

IT AND HEAVY VEHICLES: INTERNATIONAL TRENDS

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ABSTRACT

There has been a rapid proliferation of information technology and intelligent transport systems and products available for the road freight transportation industry. Many of these systems may be broadly described as telematics.

The technologies available have implications in three key aspects of freight transport operations:

- Monitoring of vehicle system status, such as engine, brakes etc.
- Monitoring of the operation or use of the vehicle and compliance with rules and regulations, especially in relation to safety (eg speed, hours of service, route compliance, etc.)
- Supporting electronic business transactions, key performance indicators, etc.
- This presentation will review current IT applications and consider future opportunities

This will include:

- Route compliance for vehicles permitted under Performance Based Standards (PBS)
- Intelligent vehicle access
- Incident reports
- Fleet management and logistics

The use of IT in freight vehicle applications is in its formative stages. While the mainstream applications are yet to emerge, there is much potential for improving the flexibility, efficiency and safety of road freight operations.