

HILLS TANKERS

SAFELY TRANSPORTING HAZARDOUS GOODS

Hills Tankers operates a fleet of more than 100 prime movers along Australia's eastern seaboard, providing transport services and specialised logistics solutions to the petroleum, dangerous goods and bulk liquids industries. Safety is non-negotiable.

Client problem

- Operates a large fleet transporting highly flammable petroleum products such as diesel, petrol, aviation fuel and lubricants
- Sought to mitigate risks associated with shift work and the inherent dangers of carrying freight to support and protect its drivers, whilst also reducing risks to the business, employees, and general public
- Wanted to proactively detect driver fatigue and distraction to enable pre-emptive intervention and minimise the risk of accidents
- Desired a technology solution capable of providing instant feedback to drivers and critical insights to increase awareness and understanding of these dangers
- Required a robust safety system to align with customer expectations and operate in a heavily regulated industry



GUARDIAN



TELEMATICS SOLUTIONS

Guardian solution

- Deploys algorithms to track drivers' eye and head movements, complemented by a forward-facing camera that monitors the road
- Delivers immediate in-cab seat vibrations and audible alarms to alert the driver when they become distracted or drowsy
- Rapidly identifies potential sleep issues or distraction habits
- 24/7 human monitoring, analysis and assistance provided through the Guardian Centre allows the operations team to respond instantly to fatigue events, facilitating discussions with the driver to, if necessary, adjust the schedule and mandate rest
- Only records footage when instances of driver fatigue or distraction occur, enhancing driver comfort with the system

"We've had in-vehicle monitoring systems, including cameras, for many years. Whilst these systems were great, they didn't provide feedback or assist the drivers in real-time; they were more reactive than proactive. Guardian, on the other hand, is almost the opposite. Once you convince the drivers that it's like having a mate in the passenger seat to keep them focused, and not big brother, the benefits are quickly recognised."

Scott Cullen, Chief Operations Officer

The results

- Installed Guardian across the entire fleet of 100+ prime movers via Australian distributor [Telematics Solutions](#)
- Established driver acceptance through education, helping them understand the technology and the reasons for its implementation
- Provided a better understanding of driver risk profiles, facilitating discussions around fitness for duty and undesirable driver behaviour
- Enabled move to a risk-based fatigue management approach instead of prescribed hours, allowing for greater flexibility and personalisation
- Ensured fatigue intervention plans were fair and reasonable and openly communicated to all involved
- Demonstrated the company's commitment to protecting all parties in the supply chain