

National Geodetic Survey

# **REAL-TIME POSITIONING AND THE ROLE OF THE NGS**



NAVIGATION CENTER  
*The Navigation Center of Excellence*

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD



## **CORS USERS FORUM CGSIC- 47TH MEETING FORT WORTH SEPTEMBER 25, 2007**

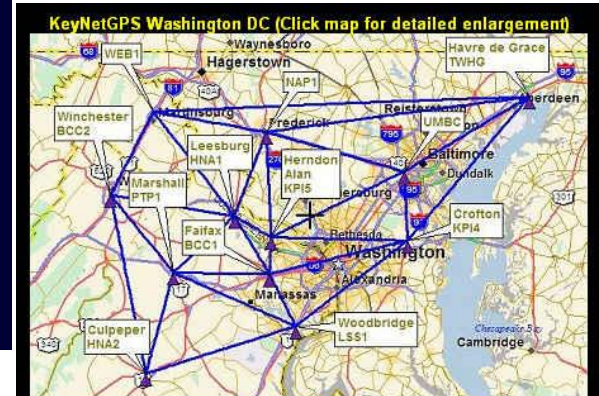
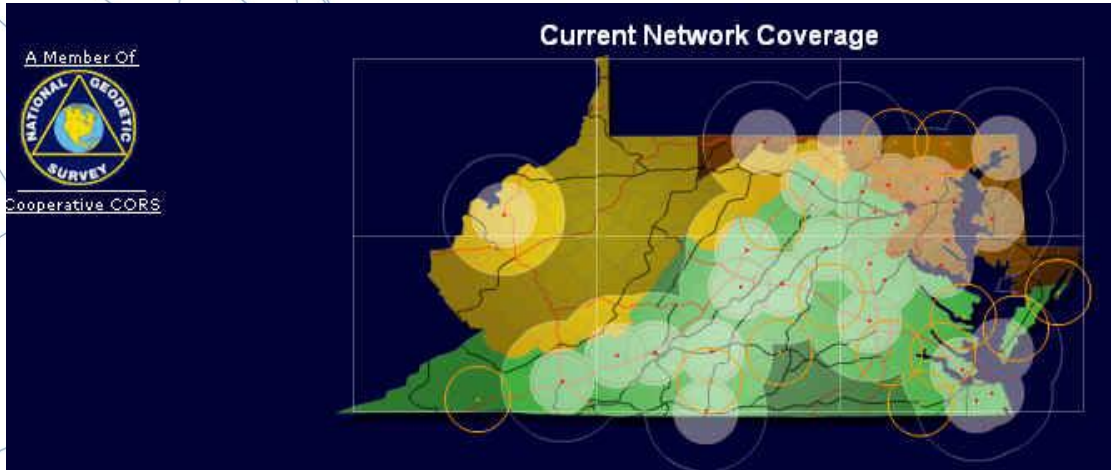


**Bill Henning, PLS.**  
**Geodesist**  
**[William.Henning@noaa.gov](mailto:William.Henning@noaa.gov)**

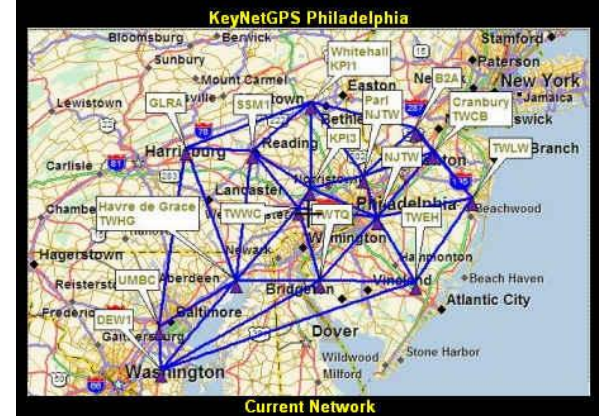
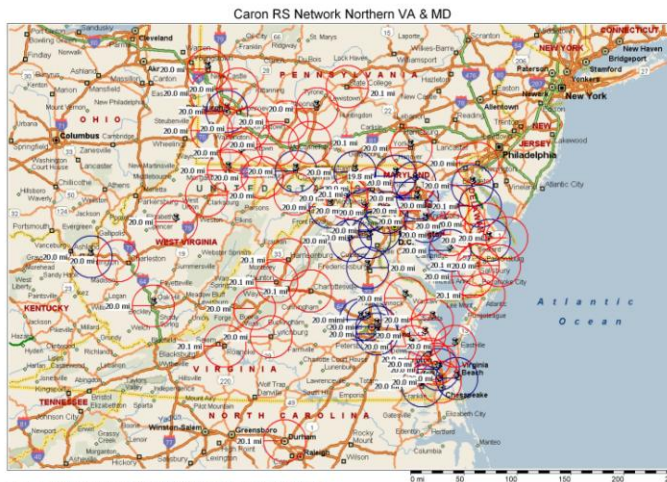


National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

# RTN OVERLAP – 3 DIFFERENT GNSS VENDORS - PRIVATE SECTOR NETWORKS




Current Network



Current Network

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Portions © 1990-2008 Microsoft Software Corporation. All rights reserved. Certain mapping and direction data © 2008 NAVTEQ. All rights reserved. The data for areas of Canada includes information taken with permission from Canadian authorities, including the Ministry for Canadian Heritage and the Canadian Geomatics Centre. © 2008 The Ohio State University, Inc. All rights reserved. The Ohio State University and the trademarks of The Ohio State University.

# RTN OVERLAP – DOT & PRIVATE SECTOR



**Status**

SpiderWeb

**Home**

- Sites Overview
- ↓ Register
- ↓ Customer Satisfaction Survey
- ↓ Dames Point Deflection Project
- ↓ GPS User Questionnaire
- ↓ RTK De-Mystified
- ↓ RTK Rover Support

**Login**

User Id:

