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Product: On Board Vehicle Monitors

Vehicle monitors are also known as trip recorders or tachographs. It is a device which can be fitted to any vehicle which will automatically record data and can produce reports which can be later made available for inspection should the need arise.

Why are monitors required?

Initially vehicle monitors were fitted to heavy vehicles and coaches because of government regulations.

These regulations differ from state to state however I have briefly outlined the New South Wales regulations which state the following:

- a) All NSW registered Primemovers and articulated vehicles with a GVM (Gross Vehicle Mass) greater than 13.9 tonnes, manufactured on or after 1 January 1991.
- b) All NSW registered tanks with a GVM of more than 13.9 tonnes carrying dangerous goods and which are required to display Hazchem warning signs and:
- c) All coaches operated in NSW. Coaches are defined as a motor vehicle which is:
 - * Constructed to principally carry persons and:
 - * Equipped to carry more than 8 persons and:
 - * Used to convey passengers for hire or reward or in the course of trade or business.

Some vehicles are exempt from the above regulations and are NOT required to have vehicle monitors.

Exempt are listed below, they are:

- 1) Vehicles being used within a radius of 80 km from their usual depot, unless carrying dangerous goods, evidence of the address of the depot must be carried on the vehicle.

- 2) Primary producers vehicles, provided evidence of the registration is carried in the vehicle.
- 3) Vehicles being driven for the purposes of original registration.
- 4) Vehicles being driven for the purposes of sale provided goods are not carried in bulk quantity.
- 5) Vehicle being driven under the direction of Police or an Officer authorised by the Authority.

Type of Data which must be recorded automatically to meet requirements.

- 1) The length of time for which the vehicle driven and for which is stationary during a journey tolerance \pm two minutes per day.
- 2) The speeds at which the vehicle is driven recorded either continuously or at intervals not exceeding one minute or 100 metres.
- 3) If the speed is not recorded continuously the monitor must retain a high resolution record of the speed of the vehicle during the one minute (or 100 metres) prior to the vehicle coming to a halt used for incident analysis/accident reports.
- 4) The distance travelled by the vehicle between stops (a continuous distance record is not necessary)

The following is data that must be recorded either automatically or manually (ie log book)

- 1) The date, time, and place of commencement of the journey.
- 2) The date, time and place of completion of the journey.
- 3) The items at which the vehicle is driven and at which it is standing during the journey.
- 4) The names of each driver and the times during which each driver was in charge of the vehicle during the journey.
- 5) The registration of the vehicle.
- 6) The name of the person making the manual recordings.