Vet Provisions For Learning in The road Transport Industry

Jason Lewis

Introduction

Learning and working in the road transport sector

- Overview: Road transport
- Technology
- Isolation
- Context of practical investigation

Conceptual significance

- Multidimensional problem of learning
- Avoiding a 'consensus' approach
- Learning & knowledge development are dynamic and evolving
- Interdependence of individual and social factors in knowledge development

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Aims of the investigation

- To understand how human learning of knowledge that is socially-derived, but potentially hard to access, proceeds in circumstances of relative social isolation.

Three key areas

1. Conceptual ('hidden') Knowledge,
2. New technologies, and
3. Social isolation.

Research questions

- What individual cognitive learning approaches are most effective in the development of knowledge required for workplace performance?
- What sociocultural learning approaches are most effective in the development of knowledge required for workplace performance?
- How do both individual and social contributions integrate with each other to support and strengthen learning and conceptual development?

Methods and procedures

- Ethnographic qualitative research design
- Three phase process
  1. Initial semi-structured interviews
  2. Larger survey developed from interview responses
  3. Ethnography involving interviews, surveys, & observations
- Progressive data analysis to identify emerging trends and themes

- *Steve:* *"I like to listen to it. I like to listen to any strain on the truck. I don't like to put any unnecessary strain on the equipment. So I listen to the engine any hydraulics and any noises. Also with the window you get reflection in the mirrors so I like them down. It helps you know you are in the right gear. A lot of what you do you get a gut feel for it."*

- *Rodger:* *"I used to come in on my own time on weekends and practice. I'm still learning. I learnt by doing it and listening to more experienced drivers in the yard. If I was having troubles I would go and ask them how would be the best way to do this or that and they'd pass on their knowledge to me and say this is what works for me. That's where the old trial and error comes in, you try their way then try yours".*

Findings

- Importance of guided learning strategies
- OJT, Q's, social interaction, observation & listen.
- Impact of technology – especially telecommunications
- Combination of technological inputs + feel.
- VET to incorporate and use technology

Thank you

Questions?