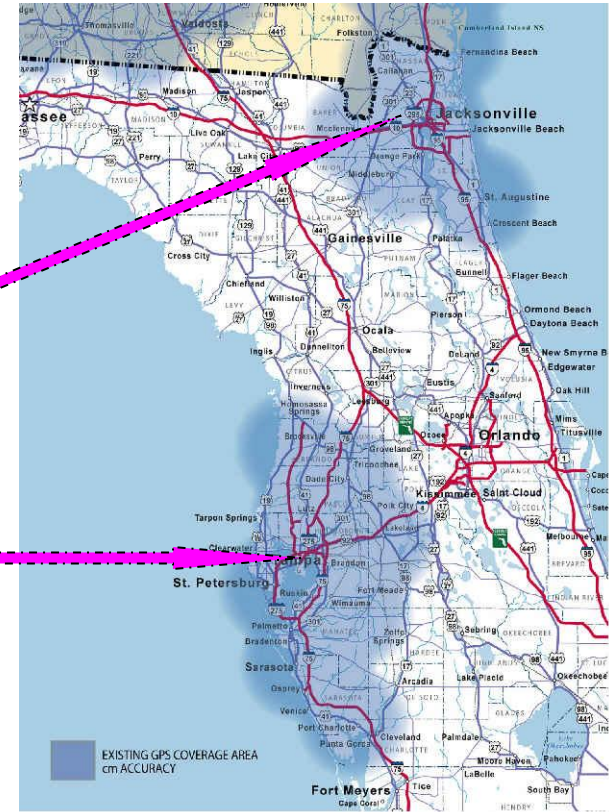
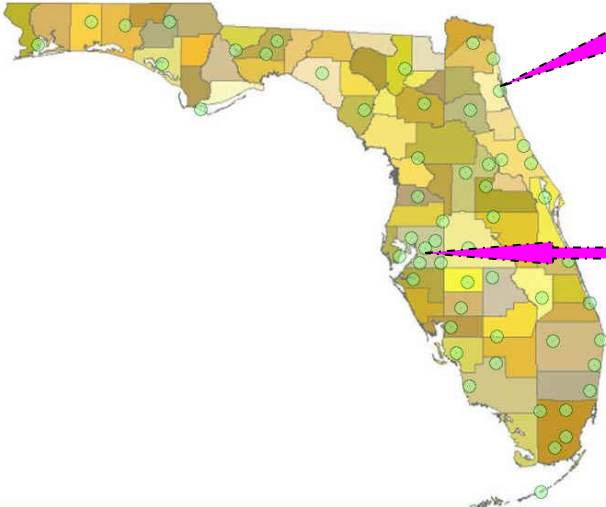
Password:

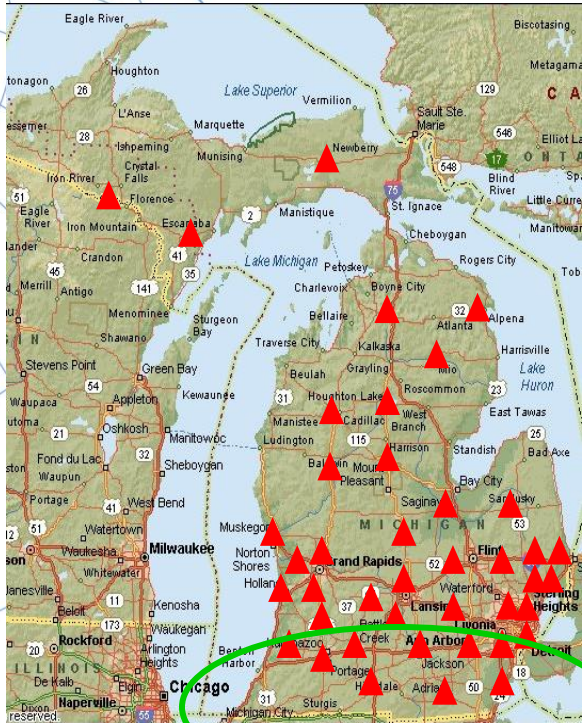
Remember me

Required field

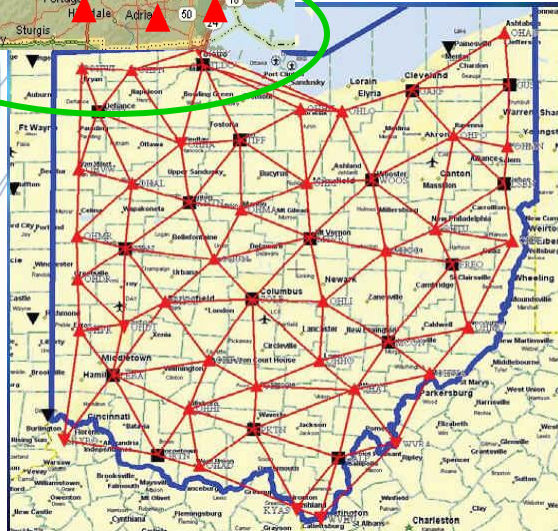
**Sites Overview**

Jump to site:





