



An ELD is an “Electronic Logging Device” designed to simplify the administration of, as well as ensure full and accurate compliance with, Hours of Service regulations.

Nearly all commercial drivers, including coach and bus drivers, are required to keep accurate records of their “Hours of Service” (the time spent driving or not driving the vehicle). Traditionally, drivers used log books to record time spent driving, resting, on active duty but not driving, etc. Electronic Logs will connect to the computer of the coach and automatically record the drivers time spent driving (or not\*) and are therefore much more accurate than paper logs since they cannot be circumvented.

Hours Of Service (HOS) regulations are in place in both the US and Canada to ensure safety. By enforcing regulations on when and how often a driver may operate a commercial vehicle, the regulations aim to reduce the likelihood of drivers operating a commercial vehicle while fatigued. Paper log books are cumbersome and time consuming and can be inaccurate. Electronic logging devices help to automate the record keeping process making it easier for drivers, and the companies they work for, to comply with the HOS regulations. At the same time, since they are linked directly with the motor coach’s engine, they are much more effective in ensuring full compliance with the regulations.

The [Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration](#) (FMCSA) of the United States of America announced an ELD mandate whereby fleets of trucks and buses have until December 18, 2017 to implement certified ELD technology that will record drivers’ Hours of Service (HOS)\*\*.

Canada will also be introducing a mandate for ELD’s. The regulations are currently being drafted by Transport Canada and are expected to be published in Canada Gazette Part I late 2017.

\*The mandate to use ELD’s does not change any of the basic hours-of-service rules or exceptions.

\*\*There are some exceptions to mandatory ELD’s found in part 395 of FMCSA Regulations

[www.fmcsa.dot.gov/hours-service/elds/electronic-logging-devices](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/hours-service/elds/electronic-logging-devices)

[www.tc.gc.ca/eng/acts-regulations/forward-regulatory-plan.htm](http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/acts-regulations/forward-regulatory-plan.htm)

[www.omca.com](http://www.omca.com)

[www.motorcoachcanada.com](http://www.motorcoachcanada.com)