Networkfleet® and the San Diego Military Team Up for Fleet Savings and Safety

Summary

In late 2003, the Southwest Region Fleet Transportation (SWRFT) organization of the U.S. Marine Corps began to equip their vehicles with Networkfleet's wireless fleet management solution across San Diego County. The system has proved to be invaluable to the fleet operations at SWRFT.

Problem

Every day, thousands of drivers use fleet vehicles on and off the bases in Southern California, including the Marines, Navy, and Civil Service employees. With so many vehicles to track and maintain, it was imperative for the SWRFT to find a fleet management system that would quickly and easily integrate into their daily operations. SWRFT sought a solution to monitor vehicle performance and increase driver safety on bases.

Solution

After evaluating other fleet management systems, the SWRFT chose Networkfleet as their preferred GPS and telematics provider. With thousands of vehicles to manage, locating missing vehicles is often a challenge for military fleet managers. In the past, some vehicles were never recovered and replacement vehicles needed to be purchased. In one example, a vehicle was found covered in dust in the same spot that it was left three years earlier. Now with Networkfleet installed, they have been able to locate and recover vehicles both on and off the base.

With Networkfleet, fleet managers can also review the mileage of their vehicles on a more detailed basis to ensure proper utilization. "The number of man-hours it would take to make this determination previously would have outweighed the purchase value of the vehicles we would have cut. With Networkfleet, we have this information at our fingertips. This feature will help us manage our fleet size more effectively, and most importantly, reduce costs," said Bill Martine, Camp Pendleton Fleet Manager and regional maintenance coordinator.

Results

- *Reduced speeding by 30% after only 3 months of implementation.*

- *Saved a significant amount in recovery and replacement costs for lost vehicles.*

- *Eliminated labor-intensive reporting processes and decreased inaccuracies caused by manual mileage reporting.*

- *Decreased total operational costs due to increased vehicle utilization and better overall fleet management.*

Results

Since SWRFT has deployed the Networkfleet solution, there has been a cultural shift on bases. Networkfleet monitors real vehicle speed directly from the engine computer to ensure accurate data and reports that information every two minutes. Fleet managers receive daily reports and alerts showing if any vehicles exceed the speed threshold set by the facility. "If a vehicle is tracked and is somewhere it shouldn't be or is going too fast, the driver's supervisor will receive a report for disciplinary measures," said Vince Sablan, Motor Transport Fleet Manager for MCRD San Diego. In the first three months of installation, over-speed incidents dropped by more than 30 percent.

"Networkfleet's system helps us increase safety and security on the bases," Martine said. From the beginning of the program, in order to deter misuse, notification stickers have been placed on vehicles so drivers know they are being monitored. "People are taking better care of their vehicles and are being more responsible," he continued.

In addition, Networkfleet notifies fleet managers via email when vehicles are due for maintenance, based on mileage or on vehicle trouble code detection. This enables fleet managers to bring their vehicles in from the field on a timely basis for maintenance and repairs. "The system helps us improve maintenance since we now have up-to-the minute information on the operating condition of each vehicle," Martine said. By identifying any issues early, fleet managers can proactively fix vehicle problems before they escalate into larger issues.

GSA Fleet, a federal leasing organization, requires that accurate odometer readings be collected and reported monthly, which has traditionally been a manual, labor-intensive process. Networkfleet automates the process and eliminates reporting inaccuracies. In

To date, more than 1,000 SWRFT vehicles are equipped with Networkfleet. The system has significantly impacted SWRFT's fleet operations strategy, helping the organization increase driver safety and improve fleet vehicle utilization and maintenance.addition, SWRFT saves on the labor costs involved with manual reporting and crosschecking of vehicle readings.

For more information on Networkfleet visit networkfleet.com or call 866.869.1353.