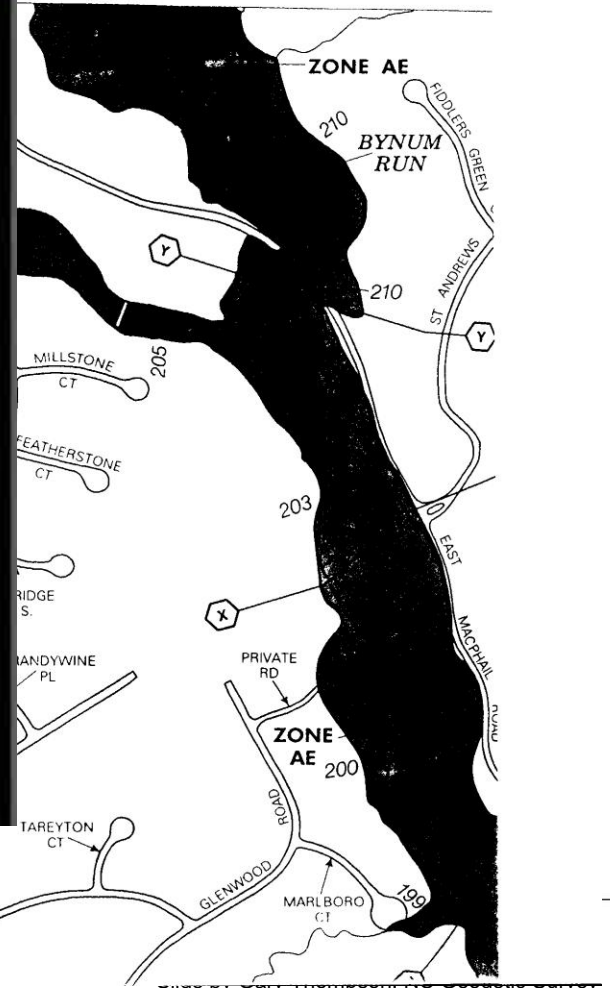
# RTN OVERLAP – VRS DOT & MAC DOT



# OLD FIRMS – SCALED HORIZONTAL

## OLD REMOTE SENSING

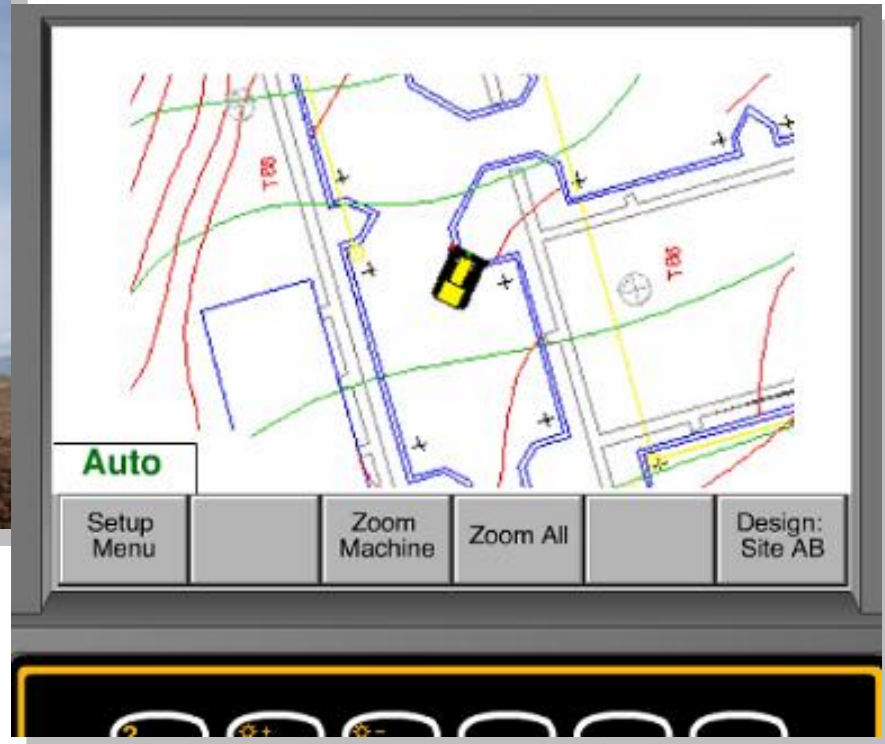
Town of Bel Air  
240042



# MACHINE CONTROL FROM RTN OR SITE RT POSITIONING



## Machine Control



# GLOBAL NAVIGATION SATELLITE SYSTEMS (GNSS)

## POTENTIAL FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (2005 – 2017?)

**GPS MODERNIZATION – BLOCK IIF & III**

**GLONASS ENHANCEMENTS (K & M)**

**EUROPEAN UNION - GALILEO**

**CHINA - COMPASS**

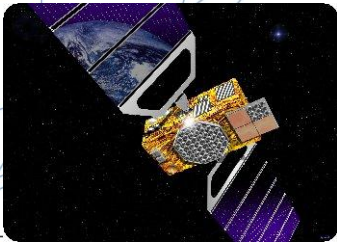
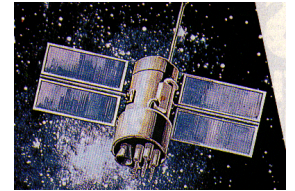
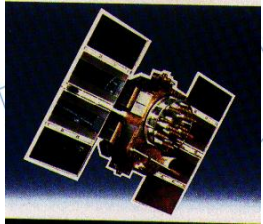
**115+ Satellites**

**Second and Third Civil Frequency - GPS**

**No Signal Encryption - GLONASS & GALILEO**

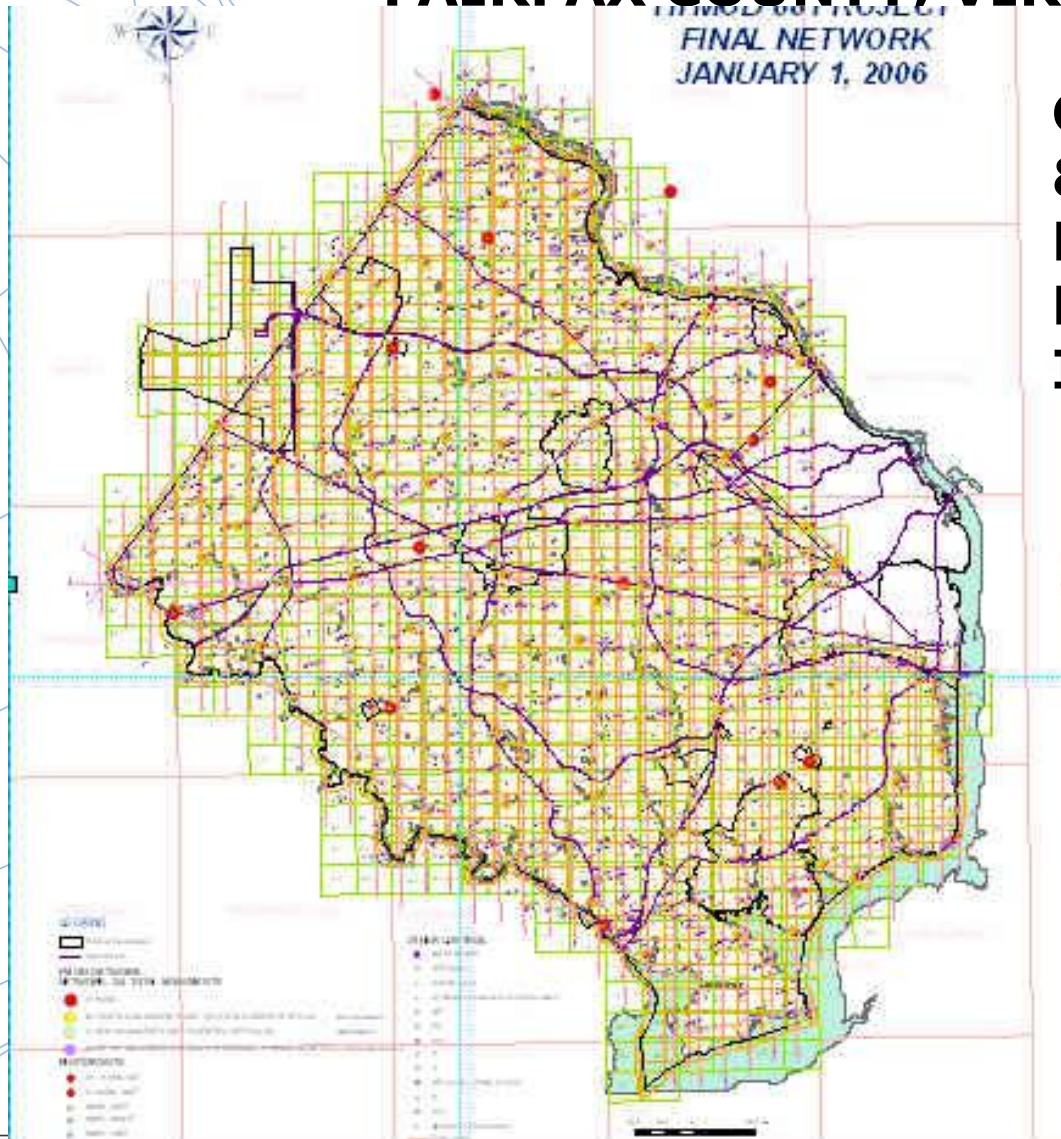
**More Robust Signal Transmissions**

**Real-Time Unaugmented 1 Meter (or better!) Accuracy**



# FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

FINAL NETWORK  
JANUARY 1, 2006



**GEODETTIC CONTROL  
&  
PHOTOGRAMMETRIC  
PROJECTS MANAGED  
IN GIS SOFTWARE**

**HEIGHT  
MODERNIZATION  
PROJECT**

**WHAT  
ADVANTAGE  
COULD RTN HAVE  
GIVEN TO  
GEOSPATIAL  
PLANS?**





Identify Results

1: Pointlist1.txt - GPS 14 AZ	Point
	GPS 14 AZ
	6934084.29800
	11867351.14700
	4.30000
	HV9501

