

DAIMLER

FleetBoard: new fleet-management services with the onus firmly on practicality

Press Information

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- **Leading supplier of telematics systems for more than 45,000 trucks**
- **New: mass-storage data downloadable from the tachograph**
- **New face and new position: DispoPilot with navigation as standard**
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- **FleetBoard: wide range of fleet-management products**

Transport management from professionals for professionals: this is the phrase that perhaps most accurately sums up the FleetBoard telematics service for commercial-vehicle fleets. FleetBoard provides professional assistance and support for logistics departments and drivers alike. An innovative and expansive brand, FleetBoard is introducing a range of new services in time for the 2008 International Commercial Vehicle Show in Hanover. By way of example, FleetBoard is the first provider anywhere to enable automatic downloading of the mass-storage data from the digital tachograph whilst the truck is on the road – a function that greatly simplifies the fleet-management process. Another new function – FleetBoard Truck Navigation – allows route guidance with commercial-vehicle attributes. The third premiere is the new DispoPilot system, which now offers even better performance and is even easier to use.

Leading supplier of telematics systems for more than 45,000 trucks

As a leading supplier of telematics systems, FleetBoard can provide internet-based vehicle and transport-management services for any make of truck. FleetBoard is active in more than 20 countries and, since arriving on the scene in the year 2000, has equipped more than 45,000 trucks at over 1000 haulage firms. The company is enjoying sustainable growth and adding to its range of products and services all the time. In the past year alone, FleetBoard has equipped some 10,000 vehicles for its customers.

FleetBoard uses state-of-the-art technology, enabling the vehicle's position to be pinpointed via satellite at any time. Data is transferred to and from the vehicle

using sophisticated mobile-phone technology, while high-powered computers installed at headquarters ensure careful and reliable processing of the gathered data. This data is, in turn, made available to the haulier by means of a password-protected internet link. In the vehicle, easy-to-use technology and navigation functions make the driver's job much easier. What's more, the software for the in-house-developed vehicle components can be fully updated via mobile phone without the vehicle having to visit a workshop.

New: mass-storage data downloadable from the tachograph

Previously the digital tachograph was a closed device whose mass-storage data could only be downloaded with the help of a company-data card. What's more, this process relied on the vehicle being brought to the depot or the driver carrying a company-data card, for which there is no legislation. The forthcoming 2009 tachograph generation now includes an interface for downstreaming of the mass-storage data. FleetBoard is the first provider to enable haulage firms to read out, transfer and store the data by remote means. This form of data storage is fully compliant with statutory documentation and archiving requirements.

The data is downloaded automatically at regular intervals specified by the user, which means no extra work for the driver. The company-data card is inserted into a card slot in a chip card reader that is connected to a PC by means of a USB cable.

One of the main advantages of the new technology is the substantial amount of time it saves compared to manual downloads, for which the vehicle has to return to base every three months. There is therefore far less administration work involved. This system of downloading is particularly suitable for long-distance-haulage fleets.

Driver-card download whilst on the road

This newly developed ability to read out and download the data in the mass-storage unit extends the range of functions of another product: since the end of last year, it has been possible to transfer the data on the driver card to the haulage firm's depot whilst the truck is on the road. FleetBoard has therefore provided a solution

to the problem of having to read out and then archive the data on the driver card regularly every 28 days.

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It is now much easier to read out the data: once the driver card has been inserted into the FleetBoard vehicle computer, all the data on the card can be transferred to the haulage firm at the push of a button. So neither the driver nor the vehicle has to visit the depot on a regular basis as before – a major advantage, particularly when it comes to long-distance haulage in Europe and beyond. The driver-card-download function has been certified by DEKRA – an independent testing authority – since March of this year. What's more, it meets all the statutory requirements with respect to reliable data download and data transfer.

Downloading of the mass-storage data and driver-card data constitutes part of the FleetBoard Time-Management concept, which helps with internal monitoring of driving times, allows job scheduling based on remaining driving times and provides key data for payroll accounting.

New face and new position: DispoPilot with navigation as standard

The third-generation DispoPilot system is celebrating its premiere. This in-vehicle device now features additional functions and has been made even easier to use. Thanks to the increased speed of the processor and a larger memory capacity, the software is now much faster. The internal SD card with a large memory capacity of two gigabytes includes the new FleetBoard Truck Navigation function, which is available for the new DispoPilot system at no extra charge.

Drivers of the new Mercedes-Benz Actros benefit from an improved installation position as the DispoPilot is now mounted at the top of the instrument panel within easy reach and sight. In this position, the screen is easier to see and also simplifies use of the navigation functions.

New: FleetBoard Truck Navigation for reliable route guidance

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The new FleetBoard Truck Navigation function shows the right way ahead, calculating the best route whilst also taking into account the truck's dimensions and weight. In this way, headroom limits, turn restrictions, bridge heights, cul-de-sacs and even tight bends can be factored into the equation and avoided, subject to regional coverage/ availability by our mapping partner. Likewise, the Truck Navigation function discounts manoeuvres that would be difficult or dangerous for the truck, such as U-turns. Arrival times are always calculated based on the truck's speed profile.

The system also boasts a highly practical feature in that delivery and loading addresses can be copied directly from the job instructions to the navigation system without the driver having to first enter them by hand. And when it comes to voice instructions, the navigation system knows practically no limits as it "speaks" a total of 22 languages. Meanwhile the maps can be displayed either three dimensionally or as plan views. Furthermore, the system has been programmed with the details of Mercedes-Benz service partners and all outlets that accept the Mercedes-Benz ServiceCard, such as filling stations.

One of the biggest plus points in favour of the new FleetBoard Navigation function, alongside its configuration to suit conditions specific to commercial vehicles, is the fact that it is included in the FleetBoard package at no extra charge.

FleetBoard: wide range of fleet-management products

Since its introduction in the year 2000, FleetBoard has revolutionised fleet management in the commercial-vehicle sector. Whether it be trip planning or trip monitoring, consignment tracking or order management, job scheduling based on driving times, driver-performance analysis, vehicle management or even refrigeration-data management – FleetBoard provides all the relevant data for job scheduling and fleet management.