Precision Planting New Products (FlowSense, vApply HD, and FurrowJet)

Precision Planting released 3 new products at Winter Conference last year, FlowSense, FurrowJet, and vApply HD.

FlowSense is a flow sensor for every row of liquid that works with the 20/20 SeedSense to offer growers high-resolution maps of their liquid applications in real time. This product will give you the ability to see application rate issues or blockages in the moment to ensure every seed gets the proper amount of treatment.   There is unlimited FlowSense products available, but the SRM architecture is needed this year for FlowSense.

vApplyHD is the first controller in the industry that has flow measurement and control in a single device, and it can be installed for row-by-row control or sectional control. The system understands and adjusts for turns, swath, automatic flow balancing, and variable-rate prescription execution. The product can handle putting 3 gallons per acre down at 3 mph all the way up to 60 gallons per acre at 10 mph. Two vApplyHD modules can be used on each row if multiple applications are going down at once. With vApply you no longer need flow dividers, row swap valves, check valves on the row, orifices, or extra hoses on the implement. vApply HD must utilize the SRM architecture and is limited release, so it will be allotted on a first come, first serve basis.

FurrowJet is an attachment integrates dual-band near furrow 3/4" placement with optional third band in-furrow for maximum plant uptake, rate flexibility, and suited for a wide range of liquid product options. The attachment mounts behind the seed tube to Precision Planting's quick-attach Keeton firmer bracket. It rides in the furrow right behind an integrated seed firmer with wings that slice the furrow sidewall to apply liquid fertilizer 3/4" away from the seed on both sides of the furrow. FurrowJet is limited release, so it will be allotted on a first come first serve basis.

Let me know for more details and availability.

Ez Boom Upgrade Program

A Trimble Ez Boom upgrade program to Field IQ application control will be available through Dec 23rd, 2016. The program will give you the opportunity to trade in your Ez Boom kit and you get a Field IQ Raven Replacement kit at a discount for $995. Contact us for details and more information.

Corn Meter Cleaning, Inspections, and Calibration Discount through the End of the Year

Get your corn meters cleaned, inspected, and calibrated at a $5 per meter discount now through the end of the year.

Assuming a 1% increase in singulation (1% increase in singulation = 2bu /ac) on a 16 row planter on 500 corn acres at a corn price of $3.50 a bushel.

·   Cost of running meters= $560

·   1% singulation increase at 2 bu/ac on 500 acres= 1,000 more total bushels

·   1,000 more bushels at $3.50= $3,500

· $560 spent/ $3,500 return

And that's assuming only 1% singulation increase. Some meters we have seen improvements up to 6%. If we can't improve it, then the service is free!!!

Bring your meters to our Nokomis or El Paso locations before the end of the year to take full advantage of the discount.

Trimble VRS or CenterPoint RTX Fast Users

As the leader in high accuracy positioning, Trimble continues to invest in research to advance corrections technology. On December 7th, 2016, Trimble transitioned CenterPoint RTX Fast network in North America to this new technology as part of continued focus to improve performance and reliability. Although there will be no changes for customers using CenterPoint RTX Standard service, all North American customers with a CenterPoint RTX Fast subscription will need to change their display settings and/or install a firmware upgrade after the change.

Firmware requirements by device

The specific settings/configuration changes that will be required after the network update will vary depending on the device and firmware version, but for the majority of customers running recent firmware, only a settings change will be required. Anyone running older firmware will need to upgrade their firmware and reconfigure their settings. The following firmware versions will be required to support CenterPoint RTX Fast after the network update on December 7th, 2016:

- Trimble CFX-750 display: Version 6.00 or newer firmware required.

- Trimble TMX-2050: display: Version 3.0.0 or newer firmware required

- Trimble AG-372 GNSS Receiver: Version 6.15 or newer firmware required

Any customers running firmware that is older than the above-mentioned versions will need to upgrade to the most recent version available. In addition, the Trimble FmX integrated display does not support the new CenterPoint RTX Fast technology, so Trimble has a special TMX-2050 upgrade package offer for our Trimble FmX customers subscribed to the CenterPoint RTX Fast service today. Please contact Linco Precision if your device's firmware is older than the versions listed above, or if you are using CenterPoint RTX Fast on an FmX display.

