

DGPS Solutions for Container Terminals

Cuthbert offers DGPS as part of integration solution for carriers and terminal operators.

DGPS, or Differential Global Positioning System, technology is a means to locate, within inches, the location of a DGPS equipped units machinery a port terminal. Typical applications for DGPS in a terminal are:

- RTGs (Rubber Tired Gantries)
- RMGs (Rail Mounted Gantries)
- Yard tractors (hostlers)

A DGPS unit receives radio signals from satellite and terrestrial transmitters and uses this information to calculate its location in latitude, longitude and altitude. Precise location information can be used in two ways:

- to record the locations of activities (where was the equipment when it placed a specific container?)
- to control unmanned devices (the RMG should now go to row L, Bay M, level N)

Terminal operating systems such as Navis SPARCS are equipped to accept location information to make more efficient terminal operations. Use of DGPS eliminates the needs for operators or clerks to record the locations of containers within the terminal.

Cost Profile

The following numbers are provided for a designer to develop order of magnitude approximations for the cost of an installation. Costs vary based on the specific needs of the terminal, and quite dramatically, based on the level of custom integration required.

- Per terminal – US\$50,000 including terrestrial DGPS station and wireless LAN
- Per DGPS equipped unit -- \$20,000, including installation

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