

Re: Cutting-Edge Trimble Technology Expands Earthmoving System Capability

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On Fri, 26 Nov 2004 23:19:42 GMT, Sam Wormley <swormley1@mchsi.com> wrote:

> *Cutting-Edge Trimble Technology Expands Earthmoving System Capability*
> <http://www.trimble.com/news/111904a.htm>

High technology meets big dirt.

It's a good system and (on the dozer anyway) it works.

I just did bulk excavation and all material grading right up to final grade on a big parking lot with a Deere 750 Bulldozer using this system. One afternoon a guy with 2 hours operating experience spread 250 mm of crushed rock perfectly onto the exact design slopes without wasting a pebble.

It's kinda fun pushing dirt absentmindedly to the loader, and looking behind you to see perfectly graded surfaces, sloping down the catch basins, just popping up outta the dust.

Antenna posts not very good for pushing trucks, mind you.

What the Trimble rep. won't tell you though is the enormous up front investment you'll have to make to learn how to prepare the drawings for surface elevation DTM's, display linework, alignments, and site calibration in order to display on the operator's computer and guide the system precisely. Not to mention having a somewhat computer literate operator. And lots more work if you can't get digital drawings from your client's engineering design consultant.

I just took the dozer antennas and put them on the D9 ripper frame so the computer literate operator we got can rip shale to the precise depth we need for an underpass road we are building. "Watch me run right along the (proposed) curb line!" he shouted from the wheelhouse.

You really need 2 operators for this – one to watch where he's going

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and one to act as "winch man", hahaha!. Oh poop – now it needs a dual display!

Our company runs a few of the dump trucks on snow plow duty in the off season –I'm thinking of adapting this system to a couple of the trucks and approaching Pearson Airport Mtce. Hey George in New Brunswick – you reading this?