Clear Clear All



# GNSS DERIVED HEIGHTS

P  
A  
R  
T  
I  
C  
I  
P  
A  
N  
T  
I  
N  
G  
S  
E  
R  
V  
I  
C  
E

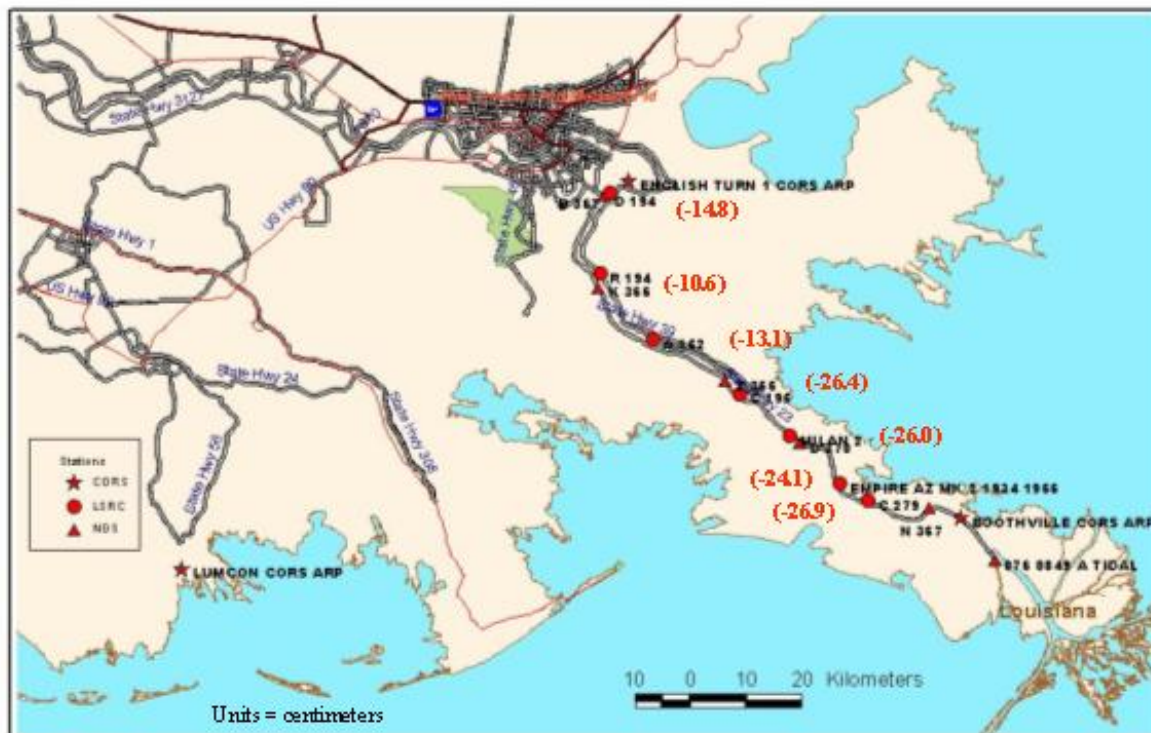
- **NOS-NGS 58 WITH DRAFT ORTHO GUIDELINES- 0.05 M TO NSRS, 0.02 M LOCAL**
- **DGPS – 15 SECONDS, 0.5 TO 2 M**
- **OPUS > 4 HRS = 0.02 M (h), 0.05 (H)**
- **CORS- SAME AS OPUS**
- **OPUS-RS 15 MINUTES = 0.10 M**
- **SINGLE BASE RTK- "IT DEPENDS!" 5 SECONDS (better than 0.03 M expected)**
- **RTN – "IT DEPENDS!" 5 SECONDS ( better than 0.04 M expected)**

Error	Value
Ionosphere	4.0 meters
Clock	2.1 meters
Ephemeris	2.1 meters
Troposphere	0.7 meters
Receiver	0.5 meters
Multipath	1.0 meter
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.4 meters</b>

# Subsidence Areas

Questionable  
Elevation Data

Estimated Amount of Subsidence Since 1984 Leveling



# Monumented Points Deterioration

Disturbed Geodetic Control  
**Coordinates/Elevations  
Questionable**



**Destroyed Geodetic Control**  
**No Coordinates/Elevation**

# CLASSICAL REAL TIME POSITIONING

- PDOP
- MULTIPATH
- ~~SATELLITES~~
- ~~BASE ACCURACY~~
- ~~BASE SECURITY~~
- REDUNDANCY, REDUNDANCY, REDUNDANCY
- ~~PPM IONO, TROPO MODELS, ORBIT ERRORS~~
- ~~SPACE WEATHER "K" INDICES~~
- ~~GEOID QUALITY~~
- ~~POSITIONS TIED TO NSRS?~~
- BUBBLE ADJUSTMENT
- ~~LATENCY, UPDATE RATE~~

*KNOWLEDGE OF ALL THE ABOVE = OPERATOR EXPERTISE*

# GPS Signal Delays Caused by the Atmosphere

## IONOSPHERE

The ionosphere delay is (Inversely) proportional to the frequency of the radio-waves. Thus the delay can be calculated by measuring the difference in the travel times for the two frequencies

**300 KM±**

The refraction (slowing) of the GPS signal as it passes through the atmosphere can alternatively be viewed as an increase in path length: called the "path delay" and with units of distance

## TROPOSPHERE

The troposphere slows both GPS frequencies equally. This means the tropospheric delay must be modeled as a free parameter in the GPS processing

**80 KM±**

actual tropospheric path length

Excess path length

TOTAL  
ATMOSPHERIC  
DELAY

IONOSPHERIC  
DELAY → TEC

TROPOSPHERIC  
DELAY

HYDROSTATIC  
DELAY

WET  
DELAY → IPWV



# TROPOSPHERE DELAY

The more air molecules, the slower the signal (dry delay)

