Schneider National Installs New Container- and Trailer-Tracking Technology Across Fleets

Information on trailer and container location, load status adds more efficiency for drivers

GREEN BAY, Wis. - (June 27, 2013) - Schneider National, one of the nation’s largest truckload, logistics and intermodal providers, today announced that it is installing new tracking technology across its fleet of van trailers and intermodal containers. The new technology provides Schneider with continuous, real-time information regarding the location and load status of each trailer and container while enhancing driver productivity.

The installation includes an upgrade to the trailer-tracking technology currently installed on the company’s Van Truckload and Dedicated fleets as well as the first-time installation within the Intermodal container fleet. With the new container-tracking installation, Schneider is the only intermodal provider in North America with 100 percent fleet coverage and cargo sensing capabilities.

Schneider is installing Qualcomm Enterprise Services’ Trailer Tracks 210 technology on more than 44,000 intermodal containers and van trailers. All of Schneider’s intermodal containers are to be equipped with tracking devices by Sept. 30, 2013. The van trailer fleet upgrade will be complete by December 2015.

Unlike trailers, intermodal containers are not tethered to a tractor for significant periods of time during the rail portion of a move, making it difficult to power a tracking device. Qualcomm’s new technology uses solar and cellular power, opening the door for intermodal container tracking and load sensing for the first time.

The comprehensive tracking device not only enables Schneider to pinpoint the exact location of empty containers and trailers, eliminating the need for manual yard checks and helping to reduce bobtails, empty miles and fuel costs, but it also transmits vital information from the trailer to the cab, making the planning and dispatch process more efficient.

“I now have more control over how my time is spent, leading to increased efficiency and turnaround times,” said Schneider National driver Scott Dohman. “The new technology provides Schneider and drivers like me with the information we need to take immediate action, while better utilizing our time. I was also happy to find out it didn’t require much additional training.”
According to Don Aiken, vice president of Intermodal Operations for Schneider National, the company anticipates a reduction of eight empty miles per shipment upon full deployment of the tracking devices, equating to 15 minutes per driver, per day in time savings.

When coupling or uncoupling a trailer, the new technology transmits information from the trailer to the cab, enabling Schneider’s dispatch team to read a driver’s trailer number within a matter of minutes via its electronic inventory system. In the past, a driver would have to manually submit a trailer number through an in-cab device. Schneider would occasionally come across transposed numbers, as the reporting is subject to human error, creating more work for the driver and the office team. With the upgrade, the trailer number is auto-filled, improving the accuracy of trailer information.

Schneider researched several technologies prior to selecting Qualcomm. Dave Geyer, Schneider’s senior vice president and general manager, Van Truckload, says the company chose to continue its use of Qualcomm’s tracking platform because of its comprehensive solution for freight visibility.

“The new technology gives us the ability to better manage our trailing units, providing clearer direction to drivers and faster response time to our customers, while minimizing the amount of time, fuel, and wear and tear on our equipment when having to locate a trailer,” Geyer added.

To learn more about career opportunities with Schneider, please visit www.schneiderjobs.com or call 800-44-PRIDE (800-447-7433) for company drivers or 800-28-LEASE (800-285-3273) for owner-operators.

About Schneider National, Inc.
Schneider National has exceptional career paths for professional drivers and truck school graduates. Solo and team opportunities exist for company drivers and owner-operators in Schneider’s Regional, Over the Road, Dedicated, Tanker and Expedited lines of business. Local and regional solo opportunities also exist for company drivers in Schneider’s Intermodal division.

A $3.5 billion company and one of the largest truckload carriers in North America, Schneider has been a top choice for drivers for more than 75 years. Schneider provides drivers great weekly miles, steady freight and the comfort of knowing that “safety first and always” is the cornerstone of the company’s philosophy. Schneider is ranked a top-paying carrier by the National Transportation Institute and has been nationally recognized for its support of veterans, Reservists and National Guard members. For more information about Schneider National career opportunities, visit www.schneiderjobs.com. You can also connect with Schneider on Facebook at www.facebook.com/jobsatschneider and Twitter at www.twitter.com/schneiderjobs.

###