

PRESS RELEASE

GoBus Goes Paperless with Newly Implemented RouteMatch Software

Kilgore, TX, April 8, 2013: On March 22nd, GoBus dispatchers and drivers went live with a new paperless way of scheduling and fulfilling trips. The system used, RouteMatch, uses computer software to schedule trips which are sent to GoBus drivers out in the region making best use of the resources and time available.

The software focuses on ride sharing and getting the most people on the bus at the same time going to and from same or similar locations and offers negotiated ride times. It offers the customer several ride options and ensures a ride back is scheduled by asking the customer for a placeholder time for each trip. Customers will not be limited with the time spent at their destination, but will be asked for a time they will be ready to be picked up ensuring that other customers can be served in between individual trips.

Prior to RouteMatch, drivers were given a list of prescheduled trips to complete within the next day and were in charge of routing the trips efficiently on their own. The new system produces the most efficient routes automatically, and in the future, may be able to add trips scheduled last minute on the same day by seeing which buses are traveling nearby with time to spare.

The software was purchased by ETCOG approximately 10 years ago, but never fully implemented. ETCOG employees have spent six months to make the system fully functional, install equipment and train dispatchers and drivers.

To schedule a trip with GoBus, call toll free at 1.800.590.3371. For more information, contact ETCOG's Director of Transportation, John Hedrick, at 903.984.8641 x242.

About ETCOG

The East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG) is a voluntary association of counties, cities, school districts and special districts within the fourteen-county East Texas region. ETCOG assists local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit and coordinating for sound regional development. Established in 1970, ETCOG, either directly, or through its contractors, provides programs and services for East Texas seniors, employers, and job seekers. ETCOG and its contractors also build the 9-1-1 emergency call delivery system, provide peace officer training and homeland security planning services; and deliver rural transportation services, business finance programs, and environmental grant funding for the region.