High pressure, Low temperature

90% of total delay

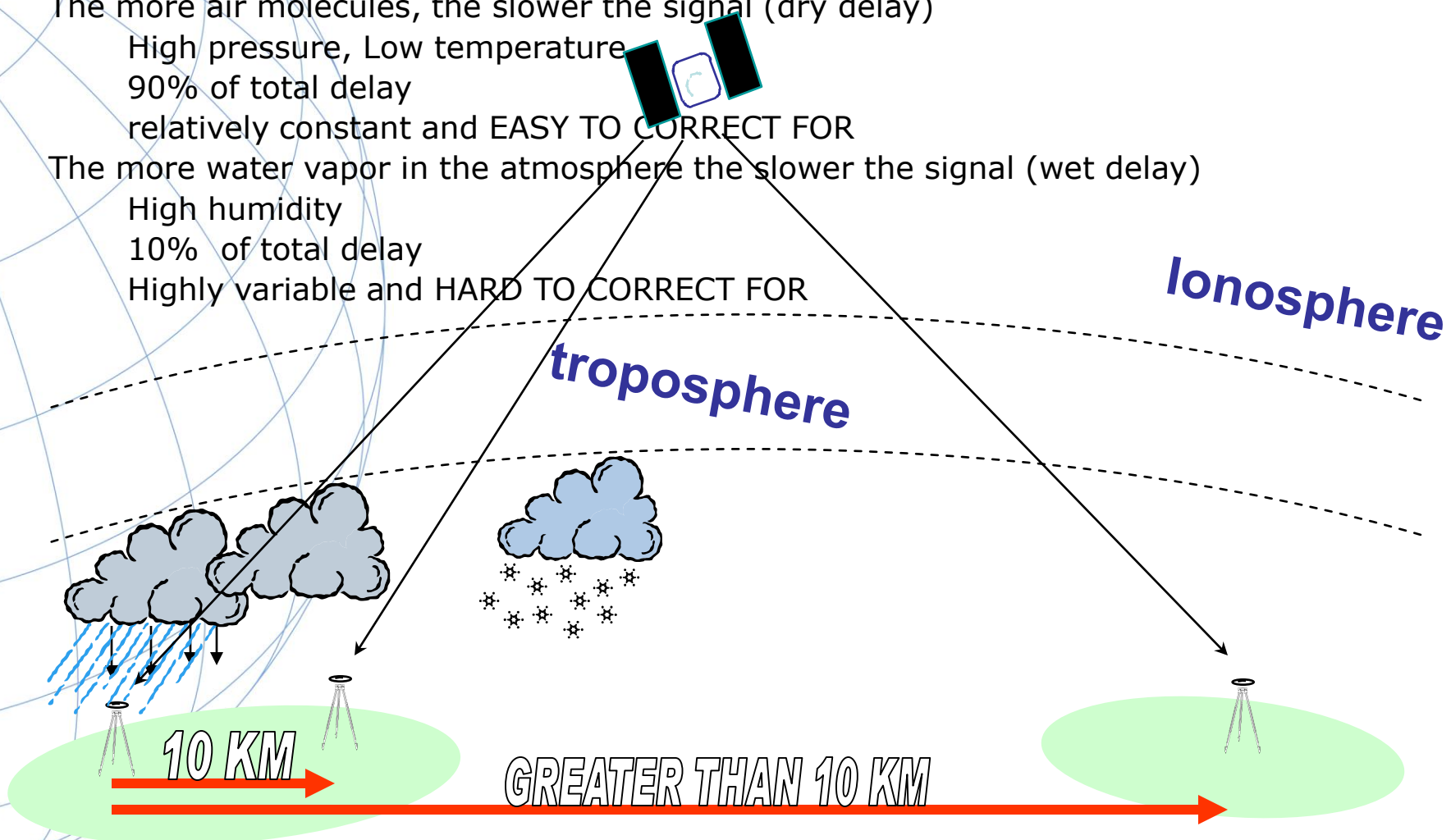
relatively constant and EASY TO CORRECT FOR

The more water vapor in the atmosphere the slower the signal (wet delay)

High humidity

10% of total delay

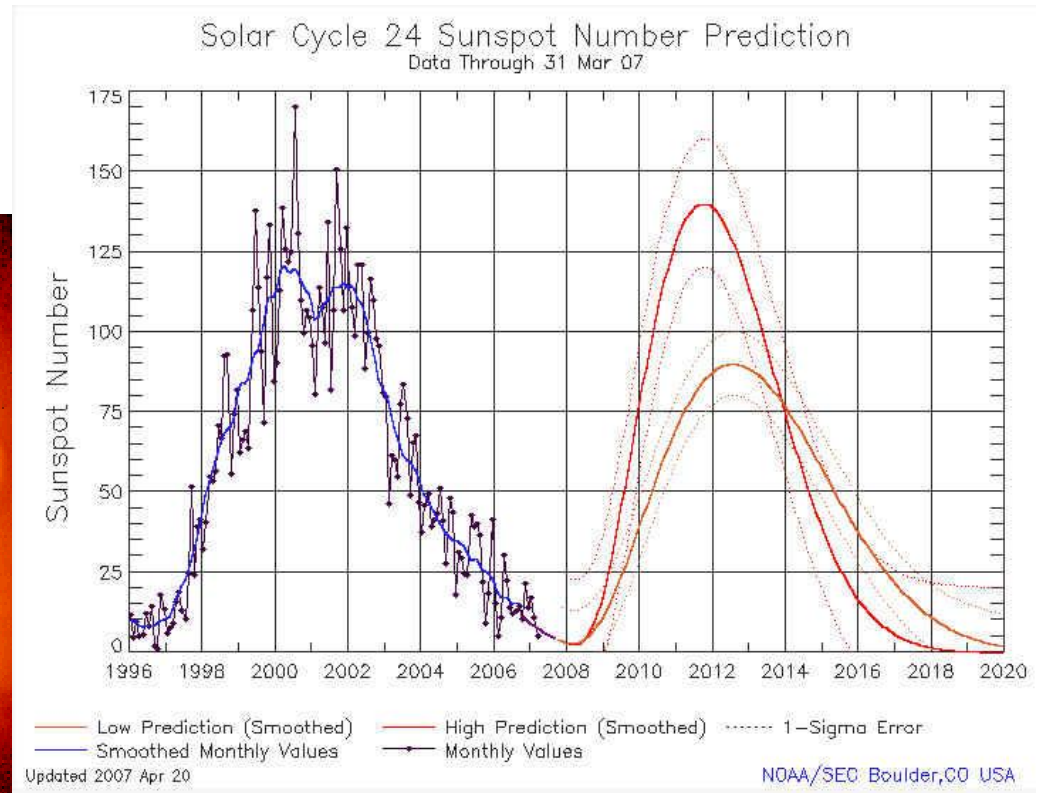
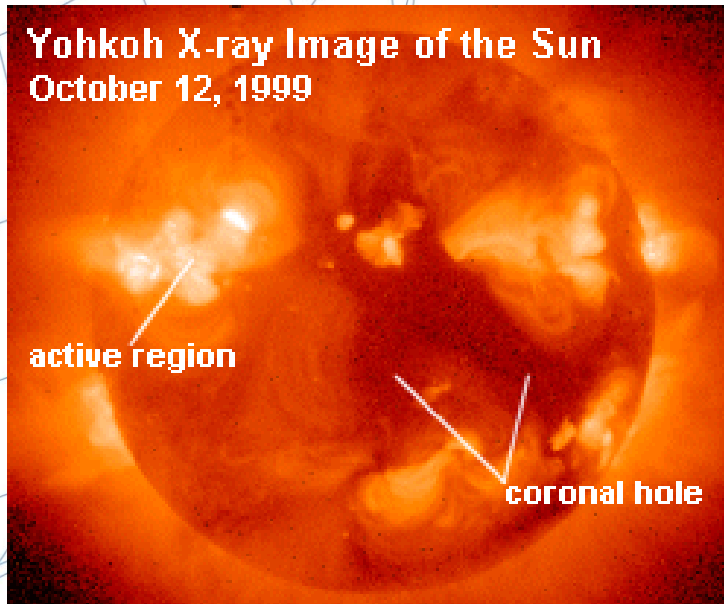
Highly variable and HARD TO CORRECT FOR



# SUNSPOT CYCLE

- Sunspots follow a regular 11 year cycle
- We are just past the low point of the current cycle
- Sunspots increase the radiation hitting the earth's upper atmosphere and produce an active and unstable ionosphere

