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Anyone whose business includes operating a fleet of vehicles knows it can be tricky, and often frustrating, to properly manage fuel assets. A fuel management system may not be strictly necessary, but incorporating this type of automation can make your operation far more efficient and cost-effective.

A big part of that is improving fuel efficiency. But there's a lot more to it than simply getting the best mileage possible from every vehicle.

A fuel management system puts automation to work at every step, reducing human interaction while enabling reliable and consistent information-gathering. If you choose to enhance your system by adding Syn-Tech's FuelMaster Automotive Information Modules (AIM2) your fueling processes can become entirely hands-free.

Taking the human factor out of the equation leads to even greater efficiencies. And since you can capture and store much more detailed information about your fueling process and each of your vehicles, you're in a position to better analyze that data to identify further potential savings.

You can increase efficiency by reducing loss.

Minimize or eliminate "apparent" loss" and the accompanying accounting confusion" that comes from misallocation.

Minimize or eliminate actual loss as well as potential additional problems that come from improperly dispensed fuel type, spillage or outright theft by dispensing into containers or unauthorized vehicles. AIM2's additional safeguards render these mistakes virtually impossible.

Reducing human participation in the process, especially recording odometer and chronometer readings, greatly reduces or eliminates simple mistakes, too" things like transposed numbers, forgetting to record everything every time or overlooked engine trouble codes.

These errors can significantly undermine your efforts to follow a careful and timely maintenance schedule. And if problems go unnoticed or regular preventive maintenance gets skipped, you can easily be facing expensive problems, not the least of which is inefficient mileage.

Use your fuel management system to monitor and improve driver behaviors that affect fuel efficiency, such as idle time, PTO and travel direction. Better training that results in tiny changes can have a significant impact on conserving fuel.

When you're able to monitor every step from purchase through storage and dispensing, you never have to wonder where fuel assets are going, let alone whether they're being used to your best economic advantage.

It's worth your time to investigate all the benefits you could gain beyond improved fuel efficiency.

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