



Polk County Implements No-Idle Zone and Safer Driving Program using Networkfleet®

Summary

A customer since 2003, Polk County Fleet Management Division in Bartow, Florida has Networkfleet installed on approximately 400 vehicles in its fleet. Bob Stanton, Director of Fleet Management, oversees fleet operations and the motor vehicle rental pool for 42 departments and over 2,000 vehicles across the county. Polk County selected the Networkfleet wireless vehicle management system to help it reduce fuel expenses and improve driver safety.

Problem

Stanton sought out a system that would help him raise employee awareness of important issues such as speeding, idle-time, and vehicle usage. It was also paramount that the system was cost-effective so that it could be quickly deployed throughout the entire county fleet.

Solution

With its plug and play design, Networkfleet requires no wire splicing or drilling of holes in the vehicle. Unlike other systems, installation time is less than 30 minutes per vehicle. Because the Networkfleet software is completely hosted by Networkfleet, Polk County did not have to worry about downloading the application. They could also easily have different department managers using the software simultaneously from various locations since the application is accessible via the internet 24/7.

Networkfleet is easy to use yet provides a powerful system for monitoring both vehicle location and diagnostics. With diagnostic monitoring, Polk County could receive alerts whenever a vehicle had a diagnostic trouble code or was due for scheduled maintenance. It would also allow fleet managers to get valuable idle-time, mileage and fuel efficiency data for each vehicle. In addition, Networkfleet was able to provide actual speed data, which aided in improving driver safety.

Using Networkfleet as a catalyst, the County launched a No Idle-Zone Program in an effort to reduce fuel consumption and associated expenditures. The No Idle-Zone Program encouraged drivers to turn off their vehicles instead of letting them idle for extended periods of time while doing jobs. On a weekly basis, Polk County fleet managers reviewed the Networkfleet idle-time and fuel consumption report to monitor for high idle patterns and were able to reduce fleet-wide fuel consumption by simply increasing employee awareness.

Results

Using Networkfleet, Polk County was able to promote safer driving. By setting custom speed thresholds for each department, fleet managers were able to monitor excessive speeding behaviors on a daily basis. Since installing Networkfleet, the County has seen a reduction in speeding and an overall improvement in driver safety.

“Networkfleet has helped us in ways we hadn’t envisioned in the past,” said Stanton. One of those ways was meeting vehicle utilization targets. By monitoring the actual mileage driven and several other factors for motor pool vehicles, the County was able to identify underutilized vehicles and consequently reduce fleet size by 12%. Networkfleet provides accurate odometer information directly from the vehicle which is a significant improvement over the 25% error rate on odometer readings recorded at the fuel pump.

Like other government agencies, Polk County utilizes Networkfleet differently in each county department, but has seen improved efficiency across the board. In the Building Division, the County is able to verify that building inspectors have visited their quota of sites for the day. In the Mosquito Control Division, the County reviews the precise locations of where employees have sprayed mosquito pesticide. In the Fleet Management and Utility Operations, the County documents the length of the service calls for reconciling billable hours.

According to Stanton, “When we first piloted Networkfleet, the County Manager was so impressed with the device that he said it should be put on every vehicle going forward.” Polk County continues to outfit vehicles with Networkfleet and is reaping the benefits of using Networkfleet through safer and more productive employees.

For more information contact Traxis GPS Solutions, Inc. @ 1.888.447.7059 or visit us at www.traxisgps.com

Results

- *Identified underutilized vehicles and reduced fleet size by 12%.*
- *Launched No Idle Zone program using idle-time and fuel consumption reports from Networkfleet.*
- *Set custom speed thresholds and reduced speeding while improving driver safety.*
- *Improved efficiency and employee productivity across all County departments.*