



*Disclaimer: Dutch version translated with Google Translate.*

From 13 to 18 November, the ECR bilateral exchange with Germany took place in Valkenswaard. This exchange takes place every 2 years and is one of the many activities organized under the ECR banner. Hereby the report of colleague Erik Verboom, inspector of the transport of hazardous substances.

On Sunday afternoon at 5 pm, all participants of this bilateral exchange were expected at Hotel Jagershorst in beautiful Leende. When we arrived we were received with a warm welcome. Most of the BAG colleagues were also present. After a nice introduction (speed dating) with the German colleagues and a good dinner, it was time for a pleasant evening of bowling.

On Monday it was time for various presentations, including passenger transport and manipulation of the tachograph. All interesting topics and you can learn a lot from other colleagues within a day. I am sure that everyone will look back positively on this instructive day.

On Tuesday it was finally time, with my buddy (Olaf) for a checkup. Exciting, what will he pay attention to, do we both see the same thing? Checking the first transport unit with hazardous substances together at Rijkswaterstaat in Elsloo was quite exciting. Fortunately, we inspected the transport unit through the same lens and we both found the same thing, the "duo" had emerged.

Wednesday, early afternoon excursion to the DAF factory. Being able to see the process from the first piece of engine that comes out of the milling machine to a complete truck that literally rolls off the tire.

In the afternoon and evening, checks were planned at the RDW in Venlo and Elsloo. Olaf and I were again in Elsloo. We took the first tank container with hazardous substances that we saw driving by for inspection. During the inspection, we soon saw that this tank container was leaking. This leakage originated from loading, where product had spilled out through the overflow pipes and dripped onto the chassis. Fortunately, the tank container was no longer leaking. The spilled product on the chassis had hardened due to the outside temperature of 10 degrees. This allowed the tank container to be safely transported to its nearby unloading address in Herkenbosch. An official report will be drawn up against the filler of this tank container.

Thursday, looking back on the past few days. What have we all experienced and what has been found during the various checks. Later in the morning two presentations and the assignment to make a video about how you experienced the week. After lunch we all watched the movies together, and a quiz about the tachograph. I was so happy with my German colleague, because with zero experience with the digital tachograph, "we" still came second. Then as an inspector of hazardous substances road transport you really feel like a "odd duck" among all the road transport inspectors who have years of experience in checking the digital tachograph. In the evening, a dinner at restaurant "NU" in Eersel, a delicious meal and a certificate for participation in this beautiful week.

Friday, breakfast, say goodbye to each other and start the long journey back home.

How I enjoyed this week, met new people, made friendships and gained a wonderful experience.

Hopefully we'll see each other again soon!