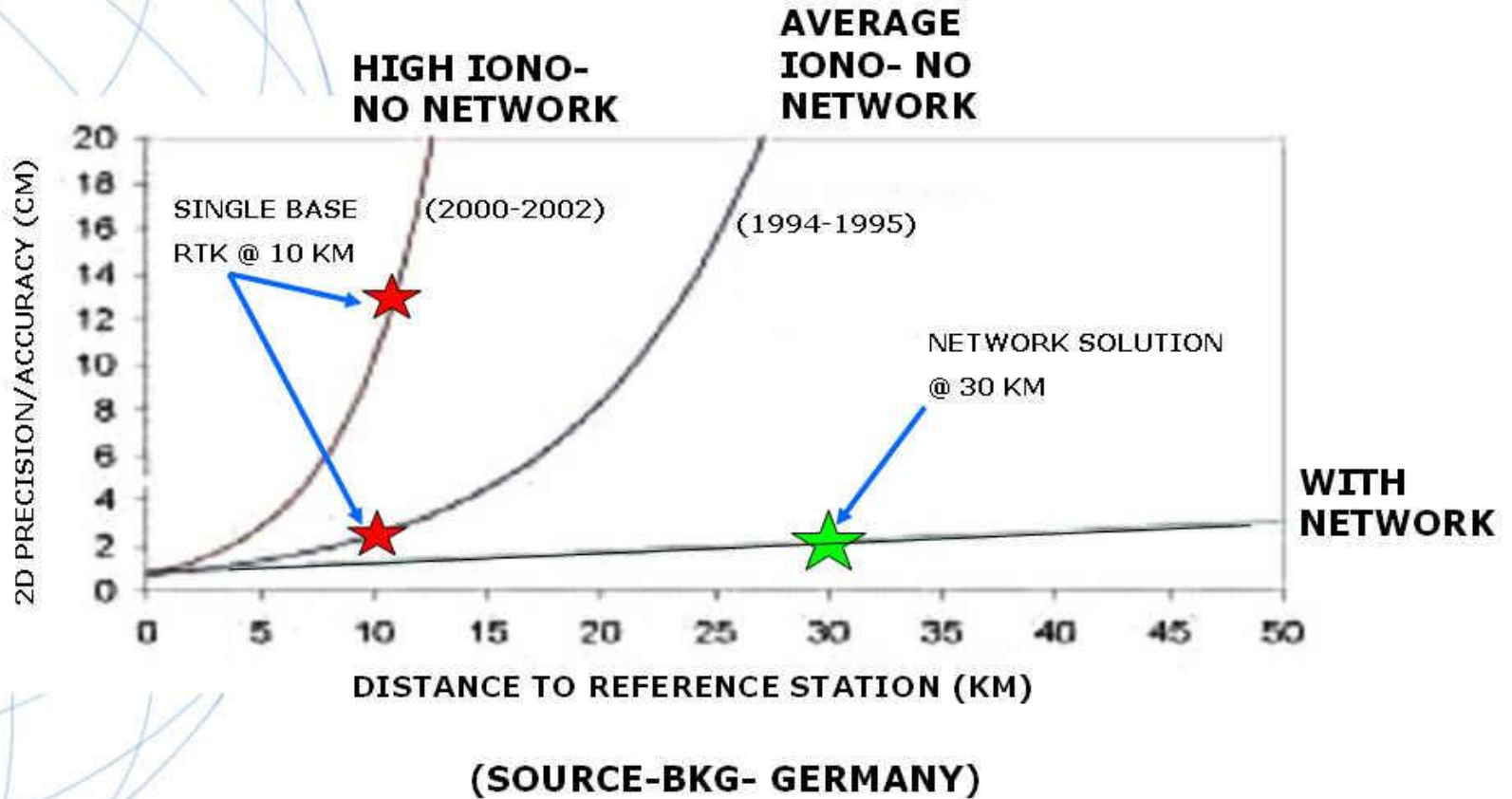
<http://www.sec.noaa.gov/>





# IONOSPHERIC EFFECTS ON POSITIONING

## IONOSPHERIC EFFECTS ON POSITIONING



**Comparison of 30 Minute Solutions - Precise Orbit; Hopfield (0); IONOFREE**  
 (30 Minute solutions computed on the hour and the half hour)

**MOLA to RV22 10.8 Km**

**THE IMPORTANCE OF REDUNDANCY**

**Two Days/Same Time**

**-10.254 > -10.253**  
**-10.251**

**Difference = 0.3 cm**

**"Truth" = -10.276**

**Difference = 2.3 cm**

**Two Days/  
Different Times**

**-10.254 > -10.275**  
**-10.295**

**Difference = 4.1 cm**

**"Truth" = -10.276**

**Difference = 0.1 cm**

Day 264	dh (m)	Hours Diff.	Day 265	dh (m)	Day 264 minus Day 265 (cm)	* diff >2 cm	Mean dh (m)	Mean dh minus "Truth" (cm)	* diff >2 cm
14:00-14:30	-10.281	27hrs	17:00-17:30	-10.279	-0.2		-10.280	-0.5	
14:30-15:00	-10.278	27hrs	17:30-18:00	-10.270	-0.8		-10.274	0.2	
15:00-15:30	-10.281	27hrs	18:00-18:30	-10.278	-0.3		-10.280	-0.4	
15:30-16:00	-10.291	27hrs	18:30-19:00	-10.274	-1.7		-10.283	-0.7	
16:00-16:30	-10.274	27hrs	19:00-19:30	-10.274	0.0		-10.274	0.2	
16:30-17:00	-10.287	27hrs	19:30-20:00	-10.276	-1.1		-10.282	-0.6	
17:00-17:30	-10.279	27hrs	20:00-20:30	-10.261	-1.8		-10.270	0.6	
17:30-18:00	-10.270	27hrs	20:30-21:00	-10.251	-1.9		-10.261	1.5	
18:00-18:30	-10.277	21hrs	15:00-15:30	-10.270	-0.7		-10.274	0.2	
18:30-19:00	-10.271	21hrs	15:30-16:00	-10.276	0.5		-10.274	0.2	
19:00-19:30	-10.277	21hrs	16:00-16:30	-10.278	0.1		-10.278	-0.2	
19:30-20:00	-10.271	21hrs	16:30-17:00	-10.286	1.5		-10.279	-0.3	
20:00-20:30	-10.259	18hrs	14:00-14:30	-10.278	1.9		-10.269	0.7	
20:30-21:00	-10.254	18hrs	14:30-15:00	-10.295	4.1	*	-10.275	0.1	
14:00-21:00	-10.275		14:00-21:00	-10.276	0.1		"Truth" -10.276		

## **GNSS TO ANY DATUM**

- **GNSS ECEF X,Y,Z (WGS 84 & PZ90)**

**→ NAD 83 ( $\phi, \lambda, h$ ) → SPC N,E,h**




**+ GEOID XX → = SPC N,E,H**

**OR**

**CALIBRATE TO 4-5 SITE POINTS IN THE  
DESIRED DATUM. THIS TECHNIQUE  
LOCKS TO PASSIVE MONUMENTATION  
IN THE PROJECT AREA.**

## ***WHY NETWORK RTK (RTN)?***

**Because the requirement for a user base station is removed:**

-  **No reconnaissance/recovery of passive control**
-  **No time lost setting up and breaking down a base static**
-  **No base baby sitting, therefore labor cost is reduced**  
**No base means with two rovers the project is completed in half the time**






 **= \$\$\$ savings**



## WHY NETWORK RTK (RTN)?











 RTNs CAN BE SEAMLESSLY CONNECTED TO THE NSRS –

This means:

-  Regional Inter-GIS compatibility
-  Continual accuracy and integrity monitoring
-  Easy datum adjustment/change updates
-  NO DISTANCE CORRELATED ERROR - Atmospheric, ephemeris corrections for the site of survey Data degrade gracefully outside of the network or if a reference station is down
-  Overlapping RTN give the same results!

