



**Measure:**

Human Resources  
Development and Skilling

**Promoters:**

Strabane District Rural  
Transport Partnership  
R.A.N.T  
– Rural Areas Networking  
Togethert

**Title:**

**The North South Driver  
Training Project**



Successful trainees at the  
project awards evening

**Easilift operate a rural community transport service in the Strabane District Council locale, which have a minimal, or non-existent transport service provided by local operators. The aim of this project was to extend this service into rural Donegal.**

A shortage of suitably qualified individuals who hold an international driving licence (P.C.V) that would allow them to drive on both sides of the border, makes cross border mobility difficult for many individuals and groups who rely on community transport.

INTERREG IIIA funding allowed for the delivery of a training programme which enabled 30 individuals to gain an International Driving Licence and which also included the following modules:

- MIDAS (Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme)
- PATS (Passenger Assistants Training Scheme)
- Basic Vehicle Maintenance
- Fire Evacuation Procedures
- Basic First Aid
- Basic Essential Skills
- Child Protection Training

This training addressed an identified skills shortage in the community transport sector. It enhanced employment opportunities in areas which are among the highest ranked in terms of deprivation, it also encouraged cross border mobility and helped combat the social isolation and exclusion experienced by many individuals in the cross border area.

**Total Project Cost: £84,512**

**Grant Awarded: £63,384**

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