

GPS Systems for Transportation

The use of Global Positioning Systems has become second nature in transportation. Most drivers rely on these devices to help them navigate to the next destination. This level of GPS technology is the base level and there are other applications that build on this base to provide the motor carrier and shipper with tools for safety and security. This bulletin will summarize a few of the major uses for GPS data in the transportation industry.

- Vehicle tracking and location—useful in routing, scheduling and monitoring vehicle use and location. Has proven to reduce miles driven and improve fuel economy by eliminating side trips and unauthorized use.
- Vehicle maintenance and diagnostics—Some engines can be remotely monitored for hours of service, diagnostics and error codes as well as tracking fuel efficiency. This allows the fleet operator to manage the maintenance of the fleet and record any recurring problems with the vehicles.
- Geofencing—You can define routes or operating areas for vehicles. Deviations from these established boundaries will trigger an alert message to the fleet manager.
- Scheduling—Establishing normal operating hours for your fleet will allow you to have reports generated when equipment is operated or moved during time you expect it to be idle. This can reduce unauthorized use of vehicles or equipment.
- Regulatory data—Systems are available that can capture data for fuel tax reports as well as hours of service reporting. This can reduce your paperwork burden and gather more accurate data.
- Vehicle recovery—in the event of a theft, the vehicle can be tracked, disabled and recovered.
- Event monitoring—Systems can be configured to capture hard braking events, speed in excess of specific set points and capture black box data for post accident review. This allows data collection for accident or incident investigation.

GPS systems can rely solely on satellites or can be assisted by cell phone networks on establishing positions. Different systems have varying levels of reporting, initial and ongoing costs and different software that is supported for reporting and data management. The technology for GPS application expands every day. The Hanover's Risk Solutions Partners, found at www.hanoverrisksolutions.com, or your local GPS vendor can help you identify the right GPS solution for your business.

▶ **To learn more about Hanover Risk Solutions, visit hanoverrisksolutions.com**