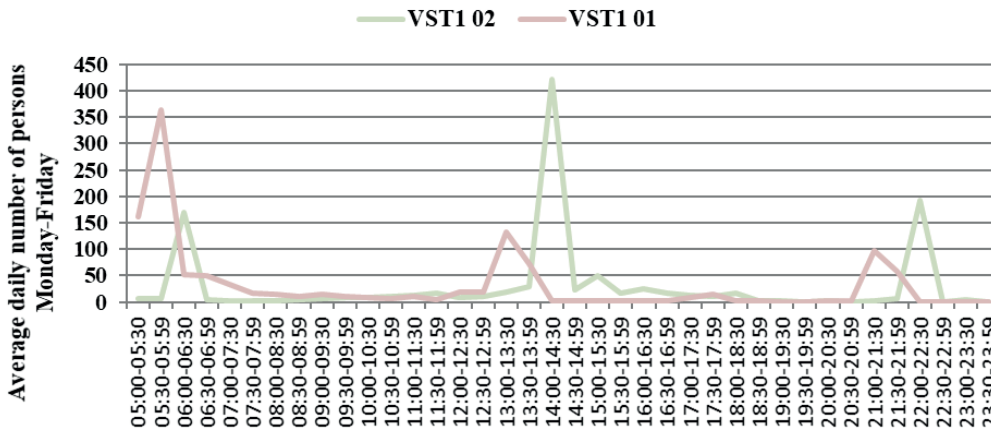


Figure 7 Average daily number of persons entering (01) and exiting (02) the site through the main entrance from Monday to Friday

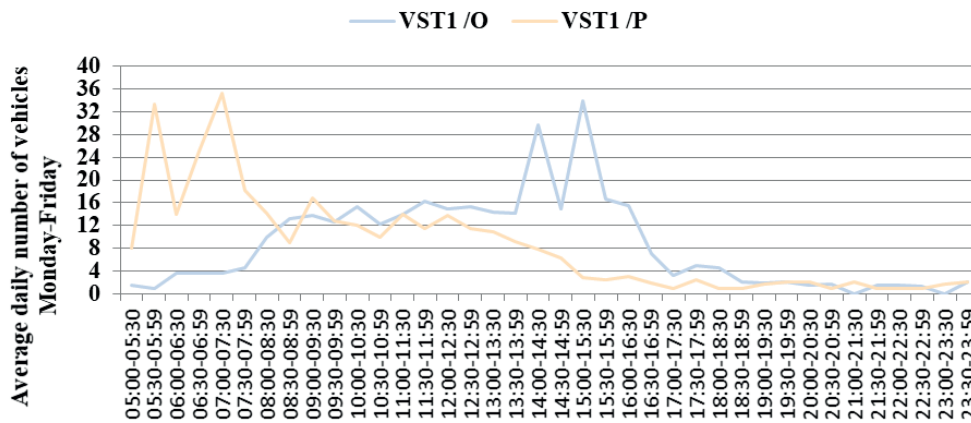


Figure 8 Average daily number of vehicles entering (P) and exiting (O) the site through the main entrance from Monday to Friday

persons with a weekly entry/exit average from Monday to Friday, namely persons who access the site - 1,204.6 and persons who exit the site - 1,138. The daily average is more than 300 vehicles entering and exiting the site through the main entrance and entrance 3.

Consequently, this data was analyzed in more detail at 30-minute intervals to determine the most exposed times regarding the number of persons who access the site through the main entrance. The most occupied time was specified the shift turnover at 5-7 a.m. where more than 600 people entered the site and 1-2 p.m. with more

than 200 people, followed by 9-10 p.m. with more than 150 people. In regard to exit the site, more than 160 people left at 6-6.30 a.m., more than 500 people at 1:30-3:30 p.m. and more than 190 people at 10-10:30 p.m.

The detailed results obtained, i.e. quantification of average daily values, are depicted in Figures 7 to 9.

As for the access through the main entrance, more than 100 vehicles on average entered the site between 5:30 and 7:30 a.m.; later, this number decreased and stagnated until 2 p.m. Thereafter, this number dropped rapidly. Regarding the exit of the site, most of the

