

Harding University Fleet Telematics Information

As part of our goal to provide safer and more reliable transportation to the Harding community, many of the fleet vehicles have been equipped with devices to better monitor vehicle operation. This technology, known as “telematics”, has been in use for over 20 years in the trucking industry, and more recently, in many other types of fleets due to the quality of information received.

Telematics is often defined as a combination of the words ‘telecommunications’ and ‘informatics’. In a broad sense, it is the integration of telecommunications and information technologies providing operational information about equipped vehicles. Data is regularly updated and often includes location, engine issues, fuel data, and other types of operational information. The buses are also equipped with tire sensors which adds information about the tires air pressure, temperature and tread. From a practical perspective, this allows someone to remotely monitor a vehicle for any problems that may arise which could significantly affect the vehicle’s operation.

Fleet safety is a joint venture by the Transportation Office and the driver. The Transportation Office monitors the data to better maintain the vehicles to provide safe and reliable transportation. Drivers are perhaps the most important part of this partnership as they are directly in control of the vehicle during its operation. Drivers are directly responsible for the safety of the passengers as well as the reflection of Harding University in how they drive.

For this reason, drivers may be monitored to ensure that vehicles are being driven in a safe, responsible manner and in accordance with fleet policy so that any inappropriate habits can be corrected. Recurring issues will be handled as outlined in the fleet policy.

Any questions regarding the above information should be directed to Wayne Westerholm at (501) 279-4005.

