

ALL-ELECTRONIC TOLLING AND FLEET VIOLATIONS:

How a managed tolling program can control violations and improve total cost of ownership



ELECTRONIC TOLLING: UNRAVELING A COMPLEX LANDSCAPE

The numbers alone set the stage. There are more than 7,000 miles of toll lanes and more than 5.7 billion trips per year on tolled roads and crossings in the United States¹. While far from gone, the days of the traditional tollbooths or plazas where drivers pay toll collectors cash are certainly numbered. Today's complex network of increasingly automated toll roads that don't offer a cash option is causing numerous problems for fleets that do not have a comprehensive toll management solution in place.

7,000
MILES OF TOLL LANES
5.7B+
TRIPS PER YEAR
on toll roads and crossings
in the United States

Consider, for example, the administrative and operational processes fleets must contend with in order to avoid toll violations. Obtaining transponders as well as setting up and maintaining toll accounts and proper plate numbers — even for a relatively small fleet — can prove to be an administrative headache. In addition, there are financial ramifications for fleets that have decided to handle toll management on their own.

TOLLING DATA SHOWS STAGGERING VIOLATIONS

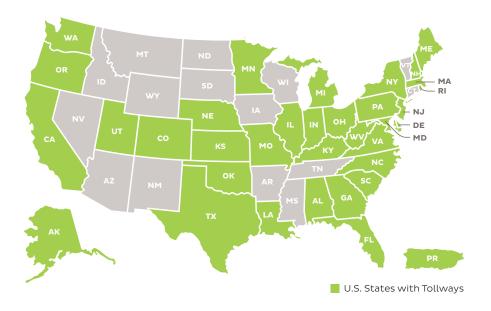
Data show that between 2012 and 2019, there was a roughly 50% increase in fleet violation volumes. Tolls, parking, and photo enforcement account for more than 95% of vehicle-issued violation volume impacting fleets, with the majority —almost 60% — of these infractions being toll violations².

Violation fines can add up fast, especially if a fleet is comprised of several hundred or several thousand vehicles. What's more, toll violations are not issued to the driver but rather to the vehicle's registered owner. These tickets are issued thanks to the advanced optical capabilities of current video license plate recognition technology. This causes complications for fleets that don't have drivers assigned to individual vehicles, putting pressure on the purse strings of the enterprise as fleets often absorb the costs rather than track down the specific driver. That, in turn, increases a fleet's liability risk because it cannot identify which driver committed the infraction.

TOLLS ACCOUNT FOR NEARLY

60% of all fleet violations





240+
TOLLWAYS
AND BRIDGES
in the United States

85+
TOLLWAYS
with no cash
payment option

On the flipside, drivers who are assigned a vehicle for longer periods put fleets in an equally difficult situation. Rarely the address for the driver and the vehicle to which they are assigned is the same, so if a citation is issued, the ticket is still sent to the registered owner's address (typically the fleet or fleet management company) who will then have to track down the assigned driver for payment — adding to administrative time and costs.

Doing away with the headaches, liability, and risk associated with toll management and violations can save fleets money and enhance safety, too. A toll management provider can take the administrative burdens off the fleet to improve both efficiency and help save money.

GETTING THE LAY OF THE LAND

In order to keep the enterprise healthy and competitive, it is imperative for fleet owners to understand the state of toll roads in the U.S. Simply put, tolls are here to stay. Presently, 35 U.S. states and territories have at least one tollway. With more toll roads in place, there is more opportunity for infractions.

In addition, more toll roads are converting to all-electronic tolling and the landscape is increasingly complex. There are currently 55 separate and distinct toll road authorities. The most recent figures indicate that electronic toll collection (ETC) will be a growing trend. Between 2018 and 2019, nearly 15 roadways either added cashless tolling lanes, or converted to all-electronic tolling completely. The year 2020 will see new cashless tolls in Florida and Texas, as well as the completion of the New York State Thruway's 570+ mile all-electronic toll way system. Currently, there are more than 5.1 billion electronic toll transactions annually, and these numbers are projected to increase in tandem with the addition of more cashless toll roads.

