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TomTom WORK helps Bristol airport find fuel savings, cut emissions and improve efficiency

Significant savings in fuel costs, lower emissions levels, and more efficient use of its vehicles are resulting from a pioneering use of TomTom WORK's vehicle tracking and fleet management system at Bristol International Airport.

The system covers 21 vehicles and enables the airport to track the location and route taken by coaches carrying passengers to and from aircraft parked remotely from the terminal building, of car park shuttle buses, and of its fire tenders. It also identifies periods of excessive idling of the engines of these vehicles allowing the driver to be informed and the engine cut.

The result is that the airport is able to both refine the routes taken by the airside buses and reduce the overall mileage and to eliminate unnecessary engine idling. This is leading to less fuel consumption - and therefore a lower fuel bill - as well as making a valuable contribution to a cleaner environment by cutting emission levels.

The simple but highly effective solution provided by TomTom WORK involves the use of a LINK 300 'black box' fleet management device fitted into each vehicle. This interacts with their WEBFLEET web-based software to provide real-time monitoring of airport vehicle movements. Other information of use to the airport can also be recorded by the web-based system and reports can be produced to help improve vehicle utilisation.

Steve Webb, Motor Transport Manager at Bristol International Airport, said: "A major area of energy consumption is the diesel used by our vehicles on the ground. As well as the environmental benefits of reducing the amount of fuel we use, there are also significant cost savings - especially important in these days of high fuel costs!"

“Leaving the engine of a vehicle the size of an airport fire tender on idle for one hour each day - which can happen when, for example, a tender is on standby during a routine aircraft refueling – can cost up to £3,000 over the course of a year.”

The airport has also been able to use the system to build a case for investment in an air bridge to directly connect aircraft to the terminal building. Through WEBFLEET it has been able to capture and record valuable data on the number of vehicle movements and the time taken to load/unload an aircraft.

Jane Currie, Account Manager at LSUK, the TomTom Partner that supplied and installed the system, said: “Bristol International is the first airport in the UK to embrace this technology. It enables the airport to make more efficient use of its vehicles by ensuring optimum passenger loadings and improving route efficiency and could very effectively be employed at any large airport.”

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Editors' notes:

About Bristol International Airport

Bristol International Airport is the UK's fifth largest regional airport serving 120 destinations direct in 29 countries with an additional 450 destinations via international connections.

It serves a catchment area covering 10 counties in the West of England and South Wales and seven million people live within a two hour drive time of the airport.

About TomTom WORK and LSUK

TomTom WORK is the business to business subsidiary of the world's largest portable navigation solutions provider. TomTom WORK provides practical, innovative and advanced solutions for the management and control of vehicle fleets of all sizes and operating in all industries. The company has developed a range of fleet management solutions from basic vehicle tracking through to full connected navigation. This facilitates vehicle tracking, 2-way communication, job dispatch, user interface and reporting through WEBFLEET, and award winning satellite navigation. An increasing number of fleets in the UK are now taking advantage of the cost and efficiency benefits delivered by TomTom WORK. For more information please visit www.tomtomwork.com

LSUK, a national supplier of vehicle parts, equipment and technical expertise, is an official installer of Tom Tom Work products. The company can meet the needs of any local or national vehicle operator thanks to its network of 53 branches that are strategically positioned around the UK. Each branch is geared up to supply parts over the counter or within 24 hours.