



## SmartDrive Safety™

### Frequently Asked Questions for Union Members

#### What is SmartDrive Safety?

The SmartDrive in-vehicle video based measured safety program includes an automated event recorder system (AER) that captures 30 seconds of audio and video inside and outside of a vehicle when triggered by sudden movements, such as swerving, sudden braking and speeding. Highly trained professionals review and score these events, providing insights to driver safety never available before. This information can later be retrieved for use in accident reconstruction and driver training programs. SmartDrive has brought significant, measurable value to customers in reducing collisions by over 53%, saving money and most importantly lives.

#### Is SmartDrive Safety a surveillance system?

No. The video recorder only saves 30-second video clips when it is triggered by sudden G-forces, such as sudden braking, swerving, or a collision, or by exceeding speed thresholds. In contrast to a surveillance system which saves 100% of captured video, the system actually saves less than 1% of the video it processes.

#### What does SmartDrive record?

The SmartDrive video event recorder provides both a visual and audio account of what happens inside and outside of a vehicle during an event. The unit is attached to the windshield behind the rearview mirror and contains a forward and inward facing dual lens camera with a 280 degree vantage of the front of the vehicle, inside the cab, side and rear windows. Each event is recorded for a total of 30 seconds, 15 seconds before and after a trigger event. SmartDrive Safety system also has the ability to record vehicle speed.

#### Can employers retrieve video beyond the triggered 30 second video clips?

No. The unit operates like a DVR or Tivo, constantly recording and then erasing video after 15 seconds unless there is a triggering G-force, speeding event, or manually activated recording.

#### Can it be triggered remotely?

No. The device cannot be controlled remotely. The camera is activated only by events occurring within the vehicle. The cameras cannot be operated by anyone outside the vehicle or pre-programmed to record drivers.

#### How does SmartDrive Safety benefit union members?

SmartDrive Safety protects drivers by providing an unbiased account of what happened during an accident. Unlike current "Blackbox" systems, the SmartRecorder captures important details, including the actions of other drivers that can exonerate fleet drivers from fraudulent claims. The system also provides tools to help drivers become aware of unsafe acts or habits which increase their risk of accidents.

#### How have drivers reacted to SmartDrive Safety?

Once drivers understand the event-driven nature of the system, they are receptive. Nearly every professional driver has faced situations where their recount of an event could not be independently corroborated. In reality, the majority of accidents (up to 75%), are caused by non-professional drivers.

In addition, drivers realize that the program is there for their protection. Because the driver has the ability to manually activate a recording, they have added protection for security threats such as carjacking, robbery, unruly passengers or pedestrians, and road rage. Manual recording is also incorporated into everyday work practices, such as recording a locked gate making a pick up inaccessible, or recording a traffic delay that will impact a driver's schedule.

### **Do companies use SmartDrive Safety as an excuse to penalize their employees?**

In fact, just the opposite is often true. The system also captures those events where the quick, alert response by the driver to an unexpected hazard AVOIDED a collision and, for the first time, allows such excellence to be recognized and rewarded.

### **Will the SmartDrive Safety tax already busy managers or require additional personnel?**

No. Because SmartDrive personnel conduct the professional review of the videos, managers are able to focus only on the specific, high-priority events or trends that call for his or her attention. Total unsafe driving acts fall off dramatically in the first three and because the measuring is constant, managers are able to sustain safer driving

### **How have labor unions reacted to exception-based automated video event recorder (AER) technology?**

Unions care about driver safety and have been deploying AER technology for seven years now, including the Amalgamated Transit Union, Communications Workers of America, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, International Brother of Electrical Workers, United Mine Workers Union, and the National Federation of Federal Employees. Deploying SmartDrive Safety does not create a new set of union policies. The 55 driving observations or unsafe distractions that the program measures are already addressed by existing company policy and follow the exact same disciplinary procedures already in place.

### **Why do companies want to include SmartDrive solution in their safety programs?**

Information available at the scene of an accident is often inadequate, resulting in lengthy and costly accident reconstruction. Companies benefit from the ability to capture video and audio by protecting drivers against fraudulent claims and security threats. This technology has been proven to reduce vehicle damage, worker's compensation, and personal injury claims by over 53% , protecting both their employees and their bottom line.

### **How does SmartDrive Safety benefit insurance companies' clients and self-insured?**

Insurance losses for commercial auto represent \$20B annually in the US alone. Fleet owners, distributors, corporations are challenged with the complexity of minimizing risk and reduce insurance premiums where accident and driver records providing after the fact results are insufficient in determining and predicting driver risk. With SmartDrive Safety, unsafe acts can be measured and benchmarked for the first time, representing a true breakthrough in loss control. Video accounts of what occurred also help expedite the claims process and mitigate fraudulent claims. Our program is simple to deploy and administer and is 100% web-based, using a standard web-browser.