



# 7 TIPS

## to Simplify Driving Times Management



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### Who should read this paper?

CEOs | COOs | FLEET MANAGERS

Discover how Frotcom streamlines tachograph data management.

This paper shows how you can simplify the management of tachograph data and your driver's driving times, unlocking greater efficiency and productivity for your company while avoiding the significant fines resulting from non-compliance.

What is the expected gain from the use of Fleet telematics?

- Save time
- Improve customer satisfaction
- Reduce fines
- Enhance driver safety

## Introduction

### Streamline your fleet's driving and working time management

Your operations need to run as quickly and smoothly as possible but always within the limits of the law. This includes, for example, limitation of driving times, maximum speeds, and cargo temperature control. While these regulations are in place to protect workers and consumers, ensuring compliance is not necessarily a simple task.

European Regulation (EC) 561/2006 and the more recent EU Mobility Package I, provide a common set of EU rules for maximum daily and fortnightly driving times, as well as daily and weekly minimum rest periods for all drivers of road haulage and passenger transport vehicles. These rules aim to:

- improve working conditions;
- enhance driver safety;
- encourage more environmentally friendly driving;
- ensure fair competition among transport companies.

For fleets with vehicles over 2.5T, managing drivers' availability, driving, working, and rest times is crucial for legal compliance and driver safety. Fleet Management Software, such as Frotcom, aims to alleviate this burden, making fleet management more accessible.

This document outlines how we achieve this goal.

- Instant Access to Driving Times
- Accurate ETA Calculation
- Automated Tachograph Data Management
- Remote Tachograph Assistance
- Proactive Compliance Monitoring
- Streamlining tachograph file Management with Tachograph Company Cards Hosting Service
- Actionable Insights from Tachograph



## 1. Instant access to Driving times

Knowing drivers' current driving times and limitations is essential for effective fleet management.

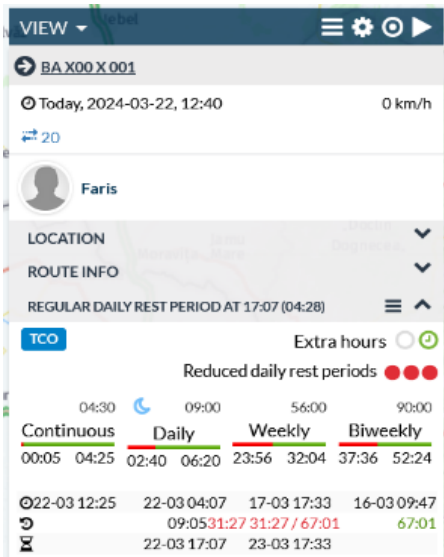
For example, drivers' required rest times will significantly impact route execution and may compromise your vehicles' estimated time of arrival (ETA) to customers' locations. Jobs can only sensibly be allocated knowing the driving hours that remain available to your drivers.

With Fleet Management Software, you can access real-time driving time data for all your drivers, enabling informed decisions and efficient resource allocation.



It provides a comprehensive overview of all driving times, including continuous, daily, weekly, and biweekly data, for every driver in your fleet. This detailed insight allows you to gauge their remaining driving time accurately and identify deviations from regular driving hours, such as reduced daily rests or extra hours.

It also enables you to examine individual drivers' driving times in detail for a more focused analysis. You can precisely determine their driving time by accessing specific driver profiles, monitoring adherence to legal regulations, and ensuring safe driving practices.

