

routeMASTER news



updates from AGM



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Paul S. Winson Coaches see the 'green' light with routeMASTER fleet control

Paul S. Winson Coaches, one of the leading coach operators in the East Midlands has 'dramatically improved' driving standards, cut fuel costs and improved passenger comfort with the aid of routeMASTER from AGM Telematics.



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SIMPLY MILES AHEAD!

With 30 coaches in the fleet, from 29 to 78 seaters, Paul S. Winson Coaches caters for a wide range of requirements including corporate, European group travel, holiday excursions and school services.

"We've been in business for 32 years", comments Anthony Winson, Operations Director, "and as such have learned most of what there is to know about running an efficient coach services fleet. However, since we installed the routeMASTER vehicle tracking and monitoring system the operation has seen a number of fresh benefits."

In the traffic office, a large screen provides the control team with a real time view of each of the vehicles on the road which helps when scheduling and estimating arrival times. Additionally, the system uses a traffic light arrangement to monitor and gauge the habits and progress of each driver.

"We have seen dramatic improvements in driver standards." continues Anthony Winson, "Each driver has their own log which records key information including braking, idling, speed and MPG. When we first started, the bulk of drivers were showing red but after a short while and with the ability to review individual performance, I'm pleased to say 95% are on Green."

According to Anthony, the system has not only improved driver standards but owing to reduced idling, fuel bills have also been cut. Furthermore, the occasional dispute regarding alleged vehicle speeds has been easily settled by referring to the indisputable information which is automatically recorded for every coach.



"There's no doubt," concludes Anthony Winson, "the routeMASTER system is now an invaluable tool for us and is self-funding to say the least. It's easy to use, well supported by AGM Telematics and we wouldn't be without it!"

Paul S. Winson Coaches are a member of the Confederation of Passenger Transport (CPT) and one of the few elite members of the Guild of British Coach Operators.

Meatlink opens up new routes

as the new routeMASTER Dispatch solution from AGM comes on board

Meatlink, the Market Harborough based meat products wholesaler, has equipped its van fleet with a unique routing and scheduling system which, says the company, has brought immediate savings and revolutionised the planning and logistics of its multi-drop delivery service throughout central England.

Called routeMASTER Dispatch and supplied by AGM Telematics of Corby, the system automatically converts orders into their optimum routes, sends the manifest to the driver and calculates arrival times and distances for the whole delivery route. Thus, the time-consuming task of manual route planning is removed and drivers are able to provide customers with an accurate ETA for each delivery. Furthermore, the overall journey time and distance travelled are reduced and in turn, significant fleet efficiencies are achieved.

Meatlink Director Mike Newing explains:

"We have been in business for 14 years and have a good deal of routing and scheduling experience. Even so, as soon as we fitted the routeMASTER Dispatch system, we saw immediate benefits and now can't see how we ever got on without it. In just two months we can see the bottom line savings and certainly our work is now less stressful! It's a great way to get more out of the vehicle fleet and to make sure our customers are well looked after."

Using 'cloud' – based architecture, routeMASTER Dispatch enables everyone in the Meatlink team to work from the same plan and to view, in real-time, the progress of every individual order. Should a sudden change be required, new instructions can be added to the existing manifest in the traffic office and automatically updated on the drivers' screen.

"The vehicle tracking is a very useful tool." Continues Mike. "We have complete visibility of the fleet and can check each job status at a glance. Also, by using the reporting suite we can look at individual driver activity and review planned deliveries versus actual, which helps to improve overall performance."

According to Meatlink, the new system has also enabled the company to open up new areas which before were not easy to incorporate in a given delivery route. Now, with an average of 12 to 20 drops per vehicle each day, Meatlink can confidently add new orders and destinations without compromising the overall delivery schedule.

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"It's all about efficiency," concludes Mike Newing. "We saw the benefits from day one. It's a very simple system to fit and operate, but even so, the AGM Telematics team are always on hand if we need any advice or technical assistance. Most importantly it's easily affordable and soon adds up to less road miles, less fuel and also puts a tick in the box for the environment"

AGM Telematics is a long established designer and supplier of fleet management systems. The company is well known for its commercial vehicle transport expertise and 'hands-on' customer service. Director George Weston comments about the new Dispatch system:



"Our reputation is built on supplying no-nonsense and competitively priced fleet management solutions which are easy to install, simple to use and guaranteed to provide a fast and significant return on investment. The new Dispatch solution lives up to these qualities and complements our wide range of vehicle tracking, scheduling and monitoring systems. We believe it is set to become the standard for multi-drop fleet efficiency across a range of industry sectors"



Cool Express keeps track with real-time routeMASTER vehicle monitoring

Cool Express, the Kettering-based specialist temperature controlled couriers have renewed their longstanding arrangement with AGM Telematics and continue to benefit from tight vehicle control using AGM's routeMASTER tracking system.

Established in 2001 and now with an extensive fleet of multi-temperature Mercedes Sprinters, Cool Express deliver whole or part loads of frozen, chilled and ambient goods to RDCS, retailers and restaurants throughout the UK and Europe.

"Cool Express have established a reputation for reliability throughout the cold chain." Comments MD Nick Askew. "Not least, this is down to our ability to provide accurate information regarding the whereabouts or arrival time of any vehicle. If there are delays beyond our control or if we should need to confirm the departure and/or arrival time of a load, we can refer to the on-screen vehicle location and also provide the history of any journey, we can even allow the client access to view the vehicles progress in real time with the share trip feature on the routeMASTER system."

AGM have provided a fleet control service to Cool Express since 2010 and Nick Askew is upbeat about the benefits:

“In the express courier business, timed deliveries are often required. Moreover, we may be carrying relatively high value loads of specialist foods or pharmaceuticals. It is important therefore for us to have a good, solid system which allows us to monitor the fleet and to keep customers apprised regarding the status of their load. The RouteMaster system certainly delivers this and in turn, we get the back-up service we need from AGM.



"Furthermore," concludes Nick Askew, "it's remarkably easy to use and does exactly what we need it to do. A simple service charge payment is all we need to take care of and without doubt, the system pays for itself!"

AGM Telematics, based in Corby, Northants provides a unique cloud-based, modular 'tool set' comprising planning, dispatch and tracking modules, each of which can operate as a stand-alone device or as an integral part of the complete RouteMaster fleet control solution. Contracts are not required and operators can benefit from a 'pay-as-you-go' arrangement.

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