What to do after the change?

After ensuring the required firmware has been installed on the display/receiver (CFX-750, AG-372/382, or TMX-2050), the following settings changes will need to be made after the network update:

· Change RTX Settings from "RTX Fast US" to "RTX Fast EU".

· Change the Satellite Frequency to 1557.8150 MHz

· Set the Baud Rate to 2400 bps

What can Trimble FmX customers using CenterPoint RTX Fast do after the change?

The Trimble FmX integrated display does not support the new CenterPoint RTX Fast technology broadcast after the network update, however there will be several options available to these customers after the change. Trimble will be offering an attractive trade-up program to the TMX-2050 display for customers that have purchased a CenterPoint RTX Fast subscription on an FmX display. Trimble will provide more details on this promotion in the near future, as it will provide an excellent opportunity to upgrade to the TMX-2050 display.

Trimble's CenterPoint RTX standard service will remain unimpacted by the network change, so any FmX customers with an active CenterPoint RTX Fast subscription can use CenterPoint RTX standard after the change without making any firmware or hardware changes. There will be no change in accuracy for any customers that change to CenterPoint RTX Standard, however convergence time will be longer. The convergence specification for CenterPoint RTX Standard is <30-minutes versus <5-minutes for CenterPoint RTX Fast, however convergence time can be minimized by using the FastRestart feature. To change from CenterPoint RTX Fast to CenterPoint RTX standard on the FmX integrated display:

· From the FmX home screen, tap the Configuration button.

· At the Configuration screen tap GPS Receiver to highlight it, then tap Setup. This will bring up the GPS Receiver Settings screen.

· At the GPS Receiver Settings screen, tap on the Corrections drop down list, then scroll down and select "CenterPoint RTX (ss).

· After selecting CenterPoint RTX (ss), set FastRestart to On or Off, and set the Convergence Threshold to the desired accuracy level.

Recommended settings are FastRestart set to On and Convergence Threshold at 10 cm.

· Click OK at the bottom of the GPS Receiver Settings screen to return to the Configuration screen.

· Click OK at the bottom of the Configuration screen to return to the home screen.

Alternatively, Trimble FmX customers using CenterPoint RTX Fast can switch over to Trimble's CenterPoint VRS service if they have good cellular service in their area and enjoy the benefits of high accuracy and fast convergence times.

Trimble VRS Now – North American Data Connection Change

As the leader in high accuracy positioning, Trimble continues to invest in its network to maximize uptime and reliability. As part of its continued focus to improve reliability and network maintenance, Trimble will be transitioning to a URL-based data connection method, effective December 15, 2016. This will allow Trimble to better manage how users are accessing the VRS Now data and improve system reliability. As a result of this change, all North American customers will need to change their software/display settings to point to URL "www.vrsnow.us" instead of the IP address 155.63.211.99 to be able to connect to the Trimble VRS Now Network. Updating the IP address will be seamless and will not change your service or your workflow in any way. This will allow Trimble to make network changes behind the scenes in the future without impacting users in the field.

Questions with any of these settings changes or if you are not sure if the changes affect you, please give me a call.

DJI Phantom 3 Frequent Flyer Kit Holiday Special

Now through December 24th, 2016, we are offering a Christmas special. Phantom 3 Frequent Flyer Kits (drone, controller, case, 4 batteries, charging hub, and cables to hook to an iPhone or Android) for a special price of $1,600. Contact me with questions, or for a demo flight.

Upcoming Events

Northern Illinois Farm Show

January 11th, and 12th, 2017
1525 West Lincoln Highway, Dekalb, IL 60115

Midwest Ag Expo

January 25th, and 26th, 2017

2205 County RD 3000 N, Gifford IL, 61847

Precision Grower Meeting

February 1st, 2017

Klinefelter Farms, 15215 Nokomis Rd Nokomis, IL 62075

Precision Planting Annual Spring Meeting

March 2nd, 2017

Divernon Masonic Lodge, Divernon IL 62530

Used and OverStock Items

See our website for updated lists of used and OverStock items available.