

Press release

**Kilometer Charging System for heavy goods vehicles in Belgium: fixed installation of OBU avoids fines and saves time**

* VDO offers fixed installation of On Board Units for trouble-free toll settlement
* Quick and easy ordering – installation in only three steps
* Use vehicle downtimes for installation during tachograph testing or between Christmas and New Year

Villingen-Schwenningen, December 8, 2015. April 1, 2016 will see the launch of the Kilometer Charging System for heavy goods vehicles with a gross combination weight rating over 3.5 metric tons in Belgium. From then on, all relevant trucks, domestic and foreign, must be equipped with an On Board Unit (OBU). When built in to the vehicle, Satellic’s OBU offers many benefits, including time savings, more safety and comfort and the prevention of heavy fines. Fleet operators can now have the OBUs installed fast and easily through the certified workshop network of VDO, a Satellic partner. VDO is a corporate brand of the international automotive supplier Continental, which manufactures the OBU for the Belgian Kilometer Charging System and has many years of experience in the production of such devices.

## Carefree driving in Belgium with a built-in OBU

The most decisive advantage of a fixed installation: unlike a cigarette-lighter plug installed OBU, the built-in OBU automatically switches itself on when the vehicle engine starts. This avoids substantial fines, because if a driver forgets to turn on the OBU or if the OBU is not connected, the transport company must pay 1000 euros and the driver has to comply with the regulations within a time span of three hours. So a fixed installation pays for itself before the first fine. A fixed installation is also recommended for vehicles that regularly or only occasionally transport dangerous goods (ADR and ATEX vehicles). A permanently installed OBU has no rechargeable battery, so the OBU doesn’t have to be removed from the vehicle during loading and unloading.

## Fixed installation means significantly shorter vehicle downtimes

Another reason why a fixed installation can be worthwhile for carriers is that a built-in OBU considerably reduces vehicle downtimes. The driver doesn’t have to go to a Service Point, register the vehicle, get the OBU, install the OBU in the vehicle and return the OBU again. “A built-in installation means that the upcoming toll in Belgium will cause no problems for fleets and carriers. They will have a permanently functioning, easy-to-operate system, which also ensures that the driver makes fewer potentially punishable incorrect entries,” says Dr. Lutz Scholten, Head of the Tachographs, Telematics and Services segment at Continental.

## Quickly ordered and installed during downtimes between Christmas and New Year

Getting an OBU permanently installed in a vehicle is very simple – it only takes three steps. If the OBU is obtained at a Service Point or on the Satellic website at [www.satellic.be](http://www.satellic.be), the installation can be booked at a nearby installation partner selected in the VDO Webshop ([www.vdo-services.com](http://www.vdo-services.com)). The selected certified workshop then installs the OBU. The customer can buy an installation voucher when ordering a unit in the VDO Webshop, so when he arrives at the workshop, everything has already been paid – there’s no additional paperwork to be filled out. VDO recommends OBU installation during the usual truck downtimes – during a tachograph inspection or the next workshop appointment, or during the holiday period from Christmas to New Year.

**Continental** develops intelligent technologies for transporting people and their goods. As a reliable partner, the international automotive supplier, tire manufacturer, and industrial partner provides sustainable, safe, comfortable, individual, and affordable solutions. In 2014, the corporation generated sales of approximately €34.5 billion with its five divisions, Chassis & Safety, Interior, Powertrain, Tire, and ContiTech. Continental currently employs more than 208,000 people in 53 countries.

Information management in and beyond the vehicle is at the very heart of the **Interior** division. The product portfolio for different types of vehicles includes: instrument clusters, multifunctional and head-up displays, control units, access control and tire-information systems, radios, infotainment systems, input devices, control panels, climate control units, software, cockpits as well as services and solutions for telematics and Intelligent Transportation Systems. The Interior division employs more than 36,000 people worldwide and generated preliminary sales of approximately €7 billion in 2014.

Within the Interior Division the **Commercial Vehicles & Aftermarket** Business Unit accommodates the specific requirements of the commercial vehicle, special vehicle and aftermarket sector. A global network of sales and service companies ensures proximity to local customers. Covering the product brands Continental, VDO, ATE, Galfer and Barum the Business Unit offers electronic products, systems and services for commercial and special vehicles, a broad selection of products for specialized workshops and spare parts for the Independent Aftermarket and the Original Equipment Services after end of series production of the vehicle manufacturer.

Contact for Journalists

Christopher Schrecke

Head of Media Relations and Internal Communications
Commercial Vehicles & Aftermarket

Continental

Phone: +49 69 7603-2022
E-Mail: christopher.schrecke@continental-corporation.com

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