

Aeromark keeps lorry fleet on air freighter's 'radar' screen

AEROMARK of Manton Lane, Bedford, has sold upgrades of its telematics lorry fleet tracking system to airfreight company Menzies Aviation.

The improvements enable Menzies managers at Heathrow to see the exact location of each of the company's 22 delivery vehicles, wherever they are on the UK's roads.

The systems also also logs every trip automatically, recording the route and such information as time taken for compulsory driver breaks.

Messages can be sent to the driver by phone or text via the internet giving details of pick-ups or other instructions.

Managers are able to direct the vehicle best placed to handle a job and so reduce unnecessary journey time. Satellite navigation then directs the driver to the pick-up simply by entering the customer's post-code into the system.

Jan Rowlands, Menzie's general manager of trucking operations, said: "We use a large plasma screen in the office and can see to within a few feet where all are trucks are on the road. This helps us keep customers informed about the status of their consignments and increases their confidence

that deadlines will be met."

Aeromark declined to reveal the value of the contract.

Menzies is evaluating an Aeromark innovation that enables electronic 'paperwork' detailing pick-ups and deliveries to be sent to and from the office. The information can be processed immediately back at base, resulting in quicker invoicing and greater document security.