



Crane Freight and Cartage Boosts Operational Efficiency with Fleetworthy

Crane Freight and Cartage (CFS) is a full-service commercial transportation and warehousing provider headquartered in Houston. Since its founding in 2009, CFS has quickly grown its fleet and service offerings. With 24 strategic locations across the U.S., CFS works with a wide variety of customers, including those in energy, professional sports, air transportation, and automotive industries seeking local, regional, and national transportation services. CFS operates nearly 400 commercial vehicles across its locations, which range from Class 8 trucks to delivery vans to accommodate the specific needs of its customers. Approximately 80% of its fleet consists of Class 8 trucks, which can haul a diverse mix of freight with its dry van, reefer, drop deck, and flatbed trailers.

With much of its fleet running regionally and cross-country, CFS is proactive in identifying fleet management solutions that can help the company operate more efficiently by reducing operating costs, driver downtime, and administrative tasks associated with long-haul operations. A few of the solutions the company is keen on are toll management and weigh station bypass services through Fleetworthy's Bestpass and Drivewyze solutions.

TIME AND COST SAVINGS THROUGH DRIVEWYZE PRECLEAR

For CFS, utilizing a weigh station bypass service is a solution the company has relied on for several years to increase operational efficiency by reducing the amount of time drivers spend pulling into weigh stations and the operating costs associated with them. According to Liz Prasek, CFS Safety & Compliance Manager, CFS previously used PrePass for the service and switched to Drivewyze's PreClear solution in 2019 so drivers could receive the service through an integration with its



ELD provider and gain access to a larger network of weigh stations online with Drivewyze. Drivewyze currently has more than 900 fixed and mobile weigh station sites in 48 states and provinces in its network.

“When we made the switch to Drivewyze, we felt that since our ELD provider was integrated with Drivewyze, our drivers would have an easier time knowing if they were granted permission to bypass weigh stations along their route since a visual and audible notification appear on the ELD,” said Prasek. “We also realized that with Drivewyze, we would have access to more bypass opportunities since they have the largest bypass network.”

According to Prasek, utilizing weigh station bypass service is a solution both drivers and company administrators find effective in increasing driver uptime and efficiency. In a recent monthly report from Drivewyze that details bypasses CFS trucks received, the report showed that the company trucks activated with PreClear bypassed more than 1,645 weigh station sites, for an average of 13 bypasses per truck. As a result, it reduced the time spent at weigh stations by approximately 137 hours. It’s estimated that the cost savings associated with bypassing those weigh stations helped CFS save more than \$14,300 in operating expenses during that month alone.

“Time is money, and by enabling our drivers to bypass weigh stations along their route, we’re able to reduce downtime and operating costs associated with time otherwise spent idling at inspection sites,” said Prasek. “Drivers don’t like spending their time at weigh stations so PreClear is a service our drivers like having access to.”

MANAGING TOLLS EFFICIENTLY WITH BESTPASS

In the office, there are many tasks and responsibilities associated with managing a large fleet dispersed throughout the country. With the majority of CFS trucks operating in areas where multiple tolling authorities are present, the company has relied on toll management solutions provided by Bestpass to simplify the processing of tolls received. According to Bill Mentzer, CFS Product Manager, CFS began using Bestpass in 2012, shortly after the company began making cross-country runs in states where tolls are present.

“When we began to grow the over-the-road segment of our operation, it became increasingly difficult to keep up with all the tolls we were receiving from tolling authorities throughout the country and needed a solution that would help us more effectively manage tolls,” said Mentzer. “We identified Bestpass as a service that would reduce the amount of time we spend on tolls and automate many of the tasks associated with toll management.”

According to Mentzer, approximately 60% of its fleet has Bestpass transponders installed, most of which are Bestpass’ Complete Pass, which covers 100% of major toll roads nationwide. CFS also uses Bestpass in trucks that operate regionally, where tolls are present.

By using Bestpass, CFS has access to Bestpass’s discounted toll rates and can more effectively track vehicles receiving tolls, so it can easily bill back customers for tolls trucks receive along their route.

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“Since we have one account that consolidates all tolls received and toll data for each individual truck, we can more efficiently monitor where trucks are receiving tolls and pay all tolls since our account automatically withdraws funds to cover them,” said Mentzer. “Bestpass helps us be more efficient when it comes to managing tolls so we can spend more of our time focusing on other administrative tasks.”

DRIVEWYZE AND BESTPASS, BY FLEETWORTHY

Now that Drivewyze and Bestpass are united under one company -- Fleetworthy -- CFS is excited to see what's in store for the two service providers as future product integration takes place.

“Anytime you can consolidate accounts and access to services is a good thing,” said Prasek. “We were happy to hear that Drivewyze and Bestpass are now part of a combined company and look forward to seeing how the company will integrate its services to complement each other. Both Drivewyze and Bestpass are great services we've relied on to ease the pain points of our operation.”

