



NEW YORK CITY TAXI & LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

Testing New Technologies

Pilot for Data Collection Devices

November 20, 2008

New Opportunities to Gather Data

- TLC has been approached by manufacturers and taxicab owners who are interested in testing data collection devices such as cameras (drivecam) and “black box” recorders.
- To properly evaluate these suggestions, TLC needs to learn more about capabilities, technologies, benefits, functionality, and costs.

Proposed Pilot Program

MACBOX III

- Drivequest Technologies has proposed a pilot program using windshield-mounted cameras.
- The MACBOX III camera can record what happened in the case of an accident or other road incident.
- Additional manufacturers might be interested in providing similar devices for taxicabs and FHV's.
- Testing, including passenger and driver surveys (as well as continued discussions with manufacturers and installers) would be required to properly evaluate the systems.
- The Commission should examine the outcomes of the pilot program after 6-12 months of testing.

Why data recorders?

- Potential increase in safety.
- Potential decrease in insurance costs.
- Similar devices are already in use in the Black Car and Luxury Limousine industries, resulting in lower insurance rates.
- Medallion Taxicab owner-drivers and FHV owners already permitted to use cabin cameras.
- T-PEP experience has taught TLC and owners that readily accessible data helps with policy and business management decisions.

Proposal

- 13 Month maximum installation and evaluation period.
- Up to 10 cabs allowed per manufacturer.
- Unlimited number of manufacturers allowed.
- Inspection and evaluation for safety by TLC's Safety and Emissions division.
- Taxicabs with cameras that record the cabin will be marked with "You may be recorded" decals for passenger information.
- Testing would include gathering information on:
 - Owner satisfaction
 - Driver satisfaction
 - Passenger satisfaction
 - Focus groups and real-life road testing
 - Usefulness for owners and the insurance industry

Proposal (cont'd)

- Not limited to drivecams or interior cameras.
- Broad interest from a variety of manufacturers.
- TLC will talk to manufacturers of a diverse range of data recorders to find the best match for the industry as a whole.



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