Choosing the right telematics device

Not all telematics devices are created equal – finding the right one for your fleet is essential to a successful telematics implementation. Use this checklist to compare telematics devices:

Tracking features

- Internal GPS antenna
- Position instantly available after cold start
- Near real-time data updates to the server – Allows for "Active Tracking" feature set

Data quality features

- Data collection algorithm –
  Discards irrelevant data points
- Device tampering/removal detection
- Self-calibrating accelerometer
- Intelligent ignition detection –
  Using both accelerometer and voltage
- False positive filtering –
  Does not record railroad tracks, speed bumps or
  potholes as aggressive driving
- On-device memory –
  For logging out-of-coverage situations
- Records events even when ignition is off, including:
  - Detect impact events while parked
  - Detect towing events
  - Battery voltage monitoring –
    Identifies battery drain
- Collision data memory buffer – Records
  second-by-second data when collision is detected
- Estimated odometer and engine hours –
  Not based on engine data
- Voltage monitoring on crank –
  Indicates battery health

Engine data recorded by device

- Odometer
- Engine hours
- Engine road speed
- Coolant temperature
- Driver's seat belt
- Passenger seat occupied
- Passenger seat belt
- Total fuel used
- Total idle fuel used
- Fuel level input
- RPM
- Ignition detect
- Check engine light
- Engine faults
- Unknown proprietary engine faults
- EV driving energy used
- EV battery charge % (SOC)
- EV charging status
- EV charging energy

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