

Birmingham City Council take control of their fleet with CMS SupaTrak



Birmingham City Council is the largest local authority in Europe today, servicing in excess of 400,000 homes each year. Their Fleet and Waste Management Division is responsible for the collection, recycling and disposal of over 500,000 tonnes of waste per annum that is generated in the city from households and businesses. They have installed SupaTrak vehicle tracking into over 300 of their Waste Management vehicles and as a result are significantly reducing their costs, amongst other benefits.

Birmingham City Council has chosen CMS SupaTrak to provide them with a vehicle tracking system to support their fleet management needs. They have had the SupaTrak vehicle tracking solution installed into over 300 of their Waste Management and Street Cleansing vehicles and like many organisations, have made this investment in order to save their business considerable cost, conform to new government duty of care and taxation guidelines and above all, take control of their valuable assets.

The Environmental division of Birmingham City Council operates a large fleet of vehicles, including street cleansers, refuse collectors and recycling trucks. These vehicles represent high value assets and Birmingham City Council needed to find a solution that would be able to monitor and precisely locate any vehicle in the fleet, on demand.

Mark Childs, GIS Project Manager for Waste Management Services at Birmingham City Council explains that "until now, we have had no definite way of knowing where our vehicles are at any given time. The implementation of SupaTrak has given us this capability."

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SupaTrak is a simple to use, cost effective tracking solution which is easy to install and scalable to any size of organisation. With 60 second updates as standard, Birmingham City Council's Waste Management fleet is

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visible on the SupaTrak web based mapping system, which can be accessed from any Internet connection. The comprehensive reporting capabilities of SupaTrak have allowed the Waste Management Division to monitor and manage their fleet in ways not previously possible. "SupaTrak's capabilities have enabled us to monitor our assets and manage them more effectively. This has brought about increased efficiencies throughout our fleet" says Mark.

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The implementation of SupaTrak has had a positive impact on the fleet's fuel costs and Mark believes this is a direct result of "more efficient driving techniques" being demonstrated throughout the fleet.

EcoTrak fuel saving technology has also been trialled in Birmingham City Council's compactor vehicles and has demonstrated an annual reduction in fuel costs of up to £1,700 per vehicle. Using CANbus technology, EcoTrak

enables fleet managers to monitor and manage their individual drivers' behaviours, including real time MPG, and identify areas that could be improved. Using this information, necessary driver training can be delivered to bring about more efficient driving, which can result in significant fuel savings and a reduction in vehicle carbon emissions.

In addition to the SupaTrak and EcoTrak solutions, Birmingham City Council have also elected to have sensors installed on their vehicles, which can monitor a variety of operating factors including lifting, sweeping and compacting frequency. These sensors provide additional fleet management efficiency and allow Birmingham City Council to meet and exceed their customer service level agreements.

Birmingham City Council are already planning for future enhancements including the roll out of additional SupaTrak vehicle tracking solutions throughout the fleet and the introduction of JobTrak: a mobile working solution from CMS SupaTrak, which enables functions such as real time job status reporting and two way messaging.

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