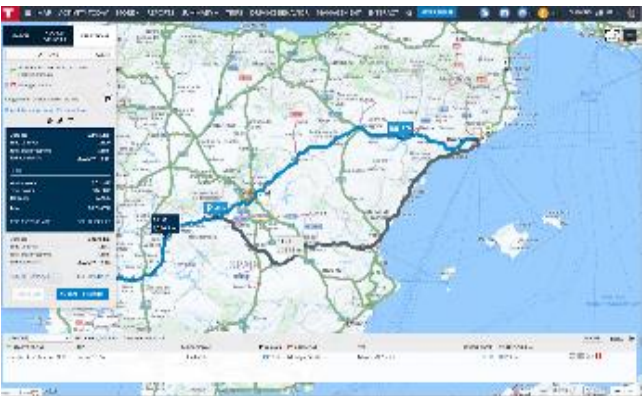


This functionality can be extended to your drivers through the Frotcom Driver App, allowing them to access their driving times conveniently. Drivers can use the app to review their driving hours, verify compliance with rest period requirements, and prioritize safety on the road.

## 2. Accurate ETA Calculation

To ensure a more accurate estimated time of arrival (ETA) when planning a journey, it is important to consider factors such as driving time restrictions, distance, traffic conditions, and necessary breaks along the route.

Many fleet management systems provide accurate ETAs by considering all aspects of the journey, including mandatory rest periods. This approach enhances customer satisfaction by offering realistic arrival times and boosts operational efficiency through optimized scheduling and resource allocation.



Frotcom's Route planning and monitoring feature displays the route and necessary breaks, such as a 45-minute rest stop or overnight stay. This comprehensive visualization lets you see the journey timeline and make informed decisions regarding route selection and timing.

Once the route planning is finalized, Frotcom calculates an accurate ETA based on the planned itinerary, considering the required breaks. This calculated ETA is a reliable benchmark for scheduling deliveries and managing customer expectations.

Customers benefit from realistic arrival predictions, improving satisfaction and loyalty.

### 3. Automated Tachograph Data Management

Meeting legal obligations related to tachograph filing can be complex and time-consuming. However, with Frotcom, this process becomes seamless and efficient.

Manual downloads require taking the company card to download from each vehicle. Remote downloads automate this work, simplifying the process and saving time.

Simplify your life by automating the tachograph file download process with Remote Tachograph Downloads (RTD).

#### Benefits of Remote tachograph download (RTD)

##### Administrative efficiency

By consolidating all tachograph data into one accessible location, it minimizes paperwork and administrative burdens.

##### Inspection readiness

With all required data readily available, it helps alleviate the pressure of inspections, ensuring compliance and avoiding fines.

##### Regulatory compliance

Dashboards and reports provide clear insights into driver hours regulations and tachograph standards, facilitating adherence and minimizing risks.

##### Real-time monitoring

Real-time monitoring of drivers' tachograph status on interactive maps empowering informed decision-making and proactive issue management.

##### Alert configuration

Configure personalized alerts and notifications for impending driver hours violations, allowing for timely issue resolution and penalty avoidance.

Alarms can be triggered in case of exceptions, allowing you to address issues proactively and avoid surprises.

With fines for non-compliance reaching up to €6,000 (£5,000), Fleet Management systems provide peace of mind and ensure seamless adherence to regulations.

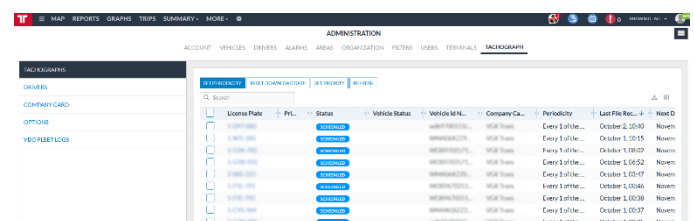
### 4. Remote tachograph download assistance

Adherence to EU drivers' hours regulations is paramount in fleet management. Frotcom's remote tachograph download facilitates timely data downloads, ensuring that fleets maintain compliance with established rules and mitigating the risk of fines and penalties.

Automated scheduled data downloads from vehicles can help you comply with EU regulations mandating such downloads at least every 90 days. Additionally, you or someone on your team must download the driver files every 28 days. With fleet management software, you can ensure that these intervals are met, preventing compliance lapses and potential penalties.

Real-time monitoring capabilities provided by Frotcom enable you to stay vigilant regarding compliance status.

