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Trimble Adds Automatic Drainage Pipe Sizing to its Farm Works Surface Software

New Feature Improves Accuracy in Drainage System Design

SUNNYVALE, Calif., May 22, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- Trimble (NASDAQ: TRMB) announced today that it has added automatic pipe sizing to its Farm Works™ Surface software. The new feature allows contractors and farmers to improve accuracy and increase efficiency when designing farm drainage systems.

Farm Works Surface is an analysis and design tool that works with the Trimble® WM-Drain® farm drainage solution. This new feature provides recommended drainage pipe sizes for an entire system design, as well as an estimate on cost and material required for the project. With this feature, drainage contractors and farmers can quickly and efficiently produce optimal drainage designs while also reducing project costs. The designs can be imported to in-field drainage equipment for automated installation using the Trimble FmX® integrated display.

Diameters are recommended for all pipes within the user's drainage network based on the terrain, depth, pipe materials available for the project and drainage coefficient, which represents how much water will be drained from a field within 24 hours. The customer has the choice to use the recommended pipe sizes or manually assign different pipe sizes. Users can view a chart of where the pipe is placed (terrain level, maximum depth, recommended depth, pipe size and length) as well as where constraints need to be modified to ensure optimal performance. The system also provides a report to help customers determine the required length of pipe, the cost of connection supplies and the total system cost.

Benefits of automatic pipe sizing include:

- Designing an efficient drainage system to remove excess water from the soil in order to enhance crop yield
- Decreasing errors with a simplified design process that eliminates manual calculation
- Achieving cost savings by ensuring the correct size of pipe is installed in the right place in the field

"The addition of automatic pipe sizing to our Farm Works Surface software provides real benefit to contractors and farmers because it sizes the drainage pipe based on input from the entire drainage system and not just a tile line at a time," said David Fitzpatrick, Water Solutions business area director of Trimble's Agriculture Division. "This new feature can contribute to increased system efficiency due to optimal pipe sizes, and can also help contractors provide a more accurate quote to their customers, while enabling them to know exactly how much material to purchase."

"The way most pipe sizing calculations are done today is time consuming and inaccurate," said Joey Schlatter, who designs drainage systems for family-owned businesses Schlatter's Inc. and West Central Water Management, LLC. "The new automatic pipe sizing feature in Farm Works Surface is saving me significant time in the drainage design process. For an average size job it might take me a couple of hours to design it and at least 30 minutes to an hour to manually calculate pipe size properly. With automatic pipe sizing, the calculation time is now literally down to minutes."

Automatic pipe sizing is currently available as a feature of Farm Works Surface software. To purchase the software or the WM-Drain solution, contact a local Trimble reseller at: www.trimble.com/locator. For more information, visit: www.trimble.com/agriculture.

About Trimble's Agriculture Division

Trimble Agriculture solutions help customers maximize efficiency and reduce chemical and fertilizer inputs while also protecting natural resources and the environment. Trimble's precision agriculture solutions cover all seasons, crops, terrains, and farm sizes, and its brand-agnostic strategy allows farmers to use Trimble products on most vehicles in their fleet—regardless of manufacturer. To help farmers better manage and make decisions with their data, Trimble offers the Connected Farm™ solution that allows farmers to collect, share, and manage information across their farm in real time. To help optimize water use, Trimble provides water solutions for irrigation, drainage, and land leveling. Trimble's product suite includes vehicle and implement guidance and steering, as well as a portfolio of correction options that are the most versatile of their kind in the industry. Additional solutions include an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) for aerial imaging and mapping; application control for seed, liquid, and granular products; a harvest solution; and farm management software.

For more information on Trimble Agriculture, visit: www.trimble.com/agriculture.

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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