Yet the electronic tolling landscape is not designed to match the needs of today's fleets. The system and set up process are far too complex. After all, vehicles registered to one fleet may be garaged or traveling across various regions - or all over the country - which means those vehicles pass through different tolling regions and authorities. This requires fleets to establish, pre-fund, and juggle multiple tolling accounts -placing an administrative and financial burden on the enterprise.

Between 2018 and 2019,

NEARLY

15

roadways either added cashless tolling lanes, or converted to ALL-ELECTRONIC TOLLING COMPLETELY

A BUMPY ROAD FOR THOSE WHO GO IT ALONE

Many fleets try to manage their toll programs and violations independently. However, due to several factors, it is a daunting task.

For starters, of the 55 distinct toll authorities in the U.S., some are interoperable with one another while others are not. Nationwide, comprehensive electronic tolling interoperability is still a long way off.

Driving across state lines is not always problematic — as long as those states' tolling authorities share interoperable systems. Conversely, if various states' systems are not interoperable, drivers who travel across state borders may face a violation even if they have an account set up with another toll authority, and not be aware of it until a violation is sent to the fleet

For fleets, the lack of true and comprehensive interoperability across tolling authorities has led to specific administrative and operational challenges. It means that ETC accounts are unavoidable. It may fall to the fleet manager to set up all of the separate driver tolling accounts, arrange to prefund, and manage them – taking time away from handling the core management of the fleet to deal with all the minutia of each driver's tolling account. The resulting administrative roadblocks will likely result in significant costs and inefficiencies for the fleet and likely a continuous stream of violations.

There is also the issue of equipping vehicles with the correct transponder or multiple transponders if the vehicle travels through various tolling regions. This takes time, research, energy, and investment. If the fleet has decided to manage its own tolling program, this process of procuring the right equipment would also become the responsibility of the fleet manager or the driver.

In addition, fleets that are handling their toll programs on their own are stuck dealing with violations. Manually processing violations is labor-intensive and subject to human error. Toll violations — including penalties - often go undisputed and are paid by either the fleet or its fleet management company, putting a significant and possibly unnecessary strain on fleet budgets and negatively impacting the bottom line. Complicating matters further, violations are on the rise. Research shows that when a toll agency transitions to allelectronic tolling (AET) — as more and more are doing – fleet violation volume increases from 7 to 10%.

Finally, authorities are becoming more aggressive in collecting tolls, using a variety of tactics to garner payment — from professional debt collectors to public shaming campaigns.







Fleet vehicle incurs toll violation



Issuer sends notice to Fleet as registered owner



Fleet pays violation fine directly to issuer



Fleet invoices fleet customer fine plus fee



to recover fine plus fee from driver

BENEFITS OF PARTNERING WITH A TOLL MANAGEMENT PROVIDER

For many fleets, in this new era of ETC, going it alone is not the best option. A toll management provider simplifies the entire process.

Toll management providers, such as Verra Mobility, act as one-stop shops, so fleets have little to do with the tasks associated with toll and violation management. For example, Verra Mobility procures, inventories, and distributes the tolling transponders or transponder sticker tags — depending on the tolling region. According to the fleet's preference, the toll management provider can ship the necessary tolling equipment either directly to the driver, through the fleet manager, or fleet management company.

In addition, toll management providers can troubleshoot important issues on a day-to-day basis. They can work directly with a driver who is moving to another tolling region — quickly recovering a transponder and issuing an appropriate new one.

Toll management providers, such as Verra Mobility, have strong relationships with multiple toll authorities. For fleets, the value of these relationships cannot be underestimated nor can the significantly increased visibility into aggregate tolls and spend.

Specifically, Verra Mobility offers toll management program coverage for fleets on 98% of U.S. tollways. This ensures that vehicles in a fleet can travel seamlessly between the majority of tolling regions.

Better management accounting is another benefit of partnering with a toll management provider. Fleets can use tolling as part of their total cost of ownership (TCO) calculation because, by using a provider, fleets know their exact toll spend. Fleet managers gain a clear picture of tolling activity and costs via a secure web-interface. Without this insight, fleet managers may not realize the average cost of a fleet toll violation is \$27 in most areas, but in New York, can be as high as \$50 per occurrence.

