

GUIDANCE

Aircraft, missiles, and other such equipment and vehicles have guidance systems that, as the name implies, guide the vehicle from point A to B. Even the most skilled of vehicle operators rely on guidance systems to ensure that the vehicle remains on track or on course toward its destination.



Guidance can be come in many forms. For some ground equipment, guidance can be mechanical such as a train operating on tracks and switches or electrical using wired or wireless communications. At this point of the conversation, the details become cloudy as to conversion of signals into data, and data into mechanical movements. Whatever the means or mode, the guidance of vehicles and other systems is essential to performance and safety.

One image that immediately comes to mind is a ship and a lighthouse. You may remember from *Pete's Dragon*, that the lighthouse was necessary for Pete's father to navigate his ship into the harbor. A heavy storm caused the ocean tide to surge and kept snuffing out the lamp in the lighthouse. The dragon, considered to be threat up to that point, became the hero by using his fire breath to ignite the lamp. Pete benefited from both his father's safe passage and the dragon's safekeeping.



When I see a lighthouse, an image comes to mind of a ship navigating rough waters while using the land based beacon of light as its reference point. Another guidance system, tugboats also guide ships into ports – but this image does create the same effect.

Jesus said, *I am the light of the world*. The book of Psalm relates the Word the light - *Your word is a lamp into my feet and a light into my path*. God is our guiding light and, through his Word and his Holy Spirit, guides us. Again, Psalm described this relationship as

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with my eye

Whether floundering in the depths or pressed by the crashing tide, we must fix our sight on the Lord and stay the course through these troubled waters.

In a **WORD**