Trimble Laser-Based Grade Control System for Excavators Offers Flexibility and Ease-of-Use in One Economical Package

New Trimble Grade Control System for Excavators Ideal for Owner-Operators and Earthmoving, Site Preparation and General Contractors

PARIS, April 24, 2006 Trimble (NASDAQ:TRMB) today introduced the GCS600 Grade Control System for excavators. Designed for excavation, trenching, grading and profile work, the Trimble® GCS600 is ideal for earthmoving, site preparation and general contractors looking for a flexible, economical and easy-to-use grade control system to improve their productivity and profitability.

The announcement was made today at INTERMAT, one of the world's largest exhibitions for the civil engineering and construction industries.

The Trimble GCS600 Grade Control System for excavators is an entry-level product designed for the owner-operator or contractor in the earthmoving, general construction, site preparation and excavating markets. The Trimble GCS600 can be used for a wide range of applications, including excavation of basements, foundations and footers, flat bottom and simple slope trenching, flat, simple slope and embankment grading, and the profile excavation of canals or side slope. The Trimble GCS600 on an excavator gives contractors the control they need for excavating elevation and slope.

The Trimble GCS600 is designed for the contractor who is looking for a flexible grade control solution for elevation and slope applications. The Trimble GCS600 on excavators is very easy to install, set up and use on excavators with standard buckets or tilt buckets, and offers many productivity and site safety-enhancing features. The cost-efficient system is also designed for maximum performance and payback. Not only does the Trimble GCS600 help the contractor control elevation, but this feature-packed product allows them to maximize operator and machine efficiency resulting in a quick return on investment.

Key features of the Trimble GCS600 Grade Control System for Excavators include:

Depth to Target and Working Slope Display—the system displays required depth and working slope, reducing manpower, improving material yield, and speeding completion time.

Dynamic benching—the unique Laser-Catcher feature allows dynamic benching with the laser without returning to the initial benchmark. This lets the operator work across a greater area and slope distance without returning to the laser transmitter each time the machine moves location.

Articulated Boom and Tilt Bucket Support—by simply adding the Trimble AS300 Angle Sensor, you can use the Trimble GCS600 on excavators with articulated booms or tilt buckets to maximize the excavators full capabilities.

Upgradeability—the GCS600 is part of Trimbles next-generation Grade Control System family. The backbone of the system is built on the Controller Area Network (CAN) industry-standard interface. This makes it very fast and easy to install the components which include: the Trimble LC300 combination laser receiver and angle sensor; the Trimble AS300 boom, stick and bucket angle sensor; and the Trimble AS310 dual axis platform tilt sensor. The CAN harness also lets the contractor easily upgrade to the Trimble GCS900 3D Grade Control System using dual GPS for excavators when the need arises.

Using the Trimble GCS600 gives contractors a display system that indicates depth and slope, or a combination of both. The operator can control and carry out desired depth or slope without stakes or a grade checker using a laser with a grade rod and laser receiver. This capability significantly reduces the costs and downtime associated with staking or the grade checker, and also increases site safety by eliminating the need for a person to be present near the operating excavator.

"Trimble is committed to the ongoing development of easy-to-use productivity enhancing positioning solutions for the contractors no matter where they work, said Jim Veneziano, general manager for Trimble's Construction Division. The Trimble GCS600 for excavators is an economical and very easy-to-use grading solution for contractors, involved in general excavating, basements, footers, sewage, utility installation and other excavation work."

The Trimble GCS600 Grade Control System for excavators is expected to be available in the third quarter of 2006 from Trimble's Construction Division dealer network.

About Trimble's Construction Business

The Construction Business of Trimble is focused on the development of technology and solutions for the earthmoving, general and interior construction contractor. Trimble's construction solutions help to get the job done faster, with less machine time and personnel. For each phase of the construction cycle—designing, grading, site checking, building and asset management—Trimble has a broad portfolio of integrated construction positioning systems designed to improve productivity.

About Trimble

Trimble is a leading innovator of Global Positioning System (GPS) technology. In addition to providing advanced GPS components, Trimble augments GPS with other positioning technologies as well as wireless communications and software to create complete customer solutions. Trimble's worldwide presence and unique capabilities position the Company for growth in emerging applications including surveying, agriculture, machine guidance, fleet and asset management, wireless platforms, and telecommunications infrastructure. Founded in 1978 and headquartered in Sunnyvale, California, Trimble has more than 2,400 employees in more than 18 countries worldwide.