

FleetBoard: new products help save costs and simplify fleet management

Press Information

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- **New: FleetBoard time management simplifies payroll accounting**
- **New: FleetBoard flatrate reduces communications costs**
- **New: online monitoring of refrigeration data**
- **New: vehicle management services for the current Sprinter**

At the IAA Commercial Vehicle Show 2006, FleetBoard will be presenting numerous innovations and expanded products. In addition to new time management and trailer telematics services, the market leader in fleet telematics will be offering its customers a Europe-wide flatrate for its services. Besides introducing new products, FleetBoard is improving and augmenting its existing product range.

Headquartered in Stuttgart, DaimlerChrysler Services FleetBoard GmbH offers telematics-based Internet services for the vehicle and transport management of trucks from all manufacturers. FleetBoard is today represented in more than 20 countries. Since its establishment in 2000, it has equipped more than 30,000 trucks from over 800 shipping companies.

New: FleetBoard time management simplifies payroll accounting

The main aim of the new FleetBoard time management service is to simplify the recording and evaluation of driver working times. The system allows working times to be recorded with either digital or analogue tachographs, or without any tachograph at all. In addition, the FleetBoard DispoPilot enables users to record data for various working time categories that go beyond those covered by tachographs.

The system allows companies to dispense with various tasks because it enables dispatchers to check that the statutory rest and driving times are adhered to and that the remaining driving time is optimally used. Thanks to the FleetBoard Web Services interface, the drivers' working times can be easily transmitted to the evaluation and payroll accounting software.

Doing so particularly simplifies the accounting of time-dependent remuneration when a particular task is subject to various rates of pay. For this reason, the time management service is primarily targeted at customers from France and the Benelux countries.

New: FleetBoard flatrate fee reduces communications costs

Freight-forwarding companies that are active throughout Europe especially benefit from the new international flatrate fee, which is valid for more than 50 countries. Customers pay a monthly flatrate fee for every service they receive. This fee covers all service fees and communications costs, regardless of how often the communications service is actually used. This not only makes it easier to calculate communications costs in advance, but also leads to significant cost savings.

As a result, shipping companies and freight-forwarding businesses that use services from FleetBoard do not need additional SIM cards or contracts with mobile phone operators. FleetBoard customers therefore receive all products and services from a single source.

New: online monitoring of refrigeration data

For the first time ever, FleetBoard is offering telematics services not only for vehicles, but also for vehicle bodies and trailers. In addition to trailer positioning, the service package encompasses the monitoring of refrigeration temperature and door contacts. The vehicle's position can be displayed on a digital map, while the temperature is depicted by means of a table as well as a chart.

An alarm is issued should the temperature deviate from the target value, and an e-mail or text message is sent to the recipient of the cargo to notify him or her of this fact. All of the data can be collected into reports that provide comprehensive documentation. The hardware needed for these services can be ordered directly from FleetBoard, while the data produced by the systems can be downloaded from FleetBoard's Internet portal.

New: vehicle management services for the new Sprinter

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FleetBoard is now also offering vehicle management services for the new Mercedes-Benz Sprinter. The system provides a wealth of driving data, including information on stoppages, the times when a predetermined engine speed is exceeded, and the driver's braking behaviour, which it supplies via an interface for further evaluation.

Additional product functions

The mobile FleetBoard DispoPilot is being expanded to include a number of new functions, which will increase the handheld system's capabilities and assist the driver in his or her day-to-day work. When in full-size mode, the 3D navigation system helps drivers better find drop-off and pick-up locations. The system has been made more user-friendly by enabling drivers to enter post codes and a list of different routes. Other new features such as the electronic signature function provide documentation that the cargo has been received.

Another new feature involves the automatic comparison of target and actual values for intelligent logistics management. To make this comparison, the driver scans the packages using the DispoPilot. The system then notifies the driver if all packages have been unloaded or if any packages are still missing.

And in order to increase the efficiency of the transport process, drivers will be able to select only certain status messages in the future. Optionally, a required vehicle, tour and order sequence can be set to simplify order processing substantially. Thanks to status messages transmitted from the vehicle, dispatchers are always able to respond quickly if a driver should be unable to keep to his or her schedule so that new arrangements can be made at short notice.

Further information from DaimlerChrysler is available on the internet at:

www.media.daimlerchrysler.com