Consider a scenario where tachograph data downloads are scheduled for the 1st of every month. Frotcom visually displays this schedule, allowing you to track compliance easily. In a hypothetical case where one vehicle's data download is delayed until April 6th due to unforeseen circumstances, Frotcom promptly notifies users of this deviation, enabling swift corrective action.



License Plate	PL	Status	Vehicle Status	Vehicle MFL	Company Ca.	Periodicity	Last File Rec.	Next D
0123456789	PL	Downloaded	OK	1234567890	Company A	Every 1st of the...	October 1, 10:40	Novem
0123456789	PL	Downloaded	OK	1234567890	Company A	Every 1st of the...	October 1, 10:15	Novem
0123456789	PL	Downloaded	OK	1234567890	Company A	Every 1st of the...	October 1, 08:27	Novem
0123456789	PL	Downloaded	OK	1234567890	Company A	Every 1st of the...	October 1, 06:52	Novem
0123456789	PL	Downloaded	OK	1234567890	Company A	Every 1st of the...	October 1, 03:47	Novem
0123456789	PL	Downloaded	OK	1234567890	Company A	Every 1st of the...	October 1, 01:44	Novem
0123456789	PL	Downloaded	OK	1234567890	Company A	Every 1st of the...	October 1, 00:38	Novem
0123456789	PL	Downloaded	OK	1234567890	Company A	Every 1st of the...	October 1, 00:37	Novem
0123456789	PL	Downloaded	OK	1234567890	Company A	Every 1st of the...	October 1, 00:35	Novem

All downloaded tachograph files are securely stored within Frotcom's software for at least one year, exceeding regulatory requirements. This ensures fleets can access compliance documentation, which can be invaluable during audits, inspections, or legal proceedings.

Tachograph data is a valuable management resource for fleet managers, providing benefits beyond mere compliance.

## 5. Proactive compliance monitoring

Ensuring compliance with legal obligations is crucial for fleet management operations. Your Fleet Management System should warn you of potential issues and infringements by receiving alerts automatically when things are not working as they should. Typical alarms include:

- Missed tachograph downloads;
- Driver card expiration;
- Company card expiration;
- When vehicles should return to avoid infringing 'mobility' regulations.

Additionally, other warnings can be set to remind you of upcoming compliance issues, such as when vehicles are approaching the 7-day cabotage limits. Fines for not adhering to cabotage rules can be as high as 15,000 € (£13,000).

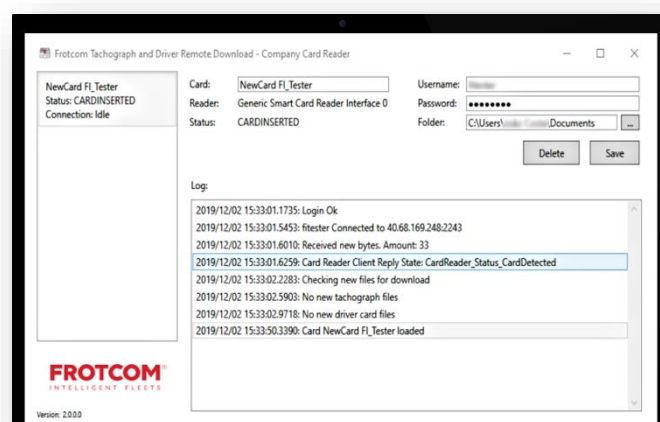
This proactive approach helps fleet managers stay ahead of regulatory requirements and avoid potential fines.



## 6. Streamlining tachograph file Management with Tachograph Company Cards Hosting Service

To download the tachograph files, you need a company card to authorize it. The company card locks the tachograph data to your company, ensuring the privacy and protection of your vehicles and drivers' information.

The company card authentication is conducted remotely through the remote tachograph download process.



To ensure successful authentication and enable file downloads, it's important to keep the company card connected to the internet at all times. This can be a challenge for many organizations.

