

[LTFRB Memorandum Circular No. 2015-021, June 26, 2015]

INSTALLATION OF GPS DEVICE TO ALL PUB SERVICE UNITS

Adopted: 26 June 2015

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Pursuant to Section 5, paragraph (k) of Executive Order No. 202 empowering the Board "to formulate, promulgate, administer, implement and enforce rules and regulations on land transportation public utilities, standards of measurements and/or design, rules and regulations requiring operators of any public land transportation service to equip, install and provide in their stations such devices, equipment facilities and operating procedures and techniques as may promote safety, protection, comfort and convenience to persons and property in their charges as well as the safety of persons and property within their areas of operation," the Board hereby mandates and prescribes the Guidelines for the Installation of Global Positioning System (GPS) Device for all Public Utility Bus (PUB) authorized units:

I. OBJECTIVE

This Circular is intended to institute enhancements of PUB service with the use of technology in consonance with modernization program of public land transportation services and in the promotion of road safety.

According to the paper "A Study on Speed Control of Public Utility Buses" prepared by the University of the Philippines - National Center for Transportation Studies (UP-NCTS) Road Safety Research Laboratory, there is a very strong indication that accident severity is very much related to speeds of colliding vehicles. This accident type is caused primarily by tailgating or miscalculation of speed. The study recommends the use of an in-vehicle GPS device in buses. The use of GPS and associated communication system looks more viable in regulating speeding of PUB units.

Further the use of GPS Device informs the Board and the operators about the proper routes and the speed in which a bus is travelling. The GPS Device can also help improve security and safety for passengers and drivers alike. Should a bus go missing for any reason, the device can help bus operators and authorities recover it. Or, it can help operators quickly send a replacement bus to convey the passengers stranded by a broken-down bus.

The provisions of the Circular shall apply to all PUB Service operators nationwide.

II. GPS FLEET MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

All GPS devices shall conform with the specifications provided in Memorandum

III. GPS DEVICE REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

The operator and/or the accredited provider shall bring the GPS device to the Board for enrollment and registration:

- 1) Operators shall only procure the GPS device from the Board's accredited provider/s;
- 2) Operators shall bring to the Board for registration in the system of the GPS device, together with the Certificate of Registration and Official Receipt of the vehicle where the device will be installed;
- 3) The Board shall verify if the unit is authorized before registration;
- 4) The Board shall encode the GPS Device and Vehicle Information;
- 5) After registration, the accredited provider shall install the device under the supervision of the Board's personnel.

The software application will send queries to the GPS device via SMS and the device should reply correspondingly. The registration system will send the following SMS to the GPS device:

REGISTER[space][password][space][sendingtime][gpsid]

Ex. REGISTER 123456 30 ABCDE 123

- Password: Device password as provided by the device provider.
- Sending time: Interval in seconds where the GPS device sends data to the GPS Logs server.
- GPS ID: Unique ID generated by the GPS registration system assigned to the device.

If registration is successful, the GPS device should send a reply via SMS with the word "OK" and start sending data to the GPS logs server with the given GPS ID and the specified interval time.

IV. DISPLAY OF GPS STICKER

Once the GPS device is installed, the GPS provider shall provide a GPS sticker designed by the Board to be pasted on the windshield of the bus.

V. PASSENGER PARTICIPATION

The accredited provider shall include, as part of the GPS device, any device that would alarm when the speed of the bus exceeds the speed limit provided herein or reflect the actual speed of the bus during the operations and other important details as the case may be.

VI. ALLOWABLE MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT

The speed limit for provincial buses shall be 80 kilometers per hour (kph). The speed limit for city buses shall be 60 kph except when travelling inside the expressways, in which case their speed limit should be 80 kph.