



# ***What You Need to Know about the Electronic Logging Device (ELD) Mandate***

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*Trucking Management Software*



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# ***Introduction***

*Federal rules require drivers to account for the time they spend on the road, both for the trucker's well-being and for public safety. That's all well and good; after all, the DOT's job is to help keep the nation's roads accident-free.*

*However, effective this year, government regulators have mandated an industry-wide switch to electronic logging devices, or ELDs. These devices will record your drive times and vehicle speed, taking the place of paper logbooks.*

*We realize that for most of you, this is an unwelcome change; you had a working system in place, and you're being forced to change it. That being said, ELDs are here to stay, so we're all going to have to buckle down and get with the new program. So here's what you need to know to make the transition as easy as possible.*



# ***Myths About ELDs***

*A lot of people have voiced concerns about the switch to ELDs. Most of these worries come down to rumors and misinformation. Here's a look at some of the most common objections:*

## ***"ELDs are expensive."***

*In reality, ELD products are an affordable, one-time expense that can quickly pay for itself in terms of higher productivity and more job satisfaction.*

## ***"ELDs are unsafe."***

*Some drivers think that these products will take control of their rig or short-circuit its electronic safety systems. The best response to this concern is to point out that it's simply not true. An ELD does not and cannot work that way.*

## ***"ELDs will slash drivers' income."***

*This is only true if the trucker in question is falsifying his paper logbook. For the rest of us, an ELD can actually reduce time spent on paperwork, which gives us more time to earn money.*

## ***"ELDs are going to steal all my information."***

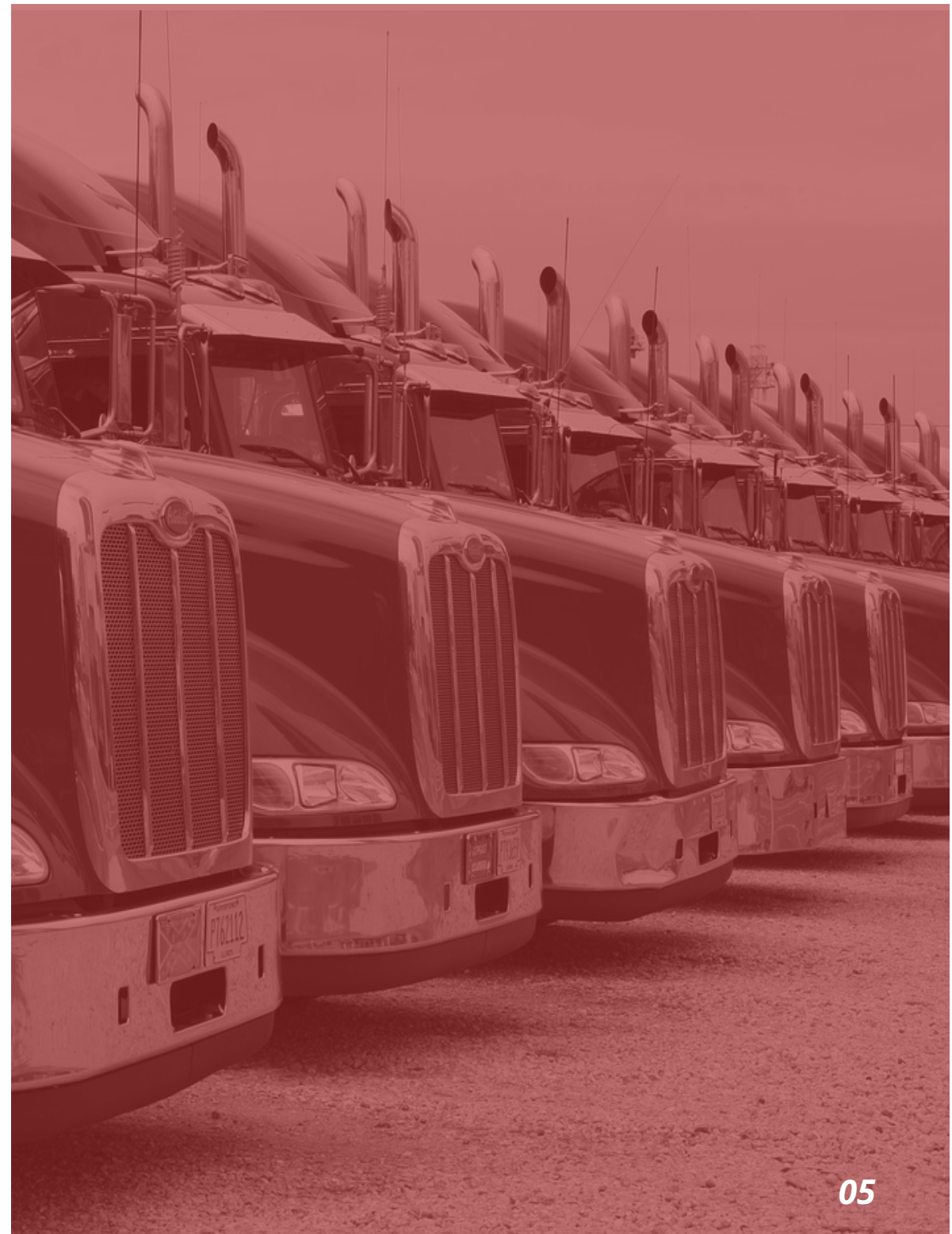
*ELDs are only required to report certain data for regulation purposes, and are designed for minimal intrusion.*