Here are some common reasons why the company card may lose its internet connection:

- The PC is being used for other tasks, as it is not solely dedicated to the Card Reader;
- The PC enters hibernation or sleep mode;
- The antivirus firewall blocks access;
- Issues installing third-party software (Card Reader app), especially in larger organizations;
- Users shutting down PCs after work;
- The card is removed for manual downloads or not properly inserted into the Card Reader.

The solution is to use a Company Card Hosting service. The service provider of this service securely stores the company card, ensuring that each tachograph data download request is authenticated and readily available for download.

## 7. Actionable insights from tachograph data

Tachograph data holds valuable insights that can significantly enhance business operations and ensure regulatory compliance.

Using software from reputable companies<sup>1</sup> to help analyze the tachograph information provides you with valuable actionable data:

### A. Notify drivers of infringements

It is legally required that your drivers be informed and ensure they understand where they have infringed. The detailed Infringement Letters can be generated automatically, providing clear information for the driver.




## B. Real-time speeding analysis

While tachograph data can provide valuable insights into speeding incidents, Frotcom takes it a step further, offering real-time speeding analysis. Fleets can receive alerts directly on their smartphones, via email, or SMS, allowing immediate intervention to address speeding behavior and enhance road safety.

### C. Streamlined Driver Pay Calculations

With tachograph data accurately recording drivers' working hours, Frotcom simplifies the process of calculating wages. By leveraging this data, organizations can ensure accurate and timely payments to drivers, minimizing errors and disputes while promoting fairness and transparency in payroll management.

<div> <div>  Fleet </div> </div>											
<div> <div>Driver Activity Summary</div> </div>											
Account Name: <span>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</span>								Period from: 02/08/2023 to 31/03/2024			
Site or Group: Default Site, New Vehicles								Period from: 01/11/2023 to 30/11/2023			
Driver Code	Driver Name	No. of Days	Total	⊕	⊗	⊠	⊡	⊢	⊣	⊤	Dist
Σ	17	166.49	87.44	21.50	00.00	109.34	57.15	19.93	4635		
		166.49	87.44	21.50	00.00	109.34	57.15	19.93	4635		
Driver average (1)		166.49	87.44	21.50	00.00	109.34	57.15		4635		

#### D. Compliance Data Archiving

In compliance with European regulations, Frotcom facilitates the archiving of tachograph data, ensuring that fleets retain data for at least one year<sup>2</sup> and make it readily available for enforcement officers if requested. This data archiving process helps fleets meet legal obligations while minimizing administrative burden and risk.

<sup>1</sup> Frotcom integrates with Continental VDO Fleet, a major player in the Tachograph industry.

<sup>2</sup> The rules vary by country.

## Additional benefits of tachograph insights

- Automated downloads save time and money, streamlining the data collection process and enhancing operational efficiency.
- The management scorecard provides timely alerts about driver infringements, enabling fleets to proactively address compliance issues and avoid penalties.
- Secure cloud-based data management ensures access to critical information anytime, anywhere, allowing you to make informed decisions on the go.

## Comprehensive Reporting Suite

Frotcom and VDO Fleet offer a comprehensive report suite with over 25 configurable reports tailored to your needs. These reports cover various aspects of driver and vehicle performance, including:

- Management Report
- Wages Report
- Infringement Letters
- Missing Days
- Missing Vehicle Mileage

## Conclusions

Managing a fleet is a challenging task!

Fleet managers face numerous challenges daily.

Fleet management software is here to make your life easier. It can help you:

- Save time
- Improve customer satisfaction
- Reduce fines
- Enhance driver safety



For more information on how Frotcom can revolutionize your fleet management and address your business needs, visit [www.frotcom.com](http://www.frotcom.com). Our dedicated team will provide solutions and expert guidance to optimize your fleet operations.



Our software contains all the features you need to manage your fleet, whatever the industry you work in. Discover how we can help.

### About the author

Clive Taylor is the Commercial Director for Frotcom International, a leading provider of intelligent fleet management solutions. Clive has been working in vehicle tracking and fleet management since 2008.