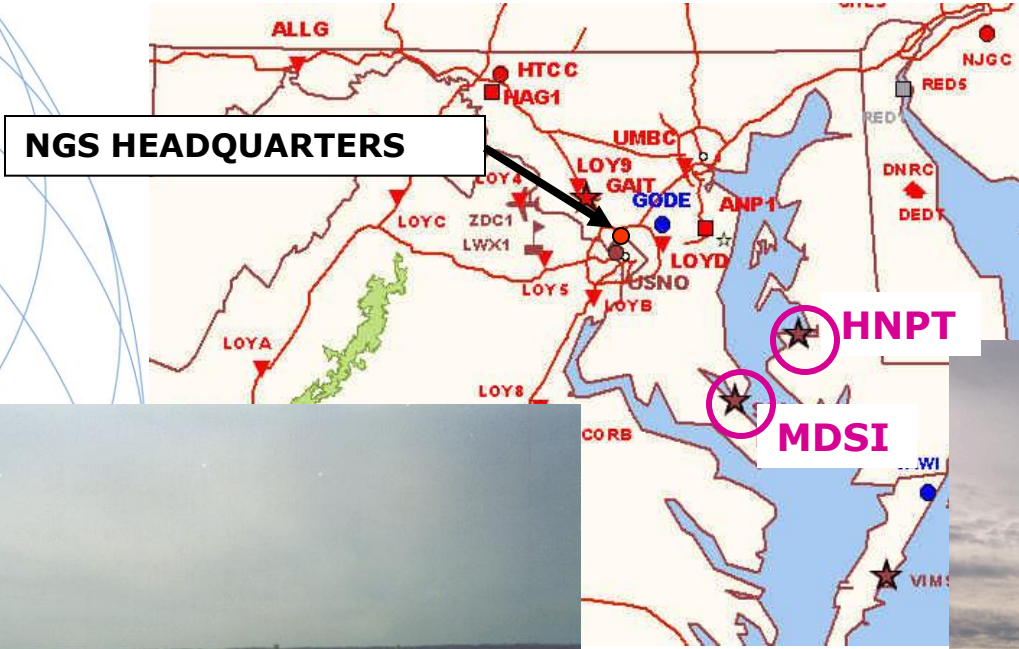


## EXAMPLES OF RTN ADMINISTRATORS IN THE USA

-  ACADEMIC/SCIENTIFIC
-  SPATIAL REFERENCE CENTERS
-  VARIOUS DOTS
-  COUNTY
-  CITY
-  GEODETIC SURVEYS
-  MANUFACTURER
-  VENDOR NETWORKS
-  AGRICULTURE
-  MA & PA NETWORKS

## THE ROLE OF THE NGS IN SUPPORT OF RTN

- The NGS should provide real time **RTCM** data streams (via NTRIP) from a subset of the National CORS network- perhaps in a 200 Km spacing grid. These data streams will aid in the establishment, validation and monitoring of the RTNs by network administrators.  
**NO CORRECTORS WILL BE BROADCAST.**
- NGS encourages the institutions, who are providing real-time positioning services, to use the NGS-provided raw data in their operations so as to:
  - (1) **SUPPLEMENT** the data from other GNSS base reference stations, and
  - (2) use the positional coordinates and velocities of the GNSS stations contained in the NGS real-time network as **FIDUCIAL VALUES** for the positional coordinates and velocities of other real-time GNSS stations.
- The NGS could **ASSESS AND ACCREDIT** proposed or even current RTN reference station sites for obstructions, multipath, positional integrity - in short, for anything that might affect optimal performance of the RTN.



**NGS TESTING SITES – CORS STATIONS HNPT & MDSI**



## Welcome to NGS Ntrip Broadcaster (Prototype)

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Protocol: *NTRIP 0.1.5*

[NGS](#) (National Geodetic Survey) streams raw GNSS data in RTCM format via NTRIP Broadcaster. This server name is *realtime.ngs.noaa.gov*, running on Port 2101

---

Details about GNSS data streams on the NGS Ntrip Broadcaster are available through

- ◆ Source [Table](#).

To receive GNSS data streams via NTRIP in real-time you may use the Ntrip Client - [GNSS Internet Radio](#). The Ntrip Client program designed to run on a PC or Laptop (Windows, Linux). It retrieves data from any NTRIP supporting Broadcaster. The program handles the HTTP communication and transfers received GNSS data to a Serial or IP port to feed an application.

This is a prototype of NGS Ntrip Broadcaster. Authorization will be provided using a user ID and a user password through a [Registration](#) form for NGS tracking purpose.

For more information about NTRIP

- ◆ [NTRIP](#) for the real-time GNSS data dissemination technique
  - ◆ A list of [other](#) Ntrip Broadcaster servers
- 

*Date Last Updated: September 11, 2007*  
[ngs.realtime.gnss@noaa.gov](mailto:ngs.realtime.gnss@noaa.gov)



## User Registration for NGS Ntripcaster (Prototype)

Please complete this form to apply for free access to real-time GNSS data streams from the NGS Ntrip Broadcaster at [realtime.ngs.noaa.gov](http://realtime.ngs.noaa.gov) (port 2101).

### User data (\* mandatory):

Full Name*	<input type="text"/>
Organization*	<input type="text"/>
Street	<input type="text"/>
City*	<input type="text"/>
State/Country*	<input type="text" value="- US states -"/>
Phone	<input type="text"/>
E-mail*	<input type="text"/>

**OR ZIP CODE ONLY**

The user ID and password you will receive by email in response to your request is only valid for your personal use.

National Geodetic Survey (NGS)

Maryland, U.S.A

[ngs.realtime.gnss@noaa.gov](mailto:ngs.realtime.gnss@noaa.gov)



# THE ROLE OF THE NGS IN SUPPORT OF RTN

## TO BE AN RTN "RECOGNIZED" BY THE NGS:

4. Initial RTN reference station coordinates are produced by the individual RTN administrator. However, promulgated coordinates and velocities for the corresponding GNSS base reference stations will be **compatible with the National Spatial Reference System** at the level of **2-cm Horizontal and 4-cm (ellipsoid) height**.

Automated processes will enable RTN administrators to push daily data for all RTN reference stations to the NGS where a specific version of **OPUS-DB** will position the stations and archive the data.

→ Three National CORS that are part of the RTN will be used as control stations for this OPUS-DB processing. **TEQC** may be utilized to QA/QC the data.

Then, 60 day plots will be developed to graphically depict the deviation from predicted daily coordinates for each and every reference station.

