The downturn in global economy adversely affected the transportation and logistics industry. The transportation industry has been hard hit by dwindling freight volumes, increased fuel costs and a dearth of qualified drivers. Monetization of high quality value added services have become essential for profit generation. Different actors in the value chain - LSP’s, Transporters, and Shippers - need to know exactly where their shipments are at any point in time. Birlasoft’s solution provides a means to both ends providing an ‘always on’ in transit visibility of shipments.

**Oracle Transportation Management (OTM)** is a leading best of breed Transportation Management System (TMS) which provides shippers and 3PL providers a tool to optimize their operations and reduce freight spend.

**On-Track** is a leading edge vehicle tracking solution from Birlasoft. It is a dot net based application which uses MySQL as the database and is available as a traditional as well as hosted solution.

Birlasoft’s OTM CoE team has brought together these two leading technologies and developed an integrated GPS solution with OTM which provides a seamless integration between OTM and On-track.

**How does it work?**

Typically fleet users leverage the GPS system to track and monitor the vehicles whereas business users/customers use OTM to track shipments. With Birlasoft’s integrated solution, both set of users can get the both vehicle level as well as shipment tracking through OTM UI. The integrated solution is designed to work with OTM independent of the OTM modules being used and the business scenario.

On-track has a vehicle – VTU device association pre-defined in the application viz. which VTU is attached to which vehicle. On-Track sends vehicle location details to OTM at pre-determined intervals (configurable). In OTM, the message received from On-Track is converted to a “Tracking Event” XML.
Scenario 1: Vehicle Not Assigned to Shipment

The tracking event XML updates the power unit/equipment as an event. So even if the Power Unit/Equipment is not attached to a shipment in OTM, the fleet department can still track the vehicle (independent of whether a shipment is attached to the vehicle or not). A custom action is developed which will display the on-track screen with current shipment location on google maps as a new window within OTM.

Scenario 2: Vehicle Assigned to Shipment where vehicle is own fleet

Planner will bulk plan orders into shipments
- Planner will assign power unit, equipment and driver to the shipment
- On a specific event like tender acceptance or any other, OTM will send the shipment XML to On-Track where it will be stored in the local database.
- On-track will start sending updates to OTM as tracking events.

Scenario 3: Vehicle Assigned to Shipment where vehicle is owned by third party

Shipments might be given to third party for execution. Some of the carriers will have GPS units attached. However since these are external carriers with their own application, they will not be in a position to accept OTM shipments. In such a case, a question arises; how to match the events coming in to OTM with the correct shipment in OTM? OTM comes to rescue with a feature known as “Integration Saved Query”. An event coming into OTM will have the vehicle ID in the message and OTM shipment will have the same vehicle number (assigned by planner). When the XML comes in OTM, an integration saved query will get triggered which will take the vehicle ID in the inbound message and run a query on OTM database to find a shipment with same vehicle ID. Additional conditions like ENROUTE status etc. will be checked to ensure that multiple shipments are not selected. The event will be then applied to the selected shipment.

Benefits of OTM + On-Track

- End to End solutions for fleet operations
- Tight integration of On-track with OTM
- On-Track solution endorsed by Oracle as compatible with OTM and other Oracle applications
- On-Track is one of the best in class applications in the market and offers best practices around fleet management
- Fleet operators can use the On-track VTU units CAN interface to monitor engine parameters like fault codes, oil/coolant pressure and temperature, fuel level, wheel based speed etc. (This is possible only for engine equipped with CAN interface)
- Constant development of the solution by Birlasoft CREST team resulting in access to latest technology and best practices in fleet domain
- Unmatched support and back-up by Birlasoft consultants and technicians
- Birlasoft is one of the premier OTM system integrators and also an Oracle Platinum Partner

Birlasoft holds

20+ Oracle specializations

and

5 advanced specializations

Birlasoft Oracle Practice provides Oracle and process-based expertise to Manufacturing, Automotive and Energy industries. More than 2,000 Oracle professionals deliver a powerful combination of industry experience and Oracle knowledge in the following areas:
- E-Business Suite
- JD Edwards
- Agile PLM
- CRM On Demand
- Value Chain Planning
- Value Chain Execution
  - Oracle Configurator
  - Warehouse Management
  - Oracle Transportation Management
  - Business Intelligence and Hyperion
  - Fusion Middleware
  - Global Services and Support

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