

ISSUE NUMBER

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ISSUE NAME

Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) Embedded On-Board Diagnostics (OBD) Gateway

STATUS

Closed

Enforcement and Industry Modernization Committee

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It is important that all stakeholders who rely on mobility data to understand the essential nature of data access, and to understand what data is essential to running their business in a connected world. For instance, the OBD is one of the established data links of choice for connecting new and legacy vehicles into a common, accessible format.

The original equipment manufacturers ("OEM") are currently building "gateways" which may hinder the ability of commercial operators to directly access their legitimate business operations data. In some instances, OEMs have denied access through points of connectivity, like the on-board diagnostic port ("OBD"). In other instances, OEMs require the payment of a licensing fee for access to the "codes" for equipment replacement. It's quite possible with the introduction of these "gateways," commercial operators will no longer be able to use aftermarket tools designed to allow them to access their data.

This capability raises two very important questions: "Who controls the data?"; and, "What access to a vehicle's data does the vehicle owner have?"

JUSTIFICATION OR NEED

If an OEM embedded OBD gateway is in place, it could restrict real-time notification services, potentially leading to a breakdown and/or significant downtime. Just as commercial operators have a right to repair (their vehicles), so too should they have a right to connect their vehicles using the connectivity service provider of their choice - especially when it comes to data relevant to their vehicles and business operations.

It's critical that the industry continues to operate within a data access model which provides the vehicle owner with control of their vehicle data. The prevailing model ensures full and fair competition, protects personal privacy, advances data security, and enables the appropriate use of data analytics driven by public interest.

REQUEST FOR ACTION

Request for an appropriately assigned CVSA committee to take up this issue to fully understand any potential negative implications of a vehicle gateway. have on Safety data, what potential costs are associated with the lack of control of vehicle data. If the assigned committee believes there is a potential issue, to then document commercial vehicle operators needs and perspective. And, finally, consider contacting your federal and state

representatives and alert them to the threat posed by the gateway trend.

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE

No representative from Geotab was present to explain/discuss this item in Spring Virtual Workshop 2021 or at Annual Conference and Exhibition in Wilmington, Delaware. Issue was closed with no action taken.