

A Rare Event in Driver Education

A translated version of Ian Edwards book 'Can Drivers Really Teach Themselves?' is now available in Japan. This book is increasingly being seen across the world as one of the leading texts for driving instructors and other road safety professionals who deliver in-vehicle education. The Japanese translation follows on from a Finnish version of the book that was launched last year.

It is very rare that a book on driver education will be considered suitable for translation, as most books written on the subject tend to be specific to driving skills or dealing with the traffic. 'Can Drivers Really Teach Themselves?' can make this crossover, as it does not look at what to teach but on how to most effectively communicate. It discusses educational approaches rather than content and this is an area that has been overlooked in road safety for a number of years.

Mr. Akira Mochizuki of the Sumitomo Mitsui Auto Service Co. Ltd.* instigated the Japanese edition after receiving a copy of the book from the author following a recent trip Ian undertook to Japan.

**Sumitomo Mitsui Auto Service Co. Ltd., is one of the largest car leasing companies in Japan, which offers Road Traffic Safety management services to its customers.*

Ian said, "I sent Mr. Mochizuki a copy of the book as a simple thank you for translating on my visit to a Japanese driving school. He was about to attend a course on the use of coaching in driver education and saw the book as being the perfect support for other course participants." Ian is very excited to have the book added to the Finnish and English versions "I can't wait to have a copy on my bookshelf, it is a real honour to have the book translated into Japanese."

Mr. Mochizuki said, "When I saw the book I knew it was exactly what was needed, it is so easy to read and understand. I am very confident Japanese driving instructors will benefit from the ideas and concepts contained in the book".

The Japanese version of 'Can Driver Really Teach Themselves?' will be available from the end of May.

Notes to editors

'Can Drivers Really Teach Themselves?' was launched in the UK in 2011.

The book was placed on Northern Ireland's approved reading list for driving instructors in 2012.

It is extremely rare for books on driver education to be translated into other languages due to the differences in the cultural and in the traffic environment between countries.

Ian Edwards is one of the leading experts in Driver Education in the UK. He was a member of the EU-funded HERMES project which looked at developing a number of approaches to improve driver education. Ian lives in Doncaster, South Yorkshire.