

# AlertMeter<sup>®</sup> in Action: Transportation and Logistics

Performance data collected over six months of AlertMeter<sup>®</sup> use demonstrated its effectiveness in ensuring fitness-for-duty among truck drivers.

## About Savage Services

For more than 70 years, Savage companies have provided transportation, logistics, materials handling, and other integrated services such as oil and gas, power generation, mining, ports and terminals, and construction, among others. With a broad range of transport servicing (truck, terminal and transload, oilfield, marine, rail, and more), Savage is a leader in providing world-class services to support supply chain management in North America and internationally.



## Ensuring Driver Fitness-for-Duty with AlertMeter<sup>®</sup>

Safety is a top value at Savage; they were named one of **America's Safest Companies** by *EHS Today* magazine. Fulfilling their commitment to health and safety, Savage Services implemented AlertMeter<sup>®</sup> to help ensure fit-for-duty status among a group of trucking personnel.

Over six months, Savage's use of AlertMeter<sup>®</sup> has generated more than 4300 individual tests among employees. During this time, total participation among employees increased from 45 tests to 360 tests per week among a peak of almost 90 employees. The average number of tests per week during the six-month period was 143.

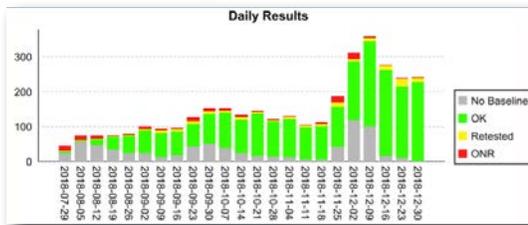


Figure 1. Weekly AlertMeter<sup>®</sup> Data Trends

Performance data collected over the six-month period demonstrate effective use of alertness testing to ensure fitness for duty among truck drivers. Figure 1 demonstrates a steady decrease of Outside Normal Range (ONR) scores as well as an increased frequency of OK scores. Overall, the data indicate a normalized trend of learning and acclimation to alertness testing among employees. The performance data further show a positive response to onboarding new employees onto the system. Despite a high number of additional baselining tests between Thanksgiving and Christmas,

within three weeks, average OK scores ranged between 85% and 93%. Further, based on a trend analysis of the initial group of onboarded employees, ONR and Retest scores dropped significantly. Figure 2 shows that ONR rates fell from 10% to 3% within the first four weeks after establishing baselines.

Overall, the rate of ONR scores equaled 6% across the six months of regular AlertMeter<sup>®</sup> use once baselines were established. The average rate of Retest scores, which are recorded when users score within acceptable baseline range on a second test after first scoring Outside Normal Range, was also 6% post-baselining. Therefore, the average rate of OK performance tests was 88% overall. This finding demonstrates that a cognitive fitness assessment was necessary for up to 12% of the employees. Of that sample, 6% were prompted to meet with a supervisor to discuss the possible causes of their ONR alertness scores and to assess their fitness for work. The 6% ONR rate is comparatively high compared to the typical <3% ONR rate experienced by AlertMeter<sup>®</sup> clients, but not inexplicable when considering Savage's continuous onboarding of new employee users during the six-month period. This ONR rate is likely to decline with continued use of AlertMeter<sup>®</sup>. Savage's SH&E Manager, Monte Jensen, explained that the safety conversations between employees and supervisors are no different than check-ins that took place before implementing AlertMeter<sup>®</sup>. Mr. Jensen also remarked, "Our drivers are independent workers, which is part of our culture, and we encourage everyone to take the test at any time during their shift so they can make sure they're able to stay focused."

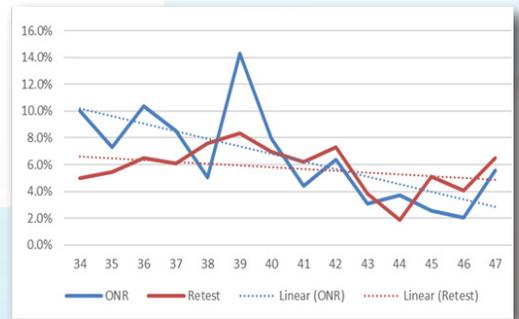


Figure 2. ONR and Retest Performance Scores

Whether due to a lack of sleep, effects from drugs or alcohol, illness, emotional distress, or simply distraction, AlertMeter<sup>®</sup> helps keep workers safer by providing a top-level screen to detect when workers' cognitive fitness may be compromised. Another common benefit of AlertMeter<sup>®</sup> is that it leads employees to manage their own alertness levels. A truck driver from Savage Services noted, "it takes one to two minutes . . . [to] self-identify lack of awareness from day-to-day."

