

Press Release

Joint award from DVR, EVU, and DEKRA

DocStop initiative honored with the European Commercial Vehicle Safety Award

The German association DocStop für Europäer e.V. has been honored with the European Commercial Vehicle Safety Award 2026. The prize was awarded for the 37th time jointly by the European Association for Accident Research and Analysis (EVU), the expert organization DEKRA and the German Road Safety Council (DVR). The award was presented to DocStop chairman Joachim Fehrenkötter at the EVU Annual Conference in Žilina, Slovakia.

The DocStop initiative was launched in Germany in 2007 to support both domestic and foreign truck drivers by providing straightforward medical care. Since its founding, the association's work has focused on providing rapid, professional assistance for health issues that arise while on the road.

Initially, a tightly-knit network was established in Germany. Today, more than 700 medical practices and clinics participate in the program where affected drivers can receive treatment so they can continue their journey – provided it is medically safe to do so – well cared for. After all, only those who are healthy can drive safely and pose no danger to themselves or others. The service has since been expanded to include France and Austria, among other countries, and has been enhanced with a 24-hour hotline and a telemedicine component.

The doctors and clinics in the DocStop network primarily assist with “milder” ailments for which one would normally visit a family doctor, such as severe colds, persistent headaches, sudden back pain, or toothaches. “Suffering from such ailments while driving has the potential to endanger road safety because they impair the ability to concentrate. It becomes particularly dangerous when drivers take medication without medical supervision, resulting in a negative effect on their ability to drive,” said **Stefan Grieger**, CEO of the German Road Safety Council (DVR).

“The tremendous volunteer commitment of DocStop's members and board deserves the utmost respect,” said EVU Chairman **Prof. Michael Weyde**. “DocStop's contribution to road safety over the past nearly 20 years cannot be overstated. That is why it is

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more than justified that – following 36 individuals – a volunteer initiative is receiving the European Commercial Vehicle Safety Award for the first time this year.”

Jann Fehlauer, Managing Director of DEKRA Automobil GmbH, commented on the award: “The health of professional drivers plays an absolutely crucial role in road safety. This has once again been made clear, in particular, by the latest DEKRA Road Safety Report titled ‘Working in Road Traffic’. The DocStop association is an absolute pioneer in this field and is therefore a very deserving recipient of this award.”

Picture Caption

The 2026 European Commercial Vehicle Safety Award for the DocStop für Europäer e.V. initiative from Germany: The award was presented at the EVU Annual Conference in Žilina (Slovakia). From left to right: Professor Dr Hermann Steffan, EVU President; Joachim Fehrenkötter, Chairman of DocStop; Barend Hauwetter, Head of Vehicle Technology, Traffic Medicine and Europe at DVR; Peter Rücker, Head of Accident Research and Accident Analysis at DEKRA Automobil GmbH.

List of recipients to date

- 1990 Professor Paul Striffler (Daimler), Germany
- 1991 Professor Nikolaus Marx (University of Bremen), Germany
- 1992 Professor Ernst Göhring (Daimler), Germany
- 1993 Professor Klaus Langwieder (European Insurances Association), Germany
- 1994 Professor Egon-Christian von Glasner (Daimler), Germany
- 1995 Professor Gyula Köfalvi (Széchenyi István University), Győr, Hungary
- 1996 Siegfried Werber (DVR), Germany
- 1997 Professor Pál Michelberger (University of Budapest, President of FISITA), Hungary
- 1998 Eric Thoms (Scania), Sweden
- 1999 Toru Kajiyama (Isuzu), Japan
- 2000 Richard Hildebrandt (Allied Signal), USA
- 2001 Paul Oppenheimer MBE (Lucas-Girling), Great Britain
- 2002 Professor Jovan Todorovic (University of Belgrade), Serbia
- 2003 Bernard Tripier (Bosch), France
- 2004 Professor Sigmar Micke (Bosch), USA
- 2005 Friedrich-Wilhelm Matzner (Bendiberica), Spain
- 2006 Dr. Fujio Momiyama (Hino), Japan
- 2007 Dr. Jürgen Trost (Daimler), Germany
- 2008 Lennart Svenson (Volvo), Sweden
- 2009 Professor László Palkovics (Knorr), Hungary
- 2010 Professor Hartmut Marwitz (Daimler), Germany
- 2011 Hidehiko Enomoto (Hino), Japan



- 2012 Eberhard H.
- 2013 Christian B. Germany
- 2014 Dr. Erwin Petersen (WABCO), Germany
- 2015 Professor Jörg Zürn (Daimler), Germany
- 2016 Dr. Christian Wiehen (WABCO), Germany
- 2017 Fredrich Claezon (Scania), Sweden
- 2018 Alexander Berg (DEKRA), Germany
- 2019 Dr. Stefan Guserle (MAN), Germany
- 2020 Kay Morschheuser (Daimler), Germany
- 2021 Joachim Werner (Iveco), Germany
- 2022 Walter Niewöhner (DEKRA), Germany
- 2023 Ingo Scherhauser (Daimler Truck), Germany
- 2024 Andreas Wingert (Mitsubishi Fuso), Japan / Germany
- 2025 Anna Theander (Volvo Group), Sweden
- 2026 **DocStop für Europäer e.V. (DocStop for Europeans association), Germany**