

# Tachotech Road Haulage Services

Complete Tachograph analysis and reporting

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## Newsletter - Spring 2008

### 1. NEW DRIVERS HOURS RULES

On 11<sup>th</sup> April 2007 the current Regulations governing drivers' hour will change. Council Regulation (EC) 3820/85 will be replaced by Regulation (EC) 561/2006. Some of the rules will be the same or broadly similar, but there are changes you will need to be aware of. I have attached a copy of a poster published by the Vehicle and Operator Services Agency giving an overview of these changes. It is not to be taken as a definitive statement of the law or as legal advice. A more detailed 5 page summary can be obtained from [www.transportoffice.gov.uk](http://www.transportoffice.gov.uk)

### 2. DIGITAL TACHOGRAPHS

The introduction of digital tachographs is now well underway. As from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2006 all new vehicles registered, operating within the scope of the EU Drivers Hours Regulations must be fitted with a Digital Tachograph. "In scope" vehicles registered before 1<sup>st</sup> May 2006 may continue to be fitted with an analogue tachograph or may choose to fit a digital tachograph, subject to technical suitability.

The Digital tachograph uses a smart card instead of paper to record driver activity. There are 4 cards, (driver's card, company card, workshop card and control card). Like the current tachograph, the digital unit records driver activity times - driving, other work, rest and breaks. However unlike the current analogue, which records to a time sheet, the digital unit will record to the driver's smart card and also hold the information in the vehicle unit (VU). The company card allows the operator to download information from the VU to carry out checks on driver's hours etc as required by the legislation and maintain records described in the undertaking of the operators' license issued by the Traffic Commissioner.

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We can now offer the service to analyze your digital tachograph records and present them in the same format as your analogue (paper) charts. This means we can show both types of records in the same report.

As you would expect digital records result in a reduction in time taken for analysis since the details are directly downloaded. **Thus we are able to offer the analysis of digital records at a lower rate than that charged for analogue analysis.**

## What do I need to do?

You need to download your information from the driver's card. You will need a card reader for this. Once you have downloaded the information, it should be E mailed to us as an attachment (or a number of attachments if more than one driver is involved). If you are only using digital records, you should also E mail information of other duties, Holidays, sick days etc. if you use the working time directive report.

If you are using digital tachographs along side the analogue charts you should send the charts by post as usual. (It would be useful to confirm the fact that posted analogue charts also cover the period, in the E mail to ensure that both types of record are analyzed together.)

Once analyzed the reports covering digital and analogue will be returned to you with the analogue charts. If you are using only digital tachograph records we are also able to offer a *paper free* report delivered directly to your email in PDF secure digital format

For further information call Tachotech Road Haulage Services on 01270 522814 or Email : [info@tachotech.co.uk](mailto:info@tachotech.co.uk)