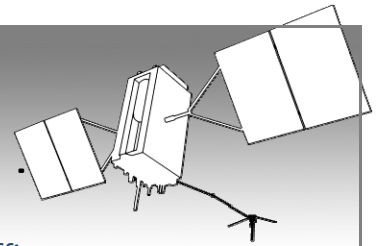


GPS

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Information for Policymakers from the National Coordination Office
for Space-Based Positioning, Navigation, and Timing (PNT)

September 2010

Senate Appropriators Pass FY 2011 Defense Spending Bill with GPS Program Funding

The Senate Appropriations Committee passed its version of the Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (S. 3800) on September 16. The legislation allocates \$1.057 billion to the Air Force to fund the GPS program, meeting the President's budget request. The Senate panel also appropriated \$40.9 million for the High Integrity GPS (HIGPS) project, commonly known as iGPS.

As reported in July, the Department of Transportation is set to receive \$58.5 million for the civilian portion of the GPS program. For additional information, visit <http://pnt.gov/policy/legislation/funding/2011.shtml>.

GAO Releases Updated Audit of GPS Program

On September 15, the Government Accountability Office issued the follow-up report to its April 2009 audit of the GPS program. GAO notes the Air Force's progress in improving the GPS constellation outlook, but reiterates the need to address various risk areas. The report is available online at <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-10-636>.

Newest GPS Satellite Now Online

On August 27, the first GPS Block IIF satellite was added to the operational GPS constellation after a three-month evaluation and checkout period. The Boeing-built satellite, launched May 27, is the first of twelve Block IIF satellites that will launch through 2014. GPS Block IIF satellites provide improved accuracy through advanced atomic clocks, a longer design life than legacy GPS satellites, and a third civil signal (L5) that will benefit civil aviation and other safety-of-life applications.

GPS III Satellite Development Ahead of Schedule and Ready for Production



Lockheed Martin completed its critical design review of the next generation GPS III satellite program last month. The successful review, which occurred two months ahead of schedule, validated that the detailed GPS III design meets military and civil requirements, paving the way for the company to move forward with satellite manufacturing.

Application Spotlight: 2010 Census

In preparation for the 2010 Census, the U.S. Census Bureau used handheld GPS technology to capture the precise location of housing units across the country.

Census workers systematically traveled all known and new streets and roads to identify every structure where people live or could potentially live. They attempted to collect GPS coordinates for each structure to make sure it was recorded in the correct location. This work was done to ensure a complete and accurate address list for delivering the 2010 Census questionnaires and conducting necessary field activities.



The exact geographic location of each housing unit was critical to ensure that when the Census Bureau publishes the results for the entire country, broken down by various geographic areas, they accurately represent the data for the subject area.

It is important to note that all address information, including GPS coordinates, is protected by the confidentiality requirements of Title 13 of the United States Code. To learn more, visit http://www.census.gov/privacy/data_protection/gps_coordinates.html.



SPACE-BASED POSITIONING
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