Core ELD Features

There are many variations of ELD systems on the market. Understanding the needs of your business is a crucial factor when choosing a system that keeps you compliant while introducing a line of features and long-term benefits. Whether you run a small or large fleet, the ELD system you purchase should provide a scalable solution that speaks to the everyday and future demands of your business. To get an idea of what to seek when selecting a fleet management system, here are the top features to consider:

HOS E-Logs for Federal Compliance
Look for Android-supported electronic logging devices with built-in driver logs (E-Logs). E-Logs enable drivers to electronically record, store and submit their HOS log data via a user-friendly in-vehicle display. Drivers stay compliant, while eliminating manually entered data on paper forms and human error that come with manual submissions.

Myriad HOS Reports
HOS reports are a plus when investing in the right ELD. These reports let businesses see anything from log detail for each driver to violations based on FMCSA HOS guidelines, including a time-stamp of when and where they happened, to a breakdown of how many hours each driver spent in "On-Duty" and any available hours for the next day and the following week. These reports should provide a summary of all HOS time—from when a driver logs in to the system until they log out—in addition to noting non-driving time.

Digital Post- and Pre-Trip Vehicle Inspection Reports
Electronic logging devices that offer additional compliance features like electronic vehicle inspection reports (DVIR) can help businesses eliminate costly repairs and improve safety on the road. These post- and pre-trip paperless reports should come preinstalled in a portable, easy-to-use ELD, ensuring that drivers complete federally compliant digital inspections on their vehicles and submit them to their managers—right from the field.

Two-Way Messaging
Cellphone use while driving is prohibited on US roadways, which is why having an alternative function like two-way messaging in the cab is integral. ELD systems worth looking into should offer driver-dispatch instant messaging. Drivers can use ELDs to send status information to dispatch, such as when they're at a customer site, in addition to capturing their hours of service. These multi-functional ELDs have the ability to lock when a vehicle is in "driving" mode and are supported by software that integrates with GPS tracking platforms, allowing you to know where a driver's message originated, including enabling you to send messages in several formats directly to your drivers.

Interactive Driver Displays
Advanced ELD systems should be equipped with the latest in driver efficiency tools. Some ELD providers will offer in-vehicle devices for your drivers, but only a few provide Android™-based

tablets with crystal clear graphics for easier usability, including voice-guided truck-grade navigation. The portability of these user-friendly displays allow drivers and dispatch to stay connected every mile of the way.

Easy-To-Use Manager Portal
The best ELD solutions offer manager portals where administrators can manage electronic driver logs and hours submitted, as well as edit any discrepancies if needed. Businesses can track driver availability and statuses, and monitor violations as they happen in real time, enabling the ability to take action on the spot.

In-Vehicle Routing
What if your ELD system could serve as a routing tool for your business? It can. The right solution integrates road guidance into the ELD/AOBRD/EOBR equation: Managers can send updated routes to their drivers' electronic in-cab devices, reducing time spent looking for locations and vehicle use. The navigation software embedded in the ELD instantly calculates the new route and plays on the screen, once the driver accepts the update. Your workforce stays safe and on time, every time.

Inclusive Features
ELD systems worth considering should be part of an overarching fleet management solution that speaks to business demands. Look for a provider who offers GPS tracking software that goes beyond track-and-trace technology, allowing you to monitor all things fleet related, such as real-time vehicle locations, performance, including fuel usage, and driving behavior through safety metrics, such as speeding. The right provider can equip your team with the latest in GPS tracking, safety and compliance without adding a dent to your bottom line.