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## Houston-area trucking tech company to ramp up hiring

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A Spring-based trucking technology company is hauling — well, they're growing fast.

Gorilla Safety, which offers cloud-based technology for fleet and safety management, is planning to hire about 35 people by the end of this year, up from its roughly 20 current employees, co-founder [Mark Walton](#) said. The company is planning to double its number of employees again in 2018.

The hiring spree is related to a federal rule going into effect in December, which requires truckers to dump paper logs and use electronic logging devices. In the U.S. alone, trucking revenue is valued at more than \$700 billion, [according to the American Trucking Associations](#).

"We have the resources to not only onboard but also to be able to support (new growth)," Walton said.

With the hiring, the company expects its revenue to hover around between \$10 million and \$12 million in 2017 before growing to about \$50 million in 2018. Gorilla Safety has been self-funded so far, after Walton and fellow co-founder [Tommy Johnson](#) created the company in November 2013.

The company's growth has led to the creation of its first COO, [Shannon McLeroy](#). He was promoted to the position in May from director of sales.

Doubling the size of the company has created some office space challenges, though. Last year, Gorilla Safety signed a lease for a roughly 2,600-square-foot space at 20008 Champion Forest Drive in Spring, but the company expects to need a bigger office, between 10,000 to 12,000 square feet, soon.

"We'll have to make sure we can stay awhile in the next one," McLeroy said.

In 2015, trucking accounted for \$726.4 billion in gross freight revenues, or 81 percent of the freight bill in the U.S., according to the most recent data from the American Trucking Associations. Trucks carried 10.49 billion tons of freight in 2015, which is about 70 percent of the nation's freight tonnage.



COURTESY

Mark Walton, co-founder of Spring-based Gorilla Safety.

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Gorilla Safety looking to hire, sees revenue growth - Houston Business Journal

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