

FREIGHT EXCHANGES

Telematics link 'could streamline freight exchange concept'



Could a telematics link add a new dynamic to online traffic exchange systems? That's the hope of Transport Exchange Group, the parent company of Courier Exchange and Haulage Exchange.

It has struck a deal under which the telematics system from Navman Wireless can be harnessed to inject more up-to-date information into the network; and similar deals with other telematics providers could follow.

Online traffic exchange systems are an established feature of the transport scene. They provide a pool of vehicles and loads, showing the availability of loads and vehicles in near-real time, and helping fleet operators find traffic and make use of spare capacity.

Historically, the location and availability of vehicles had to be posted on traffic exchanges explicitly by vehicle operators, but Transport Exchange's Navman system changes this. Once registered, transport operators will be able to utilise their vehicle tracking system to promote available capacity and match precise vehicle locations with the loads posted on the exchange.

In addition, by taking advantage of the live vehicle tracking data integration, trading partners will be able to view the whereabouts and progress of their loads whilst in transit – helping with planning and customer service.

According to Transport Exchange managing director Lyall Cresswell: "The latest Exchange

2.0 version of our platform was developed with integration in mind. We are now in discussions with a wide range of like-minded technology providers such as Navman Wireless to take advantage of collaborative opportunities."

Transport Exchange Group was established in 2000, and claims to be the leading UK provider of managed freight trading services for the road transport industry, with over 4,500 active users running some 25,000 vehicles and trading 40,000 loads a month.

Integrated fleet management systems, feature ➔ **page 12**

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