Verra Mobility also offers program flexibility. A fleet might opt for a personal-use tolling solution, which allows drivers to manage and pay for their own toll charges. Such a service helps with handling off-hours tolling, making it easier for the employee and less expensive for the fleet. This is only one example of the type of value-added services that a fleet toll management provider can assist with.



VERRA MOBILITY
CURRENTLY OFFERS
toll management program
coverage for fleets on

98%
OF U.S. TOLLWAYS
with electronic toll collection



PROCESSING

250M+
TOLLS AND

VIOLATIONS PER YEAR Finally, a major benefit of partnering with a provider is the elimination of toll violations which account for nearly 60% of all fleet violations. A toll management provider guarantees the technology that can ensure vehicles remain compliant on the road. Verra Mobility, for example, has developed a way for fleets to transition to an all-electronic. centralized system, using either a transponder or a license plate. which significantly reduces or prevents any violations.

Gone are the registration holds, vehicle impounds and other difficult consequences of tolling infractions. And with Verra Mobility, there are no additional costs involved in disputing a violation if the equipment fails or if there's a misread on a plate. Disputing violations and handling other tolling issues is part of the company's fully outsourced, value-added program to its fleet clients.

The upshot: Driver productivity thrives. The use of non-stop tolling lanes — without the threat of violations — means drivers experience less traffic-related delays, get to their destinations more quickly, and avoid needless paperwork due to violations.

EASY TO SET UP

Setting up a fully outsourced tolling program with Verra Mobility is easy. The company's tolling program is integrated with the top 10 fleet management companies, which means that any changes a fleet manager makes, including adding, removing or replacing vehicles, or moving vehicles from one geographic region to another, is handled in an automated way, removing the administrative burdens from the fleet.

Industry data shows that the average return on investment (ROI) for fleets using a toll management provider is in the 30-40% range.

Choosing the right solution can sometimes require a modest investment. In the case of Verra Mobility, start-up costs are nominal. Fleets don't need to pre-fund toll accounts, they are perpetually funded through the tolling program. Customers are only charged for the equipment, removing the burden and unpredictable costs of handling all the administrative functions in-house. Coupled with its national scope, the Verra Mobility program will eliminate most tolling violations. In contrast, when fleets try to manage tolling on their own, a huge upfront investment is required. By choosing the right provider, fleets can avoid start up costs like pre-funding and maintaining multiple tolling accounts, purchasing transponders from multiple toll authorities and paying to package and ship those transponders to drivers all over the country.

The future of ETC is likely to bring with it more complexities but also a far more sophisticated, interoperable national network.

A movement is underway among agencies, states, and regional toll organizations to implement tolling interoperability. This also means realizing interconnected regional networks as well as an interoperable license plate database. Finally, interoperable transponder specifications have already been released industrywide.

The long-term goal is that fleets will have the ability to pay for travel via toll facilities across the continent with a single account. That is true progress.

But, progress is impossible without change. The era of ETC is not going away. The right toll management provider, can help fleets better navigate during this time of transition while keeping the enterprise financially sound.



AVERAGE RETURN
ON INVESTMENT
(ROI) FOR FLEETS
using a toll management
provider is in the

30-40% RANGE

ABOUT VERRA MOBILITY

Verra Mobility (NASDAQ: VRRM) serves the world's largest commercial fleets and rental car companies, managing tolling transactions and violations for millions of vehicles. A leading provider of connected systems, Verra Mobility processes millions of transactions each year through connectivity with more than 50 individual tolling authorities and 450+ issuing authorities. With full-service solutions to address tolling, violations and title registration needs. Verra Mobility partners with fleets and fleet management companies to ensure your vehicles stay compliant and productive on the road. Flexible, scalable products reduce paperwork, save money and simplify the complexities that fleet managers often face. Arizona-based Verra Mobility operates in more than 17 countries.

For more information, visit www.verramobility.com.

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RESOURCES

¹ "2015 Report on Tolling in the United States" – IBTTA. Accessed July 24, 2017. https://ibtta.org/sites/default/files/documents/MAF/2015_FactsInBrief_Final.pdf

² "Strategies to manage Fleet Violations" – Automotive Fleet; December 2013. Accessed July 24, 2017. http://www.automotive-fleet.com/channel/safety-accident-management/article/story/2013/12/strategies-to-manage-fleet-violations.aspx

³ Verra Mobility Data Sources