

## **Thales Navigation Z-Max Gives Professional Surveyors Maximum Productivity with Unique, Modular Design and Superior RTK Positioning**

*New modular GPS survey solution features cable-free performance, integrated UHF cellular communication, Bluetooth wireless connectivity, and complete software package*

SANTA CLARA, Calif., August 26, 2003 -- Thales Navigation today introduced the Z-Max™, an important new advance in flexibility, efficiency and productivity for topography, construction and boundary surveys. Thales Navigation is a global leader in GPS, including the Magellan® brand consumer GPS receivers and Thales Navigation professional GPS solutions.

Z-Max, which uses Bluetooth™ wireless technology for data transfer between the GPS receiver and the surveyor's handheld controller, completely eliminates the need for cumbersome cables in the field. Further, the system is modular, allowing surveyors to maximize their investment in GPS by easily configuring a system that meets their specific needs, in terms of receivers, communications, post-process software and battery options, for example, without requiring the use of unnecessary components. Z-Max allows surveyors to use the modules interchangeably "on the fly" in the field.

"The bold physical design of Z-Max offers the ultimate in modularity and flexibility to let surveyors use GPS on their own terms, and with no compromise to the superior RTK positioning performance," said Neil Vancans, general manager of Thales Navigation's professional products business group.

Z-Max can be used in a variety of modes for convenient data collection, including point-to-point and Network RTK (VRS), pole-mounted mode, backpack, and a combination of pole and backpack.

### **Reliability is Key**

While the design of the Z-Max offers customers comfort and convenience, its superior ADAPT-RTK™ performance provides positioning reliability, accuracy and availability. Thales Navigation's breakthrough ADAPT-RTK technology automatically optimizes the performance of the receiver based on user conditions, such as ionospheric delay and number of satellites. Z-Max also offers the industry's quickest centimeter-solution fix and near 100 percent reliability. Not only can surveyors be confident of the data they collect, they can collect it faster than with competitive systems.

Z-Max features software to detect and automatically adapt to user conditions and Z-Tracking™ for clean extraction of the encrypted L2 P-code, which is needed for fast, reliable centimeter results, even at long base-line lengths.

### **High-Performance Integrated Communications**

In addition to the Bluetooth integrated receiver, and completely cable-free RTK rover, Z-Max offers users the first true integration of UHF and cellular communications, all encased in a robust housing. The long range unlicensed UHF signal, with patent-pending new antenna technology, has a coverage of up to 1250 km<sup>2</sup> (482 mi<sup>2</sup>).

### **Integrated Software Solutions**

The total Z-Max system includes GNSS Studio™ and FAST™ Survey field and office software suites. The two software packages are designed to work together while dramatically streamlining planning, set-up, processing, analysis and documentation of GPS-based measurements.

“Z-Max continues our commitment to being the GPS specialist that delivers the most cost-effective, professional grade measurement systems available. Thales Navigation is dedicated to being a long-term business partner with dealers and field surveyors,” added Vancans.

### **About Thales Navigation**

Thales Navigation is one of the world’s leading developers and manufacturers of positioning, navigation, communication, and guidance equipment with global operations. Thales Navigation markets its Magellan brand GPS products in the consumer electronics, recreation, and automotive markets, and its Thales Navigation GPS and GNSS professional solutions in the survey, GIS/Mapping, tracking, and OEM markets. Through its joint venture with Hertz, Thales Navigation has developed the Hertz NeverLost® vehicle navigation system. Thales Navigation’s key innovations include the first U.S. commercial hand-held GPS receiver for positioning and navigation, and the first handheld GPS with industry standard Secure Digital Memory Card capabilities.

Thales Navigation, headquartered in Santa Clara, Calif., with European headquarters in Carquefou, France, is a subsidiary of Thales, an \$11 billion leading professional electronics company headquartered in Paris, France, with activities in aerospace, defense and information technology and services. For more information, visit <http://www.thalesnavigation.com>.

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