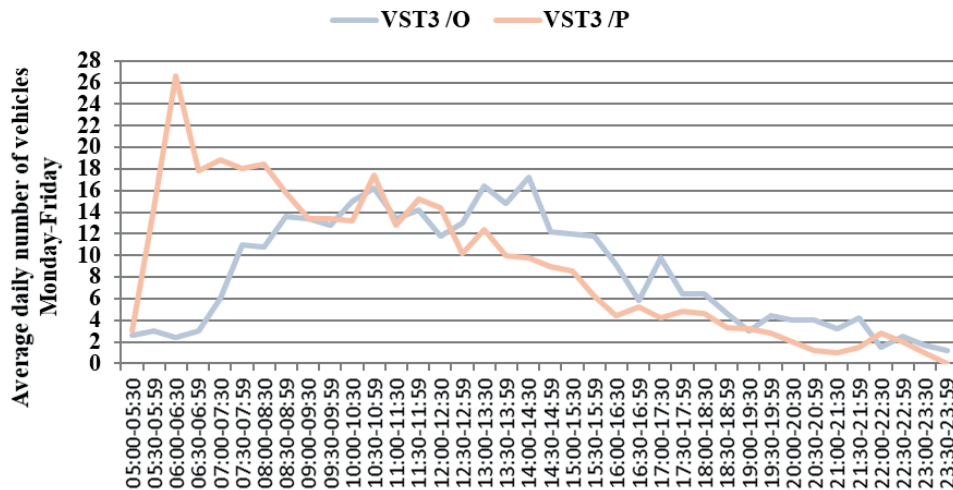


Figure 9 Average daily number of vehicles entering (P) and exiting (O) the site through entrance 3 from Monday to Friday



Figure 10 Proposed parking area for heavy trucks nearby entrance 3

vehicles left the site at 2-3:30, specifically more than 75.

Concerning the access through entrance 3, most of the vehicles (more than 40) entered the site between 5:30 and 7:30 a.m. Then, the average was of 18 vehicles in 30 minutes until 8:30 a.m. and later, more than 10 vehicles in 30 minutes until 1:59 p.m. After 2:00 p.m., the number of vehicles entering the site decreased and stagnated until the end of the day. In terms of exiting the site, the number of vehicles increased starting at 7 a.m., with the first peak from 10:30 to 10:59 a.m. - more than 16 vehicles in 30 minutes with a similar number of vehicles exiting the site again between 1:00-1:30 and 2:00-2:30 p.m.

6 Proposals to improve transport and discussion

This section consists of specific scenarios set towards improving the current state related to transport safety.

A. Systematic Marking of On-site Roads and Pathways

Considering the differentiation among different road functions and in a view of existing and expected traffic intensity and safety, for the examined manufacturing

enterprise, it is recommended to classify roads and pathways on the site in order to provide easier orientation and traffic management. It will require, for example, to assign names and characteristics and determine main and secondary roads and provide markings of important building numbers for on-site roads, e.g. loading points and so on. The systematic markings will support a possible incorporation of roads in navigation solutions, better orientation of drivers and other similar benefits [16, 24].

B. Parking of Trucks Waiting in Front of Entrance 3

Vehicle queues currently occur because of trucks waiting for entering the site on the existing road in front of entrance 3. The idea of moving trucks entering loading points on the site to public car parks near the industrial site is rather difficult. There is not a suitable parking place downtown for a larger number of heavy trucks. Nearby petrol stations do not have a sufficient capacity to play the role of a parking lot [25].

To this end, a temporary or permanent parking area for heavy trucks (see Figure 10) is suggested to be used/built on the side of the current porter's lodge III. The very parking area should be dimensioned to allow enough space in order to avoid queues on the existing

