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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **MALCOLM GROUP DRIVER TRAINER COMPLETES TRANSAID SECONDMENT TO DELIVER HGV TRAINING IN TANZANIA**

The Malcolm Group's Driver Training & Compliance Manager, John Heirs, has returned to the UK after completing his third voluntary placement supporting Transaid's Professional Driver Training Project with the National Institute of Transport (NIT) in Dar es Salaam.

The project aims to reduce the number of road crashes and fatalities on Tanzanian roads by improving the standards of heavy goods vehicle (HGV) and passenger service vehicle (PSV) driver training.

During the secondment, Heirs delivered training to six NIT driver trainers, focusing on teaching practical driving techniques, and best practice when conducting drivers' daily vehicle checks and defect assessments, on two different HGVs used at the NIT – an IVECO Stralis and Trakker.

Commenting on his time in-country, Heirs says: "My main goal was to deliver comprehensive driver training to enhance the road safety skills of the trainers working at NIT. The environment they work in is very different to mine, but their objective is exactly the same – and I was able to share plenty of valuable tips and advice which I'm confident will stand them in good stead."

Reflecting on his third visit to the project, he adds: "It's been an honour to return to the NIT and see the significant improvements in hazard perception, safe driving behaviour, on-road direction and vehicle control during my visits. My time at the NIT has been some of the most rewarding of my career; I'm hugely grateful to Transaid and the Malcolm Group for giving me this opportunity."

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Heirs completed his first two-week secondment for Transaid in 2015, returning to the NIT the following year.

The Malcolm Group has been a long-term supporter of Transaid's work and became a corporate member in 2014. Since then, the company has backed the international development organisation through financial contributions, staff secondments, vehicle donations and by participating in its cycle challenges.

Transaid's Chief Executive, Caroline Barber, says: "Our sincere thanks go to John and to The Malcolm Group for its generous donation of time and expertise. Their continued support is enabling us to build both the capacity and standards of professional driver training in Tanzania."

Transaid partnered with the NIT in June 2010, two years after the launch of a similar project with the Industrial Training Centre in Zambia. Following the success of these initiatives, Transaid's driver trainer expertise was extended into other countries, including Malawi and Uganda.

For more information and to find out how you can support the organisation visit [www.transaid.org](http://www.transaid.org).

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**Note to Editor:**





**About Transaid**

Transaid transforms lives through safe, available, and sustainable transport. Founded by Save the Children, The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT), and its Patron, HRH The Princess Royal, the international development organisation shares 25 years' worth of expertise in 23 countries with partners and governments – empowering people to build the skills they need to transform their own lives.

Transaid's core work includes creating transport management systems for the public sector and assisting with the provision of professional driving qualification development and the training of driver trainers. It also assists with teaching preventive vehicle maintenance management and introducing local, low cost transport solutions including its innovative bicycle ambulance. Transaid also helps promote road safety awareness and shares its specialist knowledge with the humanitarian aid sector.

Transaid enjoys strong backing from the transport and logistics industry and the active involvement of its patron, HRH The Princess Royal.

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