## WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS TRUCK PARKING — USA



The West Virginia Department of Highways needed a Truck Parking Guidance System (PGS) that uses the latest technology to detect, monitor and alert truckers to available parking in the most efficient way possible. The system required:

- · Integration with the current ATMS platform
- Real-time field data for alerting and management purposes
- Graphical User Interface displaying overall system operation, device status and important statistical information
- Wireless communication between detection units
- Highway alerting signage
- Secure communication back with ATMS platform

The Q-Free Truck Parking Guidance System, which integrates OpenTMS with the Q-Free parking technology, incorporates several novel features. The PGS module provides the ability to monitor and report the availability of parking from parking areas that are

instrumented with vehicle counting devices. Parking availability data is disseminated to third party public notification systems, such as the 511 Travelers Information System, alerting drivers of the state of the parking area. West Virginia is one of the first jurisdictions in the US to use such a solution.

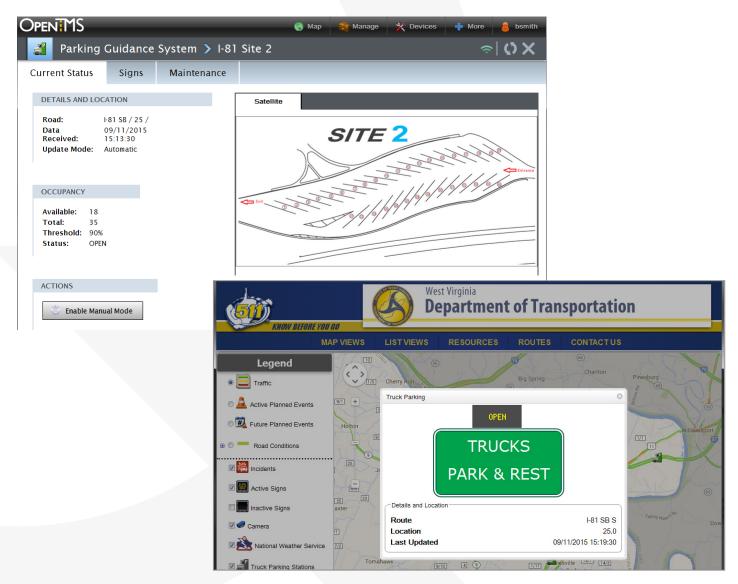
Most parking management solutions for rest areas merely count the numbers of vehicles passing in and out and offer no real management of the rest area facility beyond that. The Q-Free solution adds another level of sophistication. In-ground sensors monitor the length of stay within each parking space and transmit data back to the traffic management center (TMC), where operators can actively assess and manage the parking capacity as well as truck operations.



For example, a threshold can be configured in OpenTMS to generate alerts if a truck has been parked for an extended period of time. A freight hauler might be attempting to use a rest area as a storage location or the driver could be having a health issue.

"With our system, we can alert the appropriate authorities and provide the exact location of the vehicle so it can then be checked," Rick Beckwith, Q-Free Project Manager, states.

Beckwith continues "A valuable function of the West Virginia Truck Parking System is that we can provide detailed information to remote truck operators by sharing data processed by OpenTMS with the state's 511 application. A truck driver can find out whether a rest area is closed, full, or open prior to arrival and can make a better-informed decision on where to park while still some distance away. Rest area statuses are also displayed on LED signage near the rest areas themselves."





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