

Trimble's SiteVision™ GPS Machine Control System

Early in 2001, Trimble introduced key enhancements to its SiteVision GPS machine control system. The two enhancements include the SiteVision Auto option, and a single-antenna version for scrapers. The products are designed to offer contractors tools for improving accuracy, efficiency, and overall project productivity on the jobsite. Leveraging the core expertise of Trimble and the former Spectra Precision, the SiteVision system enhancements build on Trimble's growing family of machine control solutions that sets the industry standard for stakeless grade control.

Trimble's SiteVision GPS system allows construction professionals to significantly increase productivity and efficiency in a stakeless environment as well as improving the profitability of the project. By placing the site design in the cab and using precise GPS technology, the SiteVision GPS system allows machine operators to accurately perform earthmoving operations for highway and road construction, residential and commercial subdivisions, and other land development projects. The system provides users with measurable benefits and quick return on investment by reducing rework and allowing contractors to complete jobs more quickly and accurately, reducing operator fatigue, and improving material usage.

SiteVision Auto

The SiteVision GPS system's automatic controls option uses leading-edge technology to connect the GPS system to the machine hydraulics. By using the GPS position and design information, the blade is automatically controlled to the exact elevation and cross-slope, providing significant improvements in both productivity and accuracy. Using the SiteVision Auto option, contractors are able to reduce material overages and dramatically improve their project profitability.

Mark Nichols, division vice president of machine control for Trimble's Engineering and Construction Division stated, "GPS-based machine control is ideal for improving competitiveness on the jobsite. By using the automated controls, the contractor can now enhance accuracy and efficiency, and reduce operator fatigue."

SiteVision GPS for Scrapers

Trimble also introduced a single-antenna SiteVision GPS option ideal for scrapers. The combination of real-time positioning and design information in the cab allows operators to access exact grade information without relying on surveyors and grade checkers. This means scrapers can work even more efficiently with little to no downtime. The single-antenna option offers contractors an economical choice for precise, stakeless grade control.

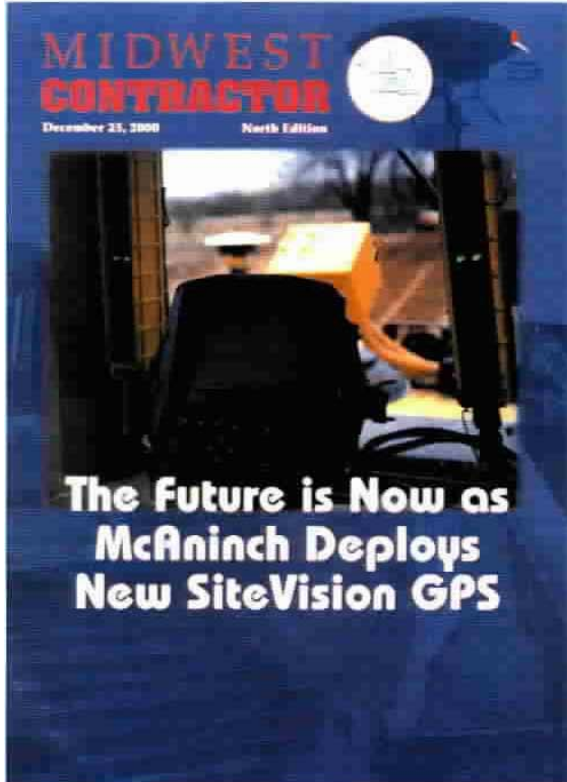
"The scraper system is a smart alternative for contractors seeking improved productivity from their entire fleet of earthmoving equipment," added Nichols. "It gives scraper operators a system that can address their needs with an excellent return on investment."

Trimble offers the SiteVision Auto option and scraper system through its distribution network and is keeping in touch with contractors to determine significant cost savings and efficiencies gained from using this revolutionary product.

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"I never thought I'd see this in my lifetime," says Jerry Sobotka, McAninch foreman, who has been in the business for 34 years. "GPS is really beneficial to our projects and our planning. It helps us keep our costs down and I know our operators sure like it."

