



# Technology Brief



## Wireless Roadside Inspection Program

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) Wireless Roadside Inspection (WRI) Program uses technologies that improve safety through increased inspections. Through the utilization of this voluntary program, FMCSA will gain invaluable insight into carrier performance that will help strengthen the Agency's cornerstone enforcement program, Compliance, Safety, Accountability or CSA.

The WRI Program employs technology to transmit real-time information on commercial motor vehicles (CMV), drivers, and motor carriers to a government system when a CMV approaches a fixed inspection station or enters a pre-defined geofence. While the CMV continues down the highway, this information is assessed for compliance and a wireless inspection report is sent to the participating carrier, local roadside enforcement, and FMCSA's Safety Measurement System (SMS), as part of CSA. If a critical safety compliance issue is identified, the motor carrier and law enforcement will be notified and the driver will be directed to the next inspection station. The entire transaction occurs between 30 and 60 seconds.

Participating drivers will be given the opportunity to conduct a self-test wireless inspection as part of their pre-trip inspection procedures. This will help drivers to check their compliance with FMCSA and other state requirements. The Agency's vision is for the WRI Program to:

- Increase roadside inspections—Enabled by wireless technologies, more inspections lead to increased motor carrier safety and deter those in non-compliance with the Agency's safety regulations.
- Increase inspection efficiency—Speed up the inspection process and enable more inspections, at least on par with the number of weight inspections.
- Improve inspection effectiveness—Reduce the probability of unsafe drivers, vehicles, or carriers bypassing CMV inspection stations and increase the likelihood that fleets will meet the Agency's safety regulations.



- Contribute to CSA—Wireless inspections will be used to update participating motor carriers' SMS profile.
- Provide benefits to industry—Provide inspection credits under CSA with authorized bypasses of inspection stations, reduce fleet costs, provide good return on investment, minimize wait times, and level the playing field.

In September 2012, FMCSA began a Field Operational Test (FOT) of the WRI program. The goal of the FOT is to determine the viability and effectiveness of wireless CMV inspections using existing telematics technologies. The system would receive and process the safety data messages in real time. This FOT will also provide a nexus for future national deployment through the Commercial Vehicle Information Systems and Networks (CVISN), among other programs.

In this multiyear FOT, a commercial mobile radio services (CMRS) communications path will be examined. The program anticipates more than 1,000 trucks and buses participating in up to five States and generating more than 100,000 wireless inspections for analysis. Currently, a large number of motor carriers use CMRS-based telematics devices in their trucks to provide communication with their operations centers. If successful, it is anticipated that this type of system, when deployed nationally, could result in tens of millions of wireless inspections per year.

For more information, please visit:  
<http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/facts-research/art-public-reports.aspx>.