

Case Study of

## patagonia®

As a company, Patagonia is committed to taking deliberate steps to reduce its environmental impact. Parkio's tools help Patagonia prove and measure their impact savings.

"The commute calendar is a constant reminder of our collective impact as a company."

— Lisa Myers,  
Environmental  
Programs Associate

### Better Data

Running a successful commuter program requires the collection of good, credible data on the daily transportation choices of your commuters. Parkio's commute calendar makes the collection of daily commuter information easy for users, which means more frequent and more meaningful data to support your program.

### Instant Feedback

Parkio's appealing impact reports give your commuters—and program sponsors—direct feedback on the avoided expense and environmental impact of reported commute activity.

## Introduction

Outdoor gear and apparel company Patagonia has a long history of promoting environmental causes. For years, Ventura, California based Patagonia has encouraged employees to give up their cars when commuting to work. Every spring, Patagonia organizes Bike to Work Week events at their corporate headquarters, Reno service center, and retail stores located throughout the United States. The company also offers regular incentives to employees who carpool, vanpool, walk, bike, or use public transportation to commute to work. Patagonia saw Parkio's tools and services as a way to take their company's existing commitment to the next level.

## Challenge

Patagonia has long encouraged and incentivized employees' use of alternative transportation, though tracking employees' commutes presented a challenge. The need for more detailed data was pushed to the forefront when the company's Reno distribution center received the hard to obtain LEED certification, which is given to buildings that meet strict environmental standards. To keep that rating, Patagonia needed to prove that it was encouraging alternative commuting. Patagonia also offered varied incentives to employees who used alternative transportation. The growing popularity of this program meant the company needed a more efficient system for managing commute incentives.

"Parkio's commute tools enable Patagonia to further its mission as a company to inspire and implement solutions to the environmental crisis."

— Lisa Myers, *Environmental Programs Associate*

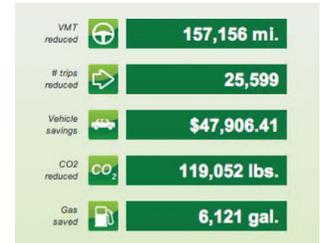
Prior to Parkio, administrators in Ventura and Reno manually logged commuting information into Excel spreadsheets. Megan Sells, Assistant to the Director at the Patagonia Distribution Center in Reno, spent 30 minutes each day typing in the names of the employees who'd signed a list or sent her an e-mail indicating they'd used alternative transport. "It took so much time," Sells recalled. To make things manageable, Sells simply separated the names into "No Fuel" or "Reduced Fuel" commute categories. Breaking out each mode of commute would have taken away even more of her time.

## Solution

When a Patagonia employee explained the company's goals to Parkio's team, it became clear that the commute calendar would be a perfect fit. The calendar allows employees to enter their data on their own time, and then compiles all employee reporting together for company-wide results. Employees can specify the exact mode they used to commute to work, providing valuable data on the popularity of cycling vs. carpooling vs. public transit.

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Above:  
Parkio Impact Widget

Left:  
Parkio Commute Calendar

### Learn More

Contact us today and we will be happy to discuss how Parkio can help your organization replicate Patagonia's success.

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877.314.6673

Or, visit us online at:

www.parkio.com

Parkio's impact dashboards help each employee learn how much money they are saving on a commute and how much they are reducing their CO2 footprint. Lisa Myers, Environmental Programs Associate for Patagonia, said she saw the value in Parkio right away. “Parkio's commute tools enable Patagonia to further its mission as a company to inspire and implement solutions to the environmental crisis,” Myers said.

## Results

In March of 2009, Patagonia signed on with Parkio and started using the commute calendar on a limited test basis. The test went so well that Patagonia decided to roll out the calendar company-wide that May, in conjunction with their annual Bike to Work Week events. Right away, Patagonia employees said they loved the ease of self-reporting their commute activity. The new tool helped create buzz for Bike to Work Week, drawing more employees to participate.

## Conclusion

Myers believes the commute calendar has encouraged more Patagonia employees to consider alternatives to their vehicles on a regular basis. Patagonia has embraced the commute calendar for year-round use. In addition, Patagonia plans to soon launch the Parkio “Commute Impact” widget on the home page of the company's employee intranet web site. The widget resembles an odometer and tracks alternative commute data in real time. “Between ease-of-use, the detailed data we collect, and the additional employee motivation, Parkio's tools have really taken Patagonia's commute program to the next level,” Myers said.

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