9 Tips for Fuel Savings

A layered approach to saving fuel makes more sense every time prices go up. This tip-sheet outlines steps to improve fleetwide fuel usage and address inefficient driving habits.

1: Look at more than MPG.

Not every gallon of fuel is used the same. Use a fuel tracking and analytics system such as **Zonar ZFuel™** to track real-world metrics within your control.

- Compare driver performance equally, regardless of conditions, terrain, vehicle and route.
- Build informed fuel-saving strategies that make sense when put into practice.
- Find hidden inefficiencies by uncovering fuel loss rates based on overspeeding events and locations.

2: Reward drivers who watch their speed.

Every mile per hour driven over 60 mph reduces fuel economy by one-tenth of a mile per gallon. So, a truck traveling at 65 mph will be about 27% more fuel efficient compared to another truck of the same type, traveling at 75 mph. (Source: North American Council for Freight Efficiency)

Coach drivers to slow down. Reward the ones who do.

3: Keep tires properly inflated.

Improper tire inflation burns extra fuel. Implement a tire pressure monitoring system such as **ContiConnect™ Live Integrated** for remote, real-time insight into each tire, even across distances. Your fuel savings will add up, and your tires will last longer.

4: Coach drivers to speed up more slowly.

Hard acceleration wastes fuel. Calculate acceleration points to use the appropriate amount of acceleration. (Source: North American Council for Freight Efficiency).

5: Protect against fuel theft with smart fleet tech.

Use **fuel tracking and analytics** to spot red flags and keep your fleet's fuel in the tanks. Quickly and accurately detect when an amount of fuel purchased exceeds a vehicle's tank capacity. Plus, look for unplanned and unexplainable fuel purchases.

6: Cut back on idling.

Each year, a 10% reduction in idling is worth about 1% in fuel economy. At $3 a gallon and 100,000 miles a year, that's $300 to $500 saved for each semi. With current prices, those savings could nearly double.

Use a **fuel tracking and analytics system** to identify excessive idling and take steps to reduce it. (Source: North American Council for Freight Efficiency).

7: Control what you can.

You can't change the weather. But you can build more efficient routes based on trip.

ZFuel captures and compares real-world driver habits to a simulated perfect driver that performs at maximum efficiency for a configured trip. Compare the trips, spot the gaps, and take steps to improve performance.

8: Refine coaching and rewarding drivers.

Use Driver Efficiency Scores, such as those provided in **ZFuel**, to take into account what drivers can't control when you evaluate their performance.

Even if they haul heavy loads uphill or navigate congested city streets, evaluate them fairly and equally.

9: Optimize routing and reduce out-of-route miles.

Equip drivers with **advanced in-cab navigation** so they can plan the shortest, quickest reasonable route with the fewest stops. And avoid rush hour traffic.