



Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee Task Statement 11-04

Electronic On-Board Recorders (EOBR) Communications Protocols, Security, Interfaces, and Display of Hours-of-Service Data During Driver/Vehicle Inspections and Safety Investigations

Presentation to the Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee
June 20, 2011



Agenda

- EOBR Regulatory Background
- May 31, 2011 Public Meeting
- Outcomes of Public Meeting
- Problem Statement
- Areas for Clarification
- MCSAC Task 11-04



EOBR Regulatory Background

- EOBR final rule published on April 5, 2010
 - New performance-oriented standard for EOBR technology
 - Incentives to promote voluntary use of EOBRs
 - Mandatory use of EOBRs to remediate regulatory non-compliance
 - Compliance date is June 4, 2012
- Technical amendment published on September 13, 2010
 - Operating temperature range
 - USB connector type
- NPRM proposing to expand scope of mandatory use of EOBRs published on February 1, 2011
 - Comment period closed on May 23, 2011



May 31, 2011 Public Meeting

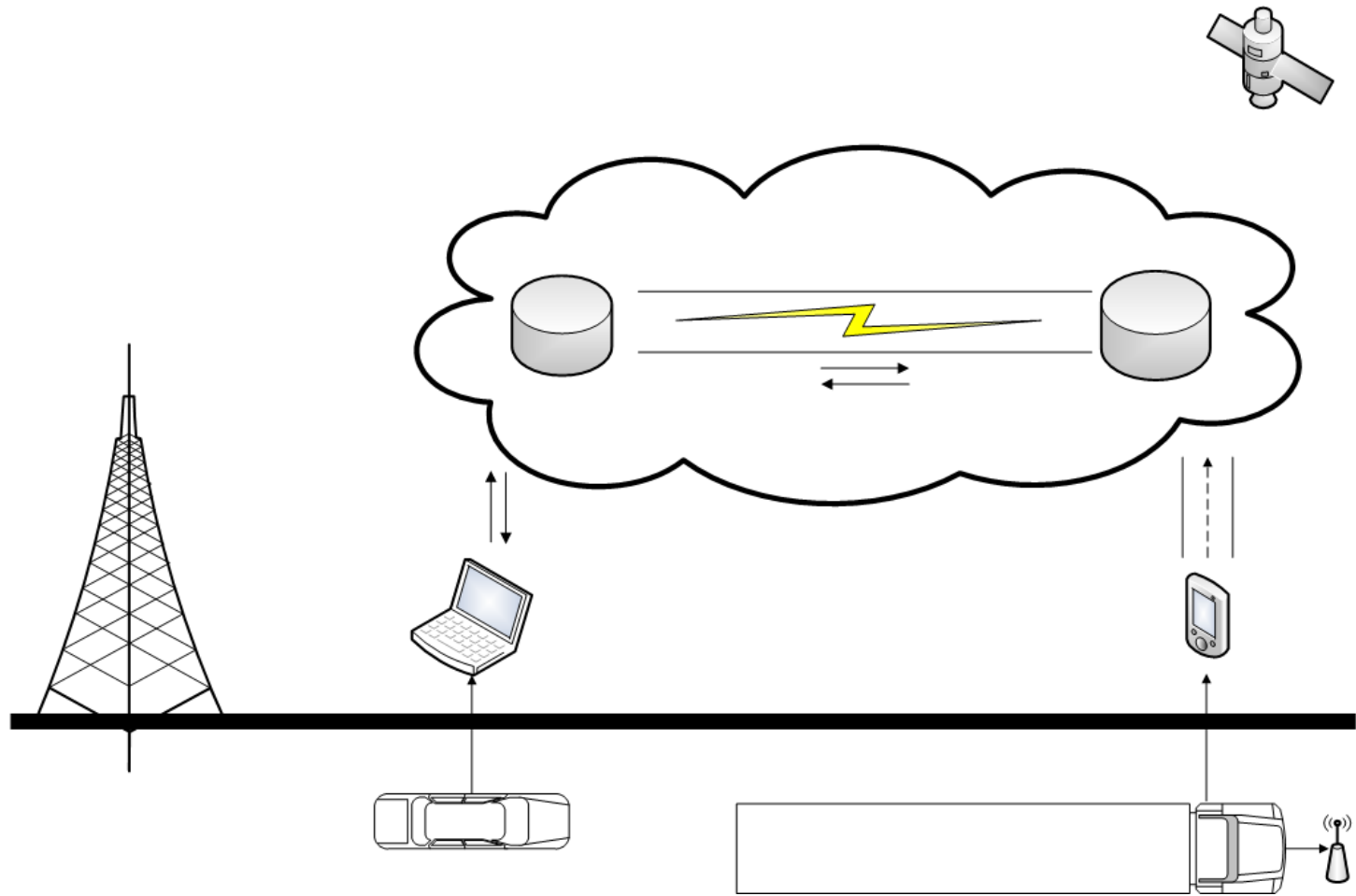
- FMCSA held a Public Meeting to discuss EOBR implementation issues
 - Industry experts
 - Federal and State enforcement officials
 - Other interested parties
- Issues
 - “Lower-tier” technical questions
 - ***Communications hardware/functionality to support wireless transfer of data to enforcement; data transmission security***



Outcomes of Public Meeting

- General consensus that a wireless web-based communications structure is the most viable option for transmission of data
- Need for additional meetings to define an appropriate communications system, followed by an opportunity for testing
- Given that goal of future meetings is to achieve consensus with industry, recommendation that these meetings be conducted as a MCSAC subcommittee to ensure compliance with FACA

Wireless Web-Based Communications Structure





Problem Statement

- Clarification is needed on the functionality of communications standards noted in Appendix A to Part 395 for the transmittal of data files from EOBRs.
 - Some communications methods presumed to be viable at the time of the development of the rulemaking appear to be less appropriate now as technology and government security standards have evolved



Areas for Clarification

- How an EOBR is able to wirelessly identify external networks and devices and securely connect to them to transmit HOS information
- Establishing a secure and reliable communications protocol that will allow data transmission in a timely manner
- Clarification of methodologies and the required interfaces and applications to securely and reliably transmit HOS data via telematics applications services, USB, and 802.11



MCSAC Task 11-04

- Consider the advice of technical experts on data communication and display technologies
- Make recommendations on technical questions to improve the functionality of the information reporting requirements of the EOBR rule
- Determine best approach to achieve full functionality; determine what amendments to the rule may be necessary
- Submit report by August 2011 MCSAC Meeting