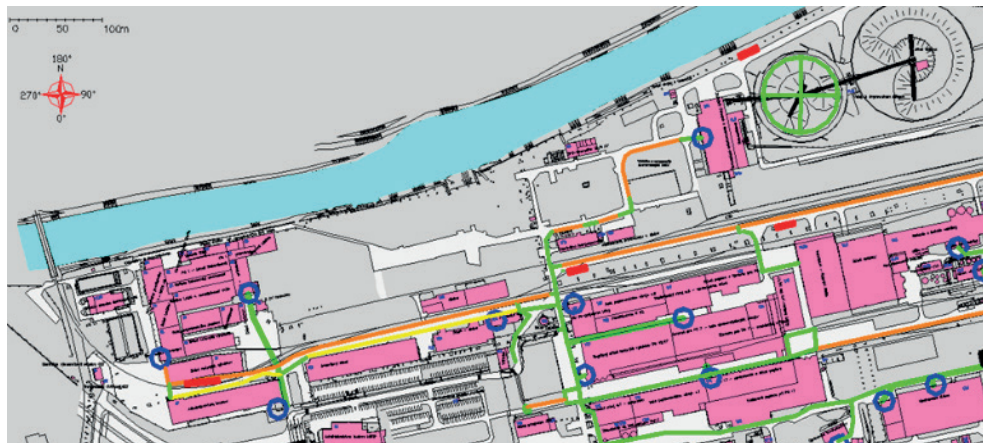


Figure 11 Recommended location for parking bays for trucks

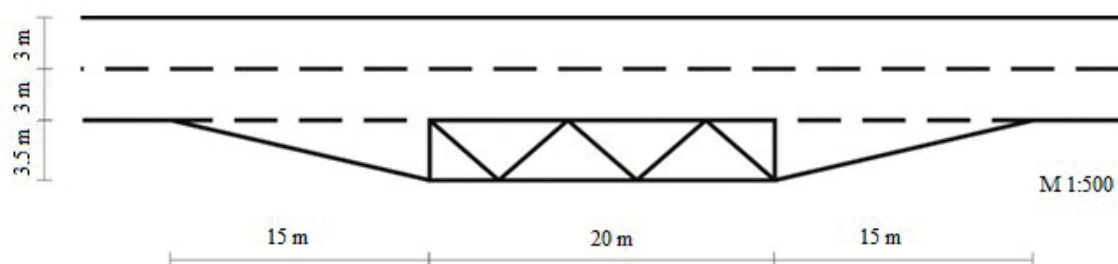


Figure 12 Scenario of a parking for articulated vehicles

road. Better material storage management in this area can create an additional space for a new parking area [26].

An alternative scenario for the heavy trucks parking area along the road (the main access to the town) is to build a parallel parking lot, which should eliminate traffic jams that currently emerge on the main road [19, 27].

C. Parking Bays on the Site

Currently, trucks are sometimes waiting for loading or unloading on several on-site roads. A solution would be to create parking bays allowing vehicles to wait for handling while not obstructing free passage of other vehicles (see Figure 11).

Parking areas for the road vehicles are designed in compliance with the technical standard STN 736056 where, however, dimensions for parking of articulated vehicles are not specified. Figure 12 illustrates a designed parking bay for such trucks. The width of the parking bay may also be reduced to 3 m.

D. Separation of Road Transport from Pedestrians

The current situation in terms of marking of sidewalks (pathways) was mapped based on the visual inspection of the industrial site. These are ensured by diagonal stripes, so called zebras along some roads. The current marking for pedestrians has many disadvantages such as it starts or leads to “nowhere” which may confuse pedestrians, as well as implementation of diagonal stripes is not appropriate with respect to form (confused

with pedestrian crossings). That is why a new pathway design is to be implemented for employees who come to and leave work as well as those intervening between workplaces on the site [28-29].

To introduce the new horizontal road surface markings in the main transport area, it is recommended to use parallel stripes, each of 125 mm wide, for marking of the areas for pedestrians. In accordance with the standard STN 736110 [29], an one-way pedestrian lane should have a width of 0.75 m, i.e. the recommended width of the pavement should be 1.50 m for both directions. At crossing points where pedestrians have to cross the roads, it is recommended to apply diagonal stripes, or a dashed line [29]. As far as marginal points of sidewalk are concerned, a horizontal pedestrian sign may be marked at the beginning and at the end, or at regular distances (approx. 20 m) to highlight a reserved pedestrian area [30].

The safest scenario is to separate pedestrians so that pathways on the main pedestrian diagonals are situated on a separate body in the adjacent area and secondary pathways are situated in the main traffic area and provided with the suggested horizontal road surface markings [31].

7 Conclusions

The transport safety on the industrial site could be increased by implementing at least some of the above recommendations, in particular in relation to motor and

non-motorized traffic, above all with the emphasis on pedestrian traffic. It would also be reasonable to improve, streamline and simplify the movement of vehicles on on-site roads and thus put towards shortening the time-period of stay of trucks on the site.

In general, safety can be defined as a circumstance without a real threat or danger. Nevertheless, it has different specifications depending on the industry or situation. With regard to transportation, safety is referred to as creating conditions for minimizing conflicts and disturbances of the traffic flow in a certain mode of transport.

As for the specific proposals to be implemented in the industrial site being investigated, they can be summarized as follows:

- classification of roads and pathways on the site to secure better traffic management resulting in a more favorable orientation of drivers as well as other psychological-positive benefits,
- construction of a new parking area for the heavy trucks in front of entrance 3 (see Figure 10) to avoid queues on the existing road (i.e. to eliminate traffic jams that currently emerge on the main road),
- construction of the new parking bays allowing vehicles to wait for handling while not obstructing free passage of other vehicles (see Figure 11),
- implementation of a new pathway design for employees so that pathways on the main pedestrian diagonals are situated on a separate body in the adjacent area and secondary pathways are situated in the main traffic area and provided with the suggested horizontal road surface markings.

Aforementioned definition could also be regarded as a formulation of the objective addressed in this research study that tried to meet with the proposed scenarios - to minimize or eliminate traffic conflict situations on the industrial site in the examined manufacturing enterprise.

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