

Global Differential GPS (GDGPS) System Future

Christine Bonniksen NASA Management Office NASA Headquarters



Presentation Purpose

- Provide Purpose and Status of NASA initiated GDGPS Working Group
- Solicit input from PNT Advisory Board to support data analysis and inform GDGPS Working Group Recommendations



Outline

- GDGPS Overview
- GDGPS Working Group
- Summary and Advice Questions



GDGPS Overview



Global Differential GPS (GDGPS) System

- Designed to improve upon the positioning and timing accuracy provided by operational GPS
- Provides real-time corrections to the GPS broadcast navigation message, enabling global sub-10-centimeter accurate positions
- Estimates the precise orbits and clock states of the GPS satellites
- Create global differential corrections within seconds
- Monitors system stability
- Does the same for most current GNSS systems



The Global Differential GPS (GDGPS) System

Provides real-time GNSS products – continuously – since 2000 Multi-GNSS constellations: GPS, GLONASS, BeiDou, Galileo, QZSS ~5 cm real-time positioning globally



Repeat pass positioning support for UAVSAR airborne radar



Time-critical environmental monitoring services (Earthquake monitoring, tsunami prediction, etc.)



Provides near real-time infrastructure for Sentinel-6 weather products, including radio-occultation



Prototype system and testbed for next generation GPS Control Segment (OCX)





Global Tracking Resources Based on NASA's Global GNSS Network

- 80+ global tracking sites deployed, controlled, operated and maintained by JPL for NASA
 - JPL installs and maintains receiver hardware (UNAVCO subcontract)
 - JPL software edits and streams data every second
 - Monitoring multiple GNSS: GPS, GLONASS, Galileo, BeiDou and QZSS
- Hundreds of additional sites contributed by US and foreign agencies leveraged to increase redundancy and diversity







Global Differential GPS (GDGPS) System Working Group



Global Differential GPS (GDGPS) System Working Group Establishment

- NASA and JPL were evaluating the future of GDGPS due to the changing commercial markets, emerging dependencies on the GDGPS products and software, and an increasing user base that was not contributing to maintaining the baseline capability
- NASA determined that reviewing individual tasks would not provide the necessary knowledge to identify the NASA and national needs of the this capability
- The GDGPS working group was established in May 2020
- Membership:
 - NASA HQ/SCAN
 - NASA HQ/Earth Science Division
 - NASA HQ/NASA Management Office
 - Jet Propulsion Laboratory



Global Differential GPS (GDGPS) System Working Group Purpose

- Establish Capability Baseline necessary for current and future NASA and National needs
- Identify Future Operating Construct
 - Funding source(s) and structure
 - Government/FFRDC or Commercial
- Identify any necessary inter-agency cooperation and methods for codifying the cooperation



Global Differential GPS (GDGPS) System Issues

- End users do not recognize GDGPS dependencies due to no direct interface
- Funding to maintain capability
 - Currently provided by users directly requesting unique products
 - Not all users of the GDGPS products provide funding to support basic capabilities

Evaluation of Commercial Precise Point Positioning (PPP) Services (work in progress)

| Parent Company | Provider | Service/s | Users | Coverage ¹ | Ref. Network | GDGPS Dependency |
|--|--------------------------|---|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Hexagon AB (Sweden) | Veripos (UK) | Standard | Maritime | Global | GDGPS | Ref. Data |
| | | Ultra | Maritime | Global | VERIPOS ² | Ind. Backup |
| | | Apex | Maritime | Global | VERIPOS ² | Ind. Backup |
| | TerraStar (UK) | TerraStar-X | Agriculture | Regional ³ | TERRASTAR ⁴ | - |
| | | TerraStar-C PRO | Land, UAS | Global | TERRASTAR ⁴ | - |
| | | TerraStar-C | Land, UAS | Global | TERRASTAR ⁴ | - |
| | | TerraStar-L | Land, UAS | Global | TERRASTAR ⁴ | - |
| Deere & Co (USA) | NavCom (Canada) | StarFire Subscription Service: Land Only | Land | Global | Starfire Network ⁵ | - |
| | | StarFire Subscription Service: All Area | Maritime | Global | Starfire Network ⁵ | - |
| | | StarFire Over IP | All | Internet | Starfire Network ⁵ | - |
| Trimble (USA) | | Trimble-RTX | Land | Global | Trimble ⁶ | - |
| | - | VRS Services | Land | Selected Areas ⁷ | Trimble ⁶ | - |
| | | xFill Premium | Land | Global | Trimble ⁶ | - |
| Fugro ⁸ | Fugro- Marinestar | Marinestar Positioning Services | Maritime | Global (<70°N) | Fugro Network | Ind. Backup |
| (Netherlands) | | Marinestar Arctic Services ⁹ | Maritime | Arctic (>70°N) | Fugro Network | Ind. Backup |
| UniStrong (China) ¹⁰ | Hemisphere GNSS (USA) | Atlas Basic | All | Global | ~200 stations ¹¹ | Divested ¹² |
| | | Atlas H10 | All | Global | ~200 stations ¹¹ | Divested ¹² |
| | | Atlas H30 | All | Global | ~200 stations ¹¹ | Divested ¹² |
| Swift Navigation (USA) | - | Skylark Cloud Corrections Service | Land, UAS | Regional ¹³ | Skylark Network ¹¹ | - |
| TopCon (Japan) | - | TopNET | Land, UAS | Selected Countries | TopCon GNSS Network ¹¹ | - |
| DLR & Telespazio (Europe) ¹⁴ | Spaceopal (Germany) | NAVCAST ¹⁵ | All | Internet | ~100 IGS stations | - |



Uniqueness of Global Differential GPS (GDGPS) System Domestic Providers of Similar Positioning Services

Green indicates not provided commercially

| Attribute | JPL | General Provider Capabilities |
|---|-----|-------------------------------|
| Constellation: | | |
| GPS | Yes | Yes |
| GLONASS | Yes | Yes |
| BeiDou | Yes | No |
| Galileo | Yes | No |
| QZSS | Yes | No |
| Independent of user receiver or software | Yes | Νο |
| Global feed (uniformly valid; use anywhere) | Yes | Νο |
| No geographical limits | Yes | Yes |
| Access available: | | |
| Internet | Yes | Yes |
| Secure Land Line | Yes | No |
| Secure VPN | Yes | No |
| GPS III models | Yes | No |
| Attitude Quaternions | Yes | No |
| RTCM SSR Standard | Yes | No |
| Licensable Technology | Yes | No |

Table 1. Comparison of high accuracy (sub 10 cm) GNSS differential corrections available over Internet



Global Differential GPS (GDGPS) System Working Group Actions

- Data Collection
 - Operational Construct Options
 - Current Status of Commercial Market Place
 - Common Understanding of GDGPS Capability and Current Uses
- Analysis
 - Determine NASA Baseline Capability Needs
 - Identify any differences between NASA and National Capability Needs
 - Identify Operational Construct for Future Capability Maintenance and Upgrades

Aug 2020



May 2020

Current Point



- GDGPS is becoming a part of National Infrastructure should it be?
- What is the Current Government user set?
- Are there Future uses that should be taken into consideration?
- Are there Operating constructs that shouldn't be missed in the evaluation (funding and oversight)?
- Any additional advice or guidance?