

Why data capture is critical to safety & compliance in 2016

In today's Health & Safety Bulletin:

- *Guest contributor: Michael Kilgariff, Managing Director of Australian Logistics Council on the importance of data recording equipment for CoR compliance*



To ensure heavy vehicles operate safely, businesses require a strong safety culture with chain of responsibility (CoR) compliance embedded across all operations, plus the appropriate tools and equipment to ensure heavy vehicles operate safely.

Today we have Michael Kilgariff from the Australian Logistics Council to discuss this in more detail...

Businesses need to adopt a range of measures to ensure compliance with chain of responsibility laws. They need all of their people, including senior managers, to understand their legal obligations. They need a strong safety culture, with CoR compliance embedded across all facets of their operations. And they need appropriate tools and equipment to ensure heavy vehicles operate safely.

Data recording equipment that captures safety information relating to a vehicle's usage is critical to improving safety and compliance.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT OF DATA RECORDING?

Businesses that currently deploy data recording equipment have greater visibility across their fleets. They also have a better understanding of where CoR breaches are occurring. This, in turn, enables them to take positive actions to protect their staff, their fleets and the travelling public.

The Australian Logistics Council (ALC) is encouraging the mandatory use of data capturing technologies in heavy vehicles to collect and maintain data relating to speed and fatigue offences, and for that data to be used to manage obligations imposed under the CoR provisions of the Heavy Vehicle National Law. It should also be available for use by

enforcement agencies if necessary.

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It is important, however, that this legislation relies on an 'open standards' and a systems platform approach, rather than prescribing particular pieces of hardware. This is crucial because if regulators prescribe certain types of data-capturing hardware that have to be used, inevitably, technological improvements will leave the mandated technologies in their wake.

Law-makers must establish the regulatory framework, including the setting of standards. The market can then best meet those standards in the most innovative, efficient and cost effective manner possible.

It is pleasing that Employment Minister, Senator Michaelia Cash recently described the introduction of GPS trackers in all trucks as a "great step forward", and encouraged greater work between industry and government to bring it to fruition.

The benefits of data-recording equipment in heavy vehicles will be a major topic of discussion at the upcoming ALC Supply Chain Safety & Summit where ALC will continue to push governments to act on this important road safety initiative.

Click [here](#) to download the Summit program and register to attend.

Keep up the good work,



Jeff Salton

Editor, *Health & Safety Bulletin*



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