



How GPS Vehicle Tracking

CAN TRANSFORM FLEET MANAGEMENT



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This innovative vehicle tracking technology can transform the way you manage your fleet, resulting in significant cost savings, productivity enhancements, and other operational improvements.

If you employ a fleet of vehicles – whether five, 500, or 5,000 – you’ve likely heard of global positioning system (GPS) vehicle tracking technology. This innovative “telematics” technology can transform the way you manage your fleet, resulting in significant cost savings, productivity enhancements, and other operational improvements.

According to Frost and Sullivan, a global market research and analysis firm, fleet operators that successfully implement a fleet management system can realize significant cost savings and operational improvements.* This includes:

Increases in:

Productivity	Up to 10 - 15%
Vehicle utilization	Up to 15 - 20%

Reductions in:



These companies can also realize overtime reductions of up to 10 to 15 percent, and labor savings up to 30 minutes per day, per driver. But there’s more to fleet management than just cutting costs and improving vehicle performance.

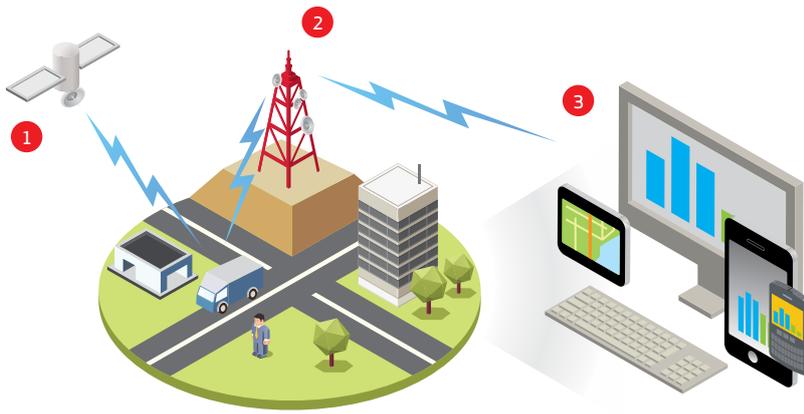
You can also:

- Improve driver safety by monitoring speeding, hard braking, and other risky driving habits
- Reduce greenhouse emissions and meet other environmental goals
- Route drivers more efficiently to improve customer service and on-time deliveries
- Increase revenues by taking on more business without adding drivers or vehicles
- Gain a competitive advantage by improving overall fleet efficiency

Best of all, because GPS vehicle tracking systems are easily scalable, they can deliver these results for fleets of all types and sizes. Whether you run a service business with 10 or fewer vehicles; a statewide public agency with thousands of cars, trucks, and in-field assets; or anything in between, you can control costs while operating your entire fleet more efficiently.

HOW IT WORKS

Telematics integrates [telecommunications](#) and information technologies to store, send, retrieve, and manipulate data. In industries that require operating a fleet of vehicles, it typically combines GPS technology with engine diagnostic tools to monitor the performance of vehicles around the clock, as well as fixed and mobile assets in the field. This data can then be used to reduce costs and improve performance metrics throughout fleet operations.



After it's installed, the GPS tracking hardware automatically transmits vehicle and asset data over a secure wireless network to the provider's data center.

Using a GPS tracking system to manage a fleet involves three basic steps:

1 Data Gathering.

The GPS tracking hardware is installed directly onto the engine of the vehicle, a procedure easily performed by a technician, typically in less than 30 minutes. (Some systems can be self-installed.) Once installed, the GPS unit monitors location, speed, and other vehicle performance metrics around the clock. A similar type of GPS unit can also be installed on other fixed and mobile assets – such as trailers, generators, and large pieces of equipment – to monitor their precise locations in the field. Meanwhile, the engine diagnostics hardware monitors fuel usage, emissions, and other engine and vehicle performance metrics.

2 Data Transmission.

After it's installed, the GPS tracking hardware automatically transmits vehicle and asset data over a secure wireless network to the provider's data center. If the system includes onboard engine diagnostics, it automatically transmits that data as well. Because the data transmission is wireless, the effectiveness of any fleet management system depends in large part on the strength of its wireless network. The best GPS tracking vendors offer reliable coverage in most areas, and some will extend their data transmission capabilities by offering satellite integration to avoid communication gaps in remote areas lacking dependable wireless coverage.

