

top 5

Annual fleet planning tips

Resolve to make smarter fleet decisions this year.

The end of the year is the optimum time to set new fleet goals and outline ways to achieve them. If you're looking to reduce costs and create efficiencies, then applying a focused strategy to your annual fleet plan is a must.

LeasePlan's certified automotive fleet managers recommend five key tasks to do now to prepare your fleet for a successful new year:

1.

Seek out volume discounts

Most of the manufacturers offer fleet purchasing incentives based on your company's past and projected order volume.

If you have an agreement in place, negotiate the terms and conditions for the new model year. Then, communicate the terms to the team that applies the incentive to vehicle orders. If you don't have an agreement in place, ask a fleet expert for help navigating the maze of manufacturer incentives.

2.

Review your fleet's driver policy

Your hands-free cell phone policy may have been rock-solid when you crafted it four years ago. But since then, we've seen distracted drivers cost companies millions and others their lives.

It may be time to revise your stance. Commit to scrutinizing every line of your driver policy and validate that it still makes sense for your fleet. Then, require your drivers to review the new policy and acknowledge revisions.

3.

Get real about your fleet budget

If you're trying to pass with an exact replica of last year's fleet budget – don't! Take the time to educate yourself on trends in the industry and adjust your budget accordingly.

Wondering where to start? Do your research on where fuel costs are headed, whether the used-vehicle market is up or down, or how maintenance costs will fluctuate as vehicles reach higher mileage. Need help? Ask a fleet expert for advice.

4.

Audit your risk & safety program

Are you fully aware of risky drivers in your fleet? Have you prepared your employees with driver training? Is your insurance policy best suited for your fleet's unique usage?

Take a step back and look at your fleet's entire pursuit of safety. Then make a deepened commitment to protect your two most valuable assets – your employees and your vehicles.

5.

Ask for help

As fleet managers are tasked with doing more with less, there are inevitably projects you can't find the time to tackle. Review your project list for key initiatives that could lower cost or create efficiencies.

If an over-due project falls in either category, look outside your organization for assistance. A small investment could return huge dividends.



It's easier to leaseplan

Stumped with strategic fleet planning? LeasePlan can help. Call an expert today at 855.588.3677. Or, visit us online at www.leaseplan.ca.