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Trimble Introduces New DR+GPS Module for Vehicle and Asset Tracking Applications

Compact, Complete and Cost-effective Positioning Solution for Easy System Integration

NEW ORLEANS, May 8, 2012 /PRNewswire/ -- Trimble (NASDAQ:TRMB) introduced today the Aardvark DR+GPS module that combines Dead Reckoning (DR) with Global Positioning System (GPS) technology on a single, compact board. The Trimble Aardvark DR+GPS module provides reliable and accurate positioning information when GPS signals are limited or not available, such as in urban canyons and tunnels. The Aardvark DR+GPS module is an ideal solution for system integrators or OEMs who are adding dead reckoning capabilities to vehicle navigation, fleet management and asset tracking systems.

The announcement was made at CTIA's Wireless 2012 Conference.

Dead reckoning estimates position based on heading and distance traveled since the last known position. The more accurate the speed, time and heading inputs, the more accurate the dead reckoning. GPS contributes to accuracy by continuously calibrating the gyro and speed sensors to produce optimal dead reckoning.

The 19mm x 19mm surface mount module has an on-board gyro and collects speed and forward/reverse data from the vehicle's sensors. Its sophisticated DR+GPS algorithm automatically calibrates the gyro and external sensors' inputs and optimally blends this information with GPS measurements to produce accurate position and velocity outputs in hostile GPS environments such as urban canyons.

The Aardvark DR+GPS module is available in two configurations: model number 88788-30 for flat installations; and model number 88788-50 with a unique feature supporting variable mounting installations. The 88788-50 self-determines the module's orientation allowing the ultimate in installation flexibility.

"Trimble has been a leading supplier of dead reckoning technology for vehicle applications for more than 20 years," said Steve Ruff, general manager of Trimble's Embedded Technologies. "In the past, dead reckoning integration was considered too complex or expensive for most commercial applications. Today, the Aardvark DR+GPS module makes dead reckoning integration easy and cost-effective with features such as automatic sensor detection and calibration and support for variable installation orientations. Trimble has simplified the complexities of DR and has made its integration more practical for a broad range of vehicle and asset management applications."

The Aardvark DR+GPS module and developers kit are available now through Trimble's Advanced Devices sales network.

About Trimble

Trimble applies technology to make field and mobile workers in businesses and government significantly more productive. Solutions are focused on applications requiring position or location -- including surveying, construction, agriculture, fleet and asset management, public safety and mapping. In addition to utilizing positioning technologies, such as GPS, lasers and optics, Trimble solutions may include software content specific to the needs of the user. Wireless technologies are utilized to deliver the solution to the user and to ensure a tight coupling of the field and the back office. Founded in 1978, Trimble is headquartered in Sunnyvale, Calif.

For more information, visit: www.trimble.com.

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