

Vehicle fleet

Telematics

By the end of 2019, Bell had installed telematics on 76% of the on-road fleet. Telematics provide vehicle positioning and activity information. The latest telematics units can sense harsh acceleration, excessive speed, hard braking and harsh cornering, all of which are detrimental to fuel economy, providing opportunities to coach employees about safer, greener driving habits.

Replacement

Our program includes the ongoing deployment of more fuel-efficient vehicles. In 2019, we replaced 626 older vehicles with new, more fuel-efficient models. That included putting into service 87 model 2019 Ford Transit Cargo vans that, due to improved engine and transmission technology, are 34% more fuel efficient than the previous generation, going from 22 L/100 km to 14.5 L/100 km. We also replaced 430 Dodge Caravan minivans with 2019 Ford Transit Connect Cargo vans. Due to the reduction in engine size, from a 3.6-litre six-cylinder to a 2.5-litre four-cylinder engine, we reduced the fuel consumption from 16 L/100 km down to 12 L/100 km.

Alternative technologies

Bell currently has 13 Ford C-Max hybrids, one C-Max Plug-in hybrid and 4 Escape hybrids in the fleet. In the 2019 Vehicle Selector, the Nissan Leaf, a standard electric passenger car has been added as an option. We are testing 2 fibre-fusion vans equipped with lithium-ion batteries replacing onboard gasoline generators. In 2020, we intend to run a pilot project to convert a test group of Ford Transit Connect vans. In the next few years, several projects and partnerships are planned to electrify our fleet.