GSTC, Inc. Adopts PeopleNet eDriver Logs to Ensure Continued Compliance

GSTC, Inc. has a treasured track record of on-time, damage-free load arrival, which is attributable to preferred fleet practices of drivers having verifiable, over-the-road experience with a proven safety record; and fleet equipment that utilizes state-of-the-art satellite communications to ensure on-time pickup and delivery.

GSTC Vice President and General Manager, Tom Schmidt, recognizes PeopleNet's system for its critical role in supporting these claims. Schmidt has been utilizing PeopleNet since 2005—"an outstanding decision," as he puts it. GSTC chose PeopleNet Automated Workflow, Vehicle Management and eDriver Logs.

"I believe PeopleNet's technology was about two years ahead of other systems we checked," Schmidt says.

Waiting game
The system provides an information-rich resource for helping management improve productivity. However, eDriver Logs "sat on the shelf" according to Schmidt, "because of my fear of losing drivers," he explains. "I thought I'd wait until electronic logs were mandated."

But that didn't happen and Schmidt decided he couldn't wait any longer to ensure continued HOS compliance and avoid possible future fines that would blemish the company's perfect compliance record. He encourages other fleets to take this proactive approach as well. "We lost only three out of 130 drivers directly attributable to our adoption of eDriver Logs. If you're on the fence, get over it. Eventually, your drivers will thank you."

Transition to eDriver Logs
Schmidt did not take the decision to implement eDriver Logs lightly. He was proactive in announcing that it would not only make drivers' lives easier not having to deal with paper, but also serve as indisputable protective evidence should they be involved in a safety-related incident.

MEASURABLE RESULTS

Customer
GSTC, Inc., Walford, Iowa

Challenge
Prevent DOT citations for log violation and protect against unwarranted lawsuits.

Solution
PeopleNet eDriver Logs® in addition to Automated Workflow and Vehicle Management

Results
- Seamless & positive DOT compliance audit.
- Prevent fines for HOS violations.
- Save paperwork for drivers.
- Provide indisputable defense, in conjunction with Automated Workflow, for deterring frivolous lawsuits.

Safety & Fleet Managers used a very hands-on approach to conduct one-on-one driver training sessions over 12 months— and constant daily follow-up. By November 2009 all operations staff had been trained.

Just in time
The move to eDriver Logs came just in time coincidentally for a random DOT compliance review. "It was an incredibly smooth and pleasant process, thanks to eDriver Logs," says Schmidt.

"Now that our drivers are using eDriver Logs, we couldn't pry them away from the electronic system. They'd probably quit if they had to go back to cumbersome paperwork," he adds.

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Performance.

Predictable trend

GTSC, Inc. is a founding member of a captive insurance program with more than 50 other trucking companies, of which over 20 are currently on electronic logs. Schmidt predicts that by their next meeting in five months, that number will double.

He says, "With so much at stake—compliance, DOT audits and fines, insurance rates and most importantly safety—we have to ensure accurate logs. There is simply no more efficient way to do that than a system synching EOBRs to eDriver Logs and a GPS system."

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