

Using Mission Planning with MobileMapper CE

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The MobileMapper CE (MMCE) Mission Planning utility in the MobileMapper CE (MMCE) displays the PDOP and satellite availability during a user-defined time period. To do this the utility needs to know three things:

1. Where the GPS satellites are located in the sky
2. Your location
3. The current time.

If the receiver doesn't have information on one or more of these, the Mission Planning utility will return one or more error messages.

Where the GPS satellites are positioned in the sky

The location of all GPS satellites is broadcast continuously by all GPS satellites in a file called the GPS almanac. It takes approximately 13 minutes to broadcast a complete almanac. If the almanac stored in the receiver's memory is more than 90 days old you will see the following message: "Almanac is old." You can record a new almanac by turning off the Mission Planning program and tracking at least one GPS satellite for 13 minutes. If this error message persists after you reopen the Mission Planning utility, or if you see an error message saying "Error receiving GPS almanac data," tap **OK** on the error message, turn off the utility and copy an almanac file from the Almanacs folder of <ftp:magellangps.com> to the MMCE's Windows folder.

Your current location

If you are not tracking enough satellites to determine your location, the Mission Planning utility returns the following error message: "Error receiving GPS current position." If you see this error message, tap **OK** on the error message, tap the Location icon (a triangle in a circle) and enter your coordinates manually. (By default, your last coordinates are displayed.) You can also turn off the utility and go to a place where the receiver can track enough satellites to calculate a position.

The current time

If you are tracking at least one GPS satellite when you run the utility, the MMCE knows the current time from the satellite's broadcast. But if you are located where you cannot track any satellites, the receiver says: "Error receiving GPS current position." If you see this message, tap **OK** on the error message, tap the Location icon (a triangle in a circle) and enter your coordinates manually. (By default, your last coordinates are displayed.) You can also turn off the utility and go to a place where the receiver can track enough satellites to calculate a position.