eBook

5 Big Construction Industry Trends

As you continue to plan your business improvements, learn ways to improve the profitability potential for your high-value fleet.



Could telematics improve your return on assets?

Telematics is having a significant impact on a growing number of industries and construction is no exception. **Tracking of heavy equipment is helping project managers meet tight deadlines and tough performance metrics, while getting a better return on their construction equipment.** Safety and security also see marked improvement.

It's no surprise then that it features heavily in our short-list of trends. In this ebook we will highlight the trends to watch for this year impacting the construction industry.

Because if you're not doing it, you'll be losing business to those that are.



Assets with built-in telematics will become a lot more common.

See all your equipment on one screen, one view.

Telematics for assets isn't new but the idea of it being built right into the vehicle, heavy equipment, or asset is, and it's good news for customers. For equipment managers who were tracking assets in the past they generally split their time among several disparate systems which was a tedious, time-consuming process.

Over 80% of all heavy equipment produced in the US since 2009 now comes equipped with telematics offered at no cost by the OEM.*

AEMP is spearheading efforts to unify manufacturers to standardize data shared by the heavy equipment they build to make it easier for owners to see a mixed fleet on a single screen – **one login to manage all their assets regardless of brand.** John Deere, Caterpillar, Komatsu, and Volvo have indicated willingness to use the new standards, and more are in the pipeline.

The growth in built-in telematics for assets will see richer diagnostic data that's unique to each OEM and result in greater efficiencies and management accuracy such as maintenance schedules, the life expectancy of parts, and driver behavior (such as seat belt use). Equipment management systems will need to handle the variable data from multiple manufacturers in a consistent way, and **only** those telematics companies with OEM experience and an open platform will benefit customers in this new environment.

A study found that a lack of built-in telematics is a primary factor for non-utilization of telematics.



Managers will be accessing more near real-time data on the go

Leverage just one easy-to-use application for all your field service needs.

Managers of both people and equipment will not be waiting until they get back to the office to get project updates.

With the growing processing power and screen size of mobile devices, the spread of 4G and ubiquity of Wi-Fi hotspots (including in-vehicle Wi-Fi hubs) and real-time cloud-based location services such as **Verizon Connect Supervisor**, managers will have access to all the information they need in the palms of their hands.

Locating nearby assets, near real-time job updates, or alerts for issues that need to be addressed, along with regular reports is all information that's available on a smartphone or tablet.

Applications for managing assets are being developed for popular operating systems such as Android and iOS. One example is **Verizon Connect WorkPlan**, which allows drivers to complete a pre-operation inspection using the camera on a smartphone.



"By the year 2020, there will be more than 26 billion mobile devices connected to the Internet of Things,* and nowhere will that be more important than in the management of mobile resources."

A hyper-focus on equipment safety and security

A drive toward higher recovery rates and less downtime

Spiraling insurance costs are encouraging construction companies to look at ways to proactively improve the safety and security of high-value assets.

GPS tracking and near real-time alerts are helping managers monitor not only where assets are at all times, but also how they're being used.

Geofence alerts can be triggered if an asset is moved outside of a specific area, or conversely enters a prohibited location. Alerts can be set up for mechanical alerts, as well as unauthorized or dangerous use. Tracking machine utilization within a geofence provides project managers with an easy way to track daily jobsite costs and identify under-utilized equipment.

To improve the safety of equipment, fleet managers are using custom forms in Verizon Connect Workforce to make the inspection of assets easier, both before and after use. Barcodes are used to verify that inspections are completed to the manufacturer's requirements and that the worker is physically present.

Did you know that a telematics system can be placed on most assets - not just big yellow iron – to achieve many of these benefits? This includes:





Generators





Light Towers

Welders





Telehandlers





Scissor Lifts

Pumps





Trailers



The recovery rate of stolen heavy equipment. -NICB

Fuel use and savings are still critical

Manage your emissions and get your fuel-tax refunds!

While oil prices are currently coming down there's no guarantee that trend will continue. Even still, fuel costs continue to be a major operating expense so innovative ways to reduce these costs will still be welcomed in 2016.

In addition to minimizing fuel theft, unnecessary idling, and wasteful driving, the EPA is phasing in new emissions standards that will impact heavy vehicles. The **new legislation will require on-board diagnostics** (**OBD**) to report on emission control systems.

Easier, automated IFTA reporting will also be a boon for construction companies with **many of their assets and vehicles working interstate and thus eligible for fuel tax rebates.** Off-road use (mileage/engine hours) can easily be reported on as well to benefit from any applicable off-highway business use tax credits.

Telematics solutions can utilize the complex geographic locational information with integrated vehicle fuel consumption information to track and report on the fuel used off road to put those taxes back in your pocket.



Strong growth in OHV telematics adoption

Improve your total cost of ownership

While not typically a growth area for telematics, the OHV (Off-Highway Vehicle) market will see a surge in demand for telematics, led by a growing number of rental companies adopting the technology.

Frost & Sullivan have researched the industry and conclude that telematics is "now perceived as the go-to solution for improving the total cost of ownership."*

While OHV operators have tended to prefer low-tech solutions, a growing awareness of the benefits of telematics is seeing an accelerated interest and adoption of fleet management and GPS tracking solutions.

As solutions adapt to the specific needs of individual industries, and equipment owners see both ease of use and overall usefulness in telematics, growth will be rapid.



*Frost & Sullivan - 2014 "Analysis of the North American Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Telematics Market"

Is your business ready for these challenges?

The future is now. Get ahead of the competition.

The undeniable march of technology will reshape the landscape for a lot of industries, not just construction.

The winners will be the companies that embrace change and use it to their advantage.

If you'd like to know how we can help you have your best year ever, talk to us about the ways telematics can transform your mobile operations.



How can your business benefit?

Companies that take the initiative to implement a GPS fleet tracking solution can stay ahead of their competition and experience multiple benefits around cost savings, productivity and customer service that will help your business run smoother and smarter.

To learn more about GPS fleet tracking solutions, visit us at verizonconnect.com or call 866.844.2235