## THE ROLE OF THE NGS IN SUPPORT OF RTN

- Additionally, NOAA/NGS could stream satellite ephemerides, satellite clock parameters, iono and tropo models and even crustal motion models for public use.
- The NGS, continuing its role in support of accurate, reliable positioning, would study temporal macro variations in positions (seasonal, daily, ocean loading, atmospheric loading, subsidence, tectonic, etc.) and would study phenomena affecting accurate positioning (satellite orbits, refraction, multipath, antenna phase centers, geoid, etc.)
- *The NGS will not stream data that is being streamed via NTRIP by another organization.*



# EXAMPLE OF WHY RTN REFERENCE STATIONS SHOULD BE MONITORED

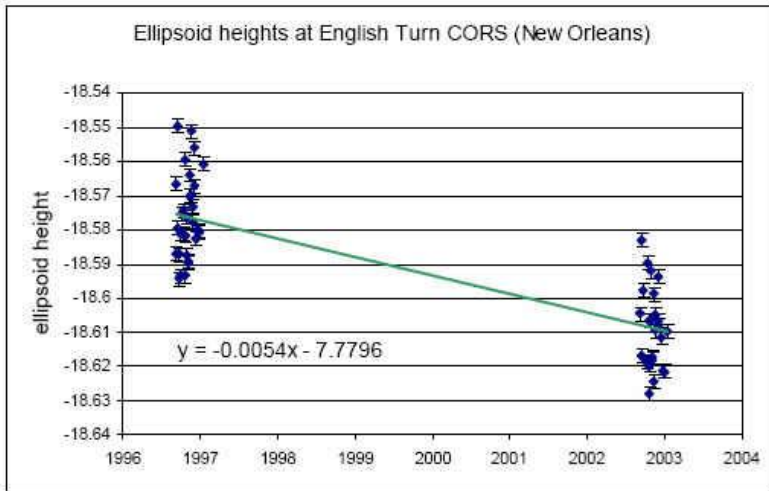
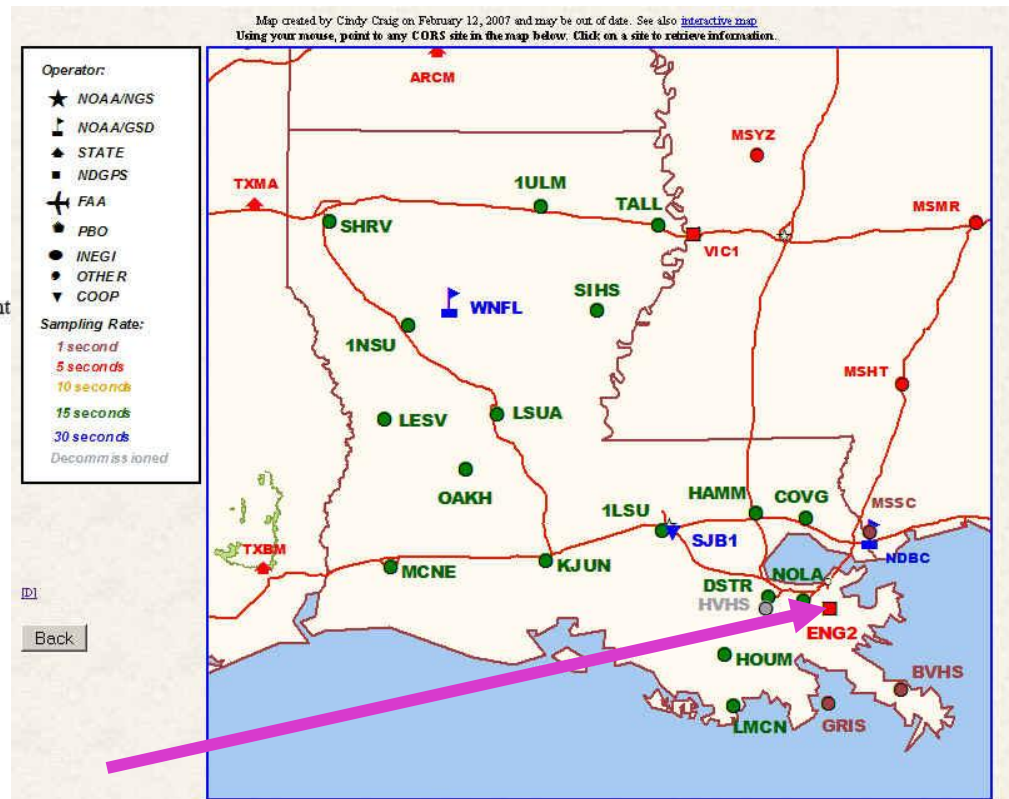


Figure 13. Vertical displacement derived from GPS observations; ellipsoid height in meters.

## SUBSIDENCE

≈ 6 MM / YEAR  
ENGLISH TURN CORS



# **THE ROLE OF THE NGS IN REAL TIME POSITIONING**

## **DYNAMIC DOCUMENTS:**

- 1. “NGS User Guidelines for Single Base GNSS Real Time Positioning” DRAFT FINISHED**  
FOUR ACCURACY CLASSES  
CONDITIONS/PROCEDURES
- 2. “NGS User Guidelines for GNSS Real Time Positioning in RTN” FY 2008-9**
- 3. “NGS Guidelines for GNSS RTN Administrators”  
FY 2009**

## EXPEDITING THE GUIDELINES

**FIRST RTN TEAM MEETING AT ION CONFERENCE CENTER  
9/26/2007**

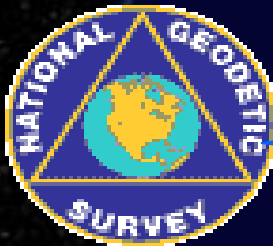
**ROOM 103B 9:00 AM TO 11:00 AM**

- THE NGS ENCOURAGES RTN USERS AND ADMINISTRATORS TO BECOME COOPERATIVE PARTNERS TO PROVIDE INPUT THAT WILL ENABLE VALUABLE DOCUMENTS TO BE DRAFTED THAT WILL BENEFIT THE PUBLIC WELFARE.
  - ESTABLISHING REFERENCE STATIONS
  - ADJUSTING NETWORKS
  - ACCURACY EXPECTATIONS VS. OBTAINED
  - BASELINE DISTANCES
  - ERROR MODELING
  - COMMUNICATION ISSUES

# NGS SUPPORT OF RTN: SUMMARY

- NGS STREAMS UNCORRECTED RTCM DATA FROM THE BACKBONE CORS
- RTN NSRS COMPATIBILITY LEVEL- 2-cm H, 4-cm V
- RTN OVERLAP ACCURACY?
- ESTABLISHING REFERENCE STATIONS (COORDINATE INTEGRITY, SITE EVALUATION,)
- MODELS & TOOLS
- DATA ARCHIVING (OPUS-DB)
- DATA QA/QC





**2007**



**1807**



# NGS FTP LINK FOR PRESENTATION

[ftp://ftp.ngs.noaa.gov/dist/whenning/CORS FORUM/  
CORS FORUM.ppt](ftp://ftp.ngs.noaa.gov/dist/whenning/CORS%20FORUM/CORS%20FORUM.ppt)

**(May be case Sensitive)**