3 Data Analysis.

To access their company's data, fleet operators log into the system provider's website via PCs, smartphones, tablets, or other web-enabled devices. Once logged in, they can perform a variety of fleet management activities, including tracking vehicles and assets, setting and receiving alerts, monitoring driver behavior, reviewing reports, and more. Through a variety of screens, reports, and mapping features – which, in some cases, can be customized – the website provides the data needed to make informed decisions to lower costs and improve individual vehicle and overall fleet performance.

When properly implemented, a GPS fleet management system can often pay for itself within a matter of months, turning fleet management from an expense into an investment in the success of your business. The key is selecting the right system to meet your fleet management goals and objectives.

“BIG DATA” PUTS YOU IN CONTROL

The real value of GPS fleet management isn't just gathering volumes of data on the location and performance of your vehicles. It's using that data to change driver behavior in ways that lower costs and boost productivity. And that's where today's GPS vehicle tracking systems truly excel – with robust reporting capabilities that give you a big picture overview of your fleet's performance.

Fleet management systems typically come with a dozen or more built-in reports providing in-depth data on everything from fuel usage to idle time, emissions, speed violations, vehicle activity, and more. These reports facilitate improved analysis and decision-making by allowing you to format and manage the data in ways that meet your specific fleet management needs.

Access a secure website to set and receive vehicle alerts, track vehicles, and monitor driver behavior. Using PCs, smart phones, or tablets, managers monitor data to make real-time fleet management decisions.

By putting the right information in the hands of the right people at the right time, GPS systems give you unprecedented control over fleet performance, allowing you to make informed decisions to lower costs and improve productivity.

For example, you can:

- Format reports by individual vehicle or asset, groups, or the entire fleet
- Schedule reports on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis
- Set report parameters to include from one to 365 days of fleet data
- View detailed reports on engine diagnostics, speed, location, and other individual vehicle performance metrics
- View summary reports to analyze long-term trends and identify opportunities to improve overall fleet performance

To enhance this historical view of what's happening with your vehicles and drivers, GPS systems also provide near real-time alerts allowing you to make important management decisions in the moment. For example, if a vehicle's speed exceeds preset parameters, the GPS system will automatically send an alert to the manager on duty, who can take appropriate action.

As with the reports, these alerts can be customized in many ways, including:

- Modifying alerts by vehicle, driver, or groups of each
- Sending and receiving alerts via e-mail or SMS messaging
- Directing alerts to individual managers, groups, or the entire management team
- You can even set up escalating notification points so alerts automatically contact higher levels of management (if needed) as conditions grow more severe.

Finally, GPS fleet management systems can extend your data gathering and analysis capabilities by integrating with third-party software programs, such as Garmin, Esri® ArGIS® GeoEvent Processor, and AssetWorks. These extended capabilities provide a more sophisticated, in-depth look at what each vehicle is doing and where they're located. By putting the right information in the hands of the right people at the right time, GPS systems give you unprecedented control over fleet performance, allowing you to make informed decisions to lower costs and improve productivity.

FLEET MANAGEMENT TRANSFORMED

According to Frost & Sullivan, fuel costs and driver wages alone account for more than half of a typical fleet's operational expenses. Add in repairs, maintenance, emissions inspections, insurance, and other operational expenses, and costs quickly add up.

Now, imagine if you could reduce fuel expenses by up to 15 percent, and you can cut your overtime by up to 10-15 percent. And, once you've accomplished those goals, imagine increasing your vehicle utilization and productivity. What kind of impact would that make on your bottom line?

With GPS vehicle tracking, fleets throughout the U.S. are achieving these results every day. They're also reducing greenhouse emissions, enhancing driver safety, improving customer service, and more. Ultimately, they're transforming how they manage their fleets in order to cut costs and do more with less.

LEARN MORE

To learn more about how GPS vehicle tracking can transform your fleet management capabilities, refer to the Contact Us information listed.

CONTACT US

E-mail:

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