

Comprehending the Internet RTK Techno-babble

People who know about Internet RTK use terms that are as baffling as the words typically used by surveying and mapping professionals in their daily work. Some definitions may aid understanding. This document is not a substitute for the instructions in the manuals. It is intended as an aid to understanding some of the terms used in the process.

IP - Internet Protocol - in conversations about Internet RTK this is often associated with the IP address of the computer that is broadcasting the RTK corrections. The external IP address of a computer can be found by using a web browser to connect it to the web site at

<http://www.ipaddressworld.com/> or <http://www.ipchicken.com/>

Learn more about the internal IP address on the web page at

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IP_address

Port Forwarding - a method of instructing the router where to send the request for data. Port forwarding opens a pipe. The rover will be configured to come looking through that pipe to find the base station data. The procedure for setting up the port forwarding is specific to different brands of routers and will not be detailed in this paper.

Find more help with this task on the web page at

<http://portforward.com/help/portforwarding.htm>

TCP/IP - Transmission Control Protocol / Internet Protocol - Defines the way to translate and transmit data through the Internet. Knowing how it works is not essential to this task. The term is used frequently when Internet RTK is described or used. Learn more at

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet_protocol_suite

Direct IP - A way to acquire base station RTK corrections at the rover through the Internet by direct connection to the IP address of the computer that sends the corrections. One or more rovers will connect directly to the computer that is connected to the base.

NTRIP - Networked Transport of RTCM via Internet Protocol provides a way to connect multiple base stations to one server using one IP address to access any of the base stations. Seek more information on the web page at

<http://igs.bkg.bund.de/>

GSM - Global System for Mobile communications. Read more about it on the web page at

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GSM>

CDMA - Code Division Multiple Access is an alternative to GSM. Read more about it on the web page at

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CDMA_2000

Bluetooth DUN - Bluetooth Dial-Up Networking - connects the rover to the Internet through a cell phone modem.

<http://www.wisegEEK.com/what-is-bluetooth-dun.htm>

Comments, questions, and suggestions for additional information should be directed to pstevenson@ashtech.com

Phil Stevenson
May 4, 2011