# Electronic Logging Devices

*While we know you're not thrilled about the changes, checking out some of the highlights of ELDs can help you look on the bright side.*

- *Automatic data gathering reduces paperwork. The FMCSA estimates drivers spend 20+ hours every year just filling out logbooks and paperwork. Less paperwork equals more time on the road.*
- *Instant feedback on your performance can help you to work smarter, not harder.*
- *Cost-effective.*
- *Minimal intrusion; the devices do not intrude on your privacy any more than the bare minimum required.*
- *Audible warnings to help maintain compliance with HOS.*
- *Provides a detailed driving safety record to prove responsible performance.*



# *How TruckingOffice Can Help*

*Having to change your system can really throw a wrench in your business. To make the change as painless as possible, TruckingOffice is developing an ELD app that will help to tie together your device and your management system. Here are some of the benefits.*

## *Simple.*

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*Most ELDs use a 3-part system, but TruckingOffice will be a 2-part system.*

## *Non-intrusive.*

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*Our app collects the bare minimum necessary for compliance, and nothing else; your confidential information will stay your own.*

## *Secure.*

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*TruckingOffice's ELD app will be supported on our own secure platform.*

## *Streamlined.*

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*The app will be integrated perfectly with our trucking software, for a robust yet easy solution to all your business management needs.*

# Choosing an Electronic Logging Device

## How do you choose the right device?

*The FMCSA has a list of approved devices from registered vendors. Here's what to look for in an ELD.*



# ELD Feature or Function

	<i>Provides separate accounts for drivers and administrative (non-driver) ELD users</i>
	<i>Has "integral synchronization" with the engine control module to automatically record engine power status, vehicle motion status, and other data</i>
	<i>Automatically records all driving time and at intervals of 60 minutes. Records date, time, location, engine hours, vehicle miles, and driver identification</i>
	<i>Records location with an accuracy of one-mile radius during on-duty driving periods</i>
	<i>Reduces location accuracy to a 10-mile radius when vehicle is used for authorized personal use</i>
	<i>ELD time is synchronized with UTC (coordinated universal time)</i>
	<i>Retains data for the current 24-hour period and the previous 7 consecutive days</i>
	<i>Prevents tampering; does not allow anyone to alter or erase information originally collected for driver ELD records</i>
	<i>Requires driver to review unidentified driver records – and either acknowledge assignment of this driving time, or indicate that the records do not belong to the driver</i>
	<i>Allows a driver to obtain a copy of his/her ELD records on demand – either through a printout or electronic file</i>
	<i>Supports one of two options for electronic data transfer:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telematic type: using wireless web services or email</li> <li>• Local transfer type: using USB2.0 or Bluetooth</li> </ul>
	<i>Displays all required standardized data to authorized safety officials on demand – through a screen display or printout that includes three elements: a daily header, graph grid showing driving duty status changes, and detailed daily log data. The graph grid, if printed, must be at least 6 inches by 1.5 inches</i>
	<i>Requires driver certification and annotation (written explanation) for any edits to records that are made by the driver or any other ELD user</i>
	<i>Requires certification of driver records at the end of each 24-hour period</i>
	<i>ELD provider furnishes user's manual, instructions for handling malfunctions and record-keeping during malfunctions, and instructions for transferring ELD hours of service records to safety officials</i>
	<i>Volume control or mute option for any audio feature</i>



# ***The Bottom Line***

*The deadline for making the switch to an electronic logging device is December 17, 2017.*

*Many drivers are worried about the learning curve involved with adopting this new technology. That's why we're developing a TruckingOffice app that will make the switch to an ELD virtually effortless. This new feature will incorporate all of the ease-of-use and reliability you've come to expect from TruckingOffice, and will integrate seamlessly with our trucking management software. Stay tuned for updates!*

*The information contained herein is accurate as of the date of publication. The FMCSA has set up a toll-free hotline and email address where you can direct any questions or concerns you might have. The phone number is 800-832-5660 and the email address is [ELD@dot.gov](mailto:ELD@dot.gov).*

