# **GPS140** Windows Application

User's Manual Version 2.0.x

Contraction (Real Time Devices)

RTD Embedded Technologies, Inc.

"Accessing the Analog World"®

SWM-640020010 Rev. A

ISO9001 and AS9100 Certified



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## Introduction

This manual describes the operation of the GPS140 Windows monitoring application. The program performs the following functions:

- Monitoring the current coordinates: Latitude, Longitude, altitude, speed and course over ground.
- Monitoring and configuring the device interface parameters such as the protocol and serial COM speed.

Fully commented source code for the application is also included. The program can be built using Microsoft Visual C++ Version 6.

## Windows Installation

#### Installation of the Board and Software

Before installing the application and source files, you need to install the GPS140 board in your PC. The jumper locations and meanings can be found in the GPS140 hardware manual. The card requires one correctly configured COM port to function. After you have selected the COM port base address and IRQ using the boards jumpers you must install a COM port driver in Windows.

#### In Windows 98 use the following procedure:

#### Navigate to Control Panel\ Add New Hardware.

When the wizard starts click the 'next' button. Click the 'next' button again. When the list of devices is shown select 'NO, the device is not in the list'. Press 'next'. Windows now asks you if it should search for the new hardware. Select 'No, I want to select the hardware from a list'. On the hardware types list box select 'Ports (COM & LPT)'. Press 'next'. A page will be displayed that has two list boxes. On the left listbox select 'Standard Port Types'. On the right listbox select 'Communications Port'. Press 'Next' Windows will assign some resources to the new port, however they may not be the resources that the card is actually using, that is OK for now. Press 'next' then press 'finish'. When the system reboots go to 'Control Panel/System/Device Manager' and select the COM port you just added and change the resources to be the ones you set the hardware to.

#### in Windows NT4 the settings are located in:

"Control Panel\Ports". Press the 'Add' button. On the next dialog enter an unused COM port number and the base address and IRQ you set the card to. Also, select the FIFO enabled check box.

#### in Windows 2000:

#### Navigate to "Control Panel\ Add new Hardware"

When the wizard starts click the 'next' button then select 'Add/Troubleshoot a device", click' next'. Windows will search for new plug and play devices. When the list of devices is displayed, select the list item called 'Add a new device'. On the next page Windows will ask you whether it should search for new hardware. Select 'No, I want to select the hardware from a list'. Press 'next'. When the list of categories is displayed, select Ports (COM & LPT). Then press 'next'. On the next page select 'Standard Port types' from the menu on the left and 'Communications port' from the list on the right. Press 'next'. Then Windows will ask you to enter the device settings. Enter the base address and IRQ you set the board to. After you have set the resources, press OK and then press' next' on the wizard until it completes.

#### In Windows XP use the following procedure:

#### Navigate to "Control Panel\Add Hardware"

When the wizard starts click 'next'. Windows will search for new hardware. When the 'is the hardware connected' page appears, select 'Yes, I have already connected the hardware'.. Press 'next'. From the category list select 'add a new hardware device'. Press 'next'. Now Windows wants to know whether it should install the hardware automatically. Select 'Install the hardware that I manually select from a list'. Press 'next'. On the next list, select Ports (COM & LPT). Press 'next'. On the left menu list select 'Standard Port Types'. On the list on the right select 'Communications Port'. Press 'next'. Press 'next' again. After a short pause you will see a screen that says 'The following Hardware was installed'...lower down on the page is a link which says

'view or change resources for this hardware'. Click it. Then click 'Set configuration manually. On the next dialog enter the base address and IRQ that you set the board to. Press 'ok'. Press 'Finish'.

NOTE: During testing it was found that allowing Windows 2000/XP to scan for new devices and installing a COM port automatically sometimes fails. For undetermined reasons the new COM port added has the same name as an existing COM port. To prevent this problem, when Windows asks whether to scan for new hardware or select from a list, use the 'select hardware from a list' option then select 'Ports (COM & LPT)' from the following list.

WARNING: Some versions of Windows 2000 and Windows XP may incorrectly try to use the new GPS COM Port as a mouse port, this results in the mouse behaving erratically and uncontrollably. To solve this problem see Microsoft Knowledge Base article number 283063 'Serial Device May Be Detected as a Serial mouse in Windows'.

On the installation diskette you can found the **Setup.exe** program, which installs on your PC the GPS140 Application and source code. After starting the setup, please follow the instructions on the screen to install the programs. You can select the directory where to install the files. The setup also adds to the 'Start menu' under the 'Programs' folder of your Windows system the 'RTD\GPS140' folder. It contains shortcuts to the application and the readme.txt file.

#### Windows COM port settings

In the Device Manager are settings for Data Bits, Stop Bits, Parity, Baud rate and flow control. These parameters are all overridden by the application and set to the correct settings at run time. It does not matter what settings you use in the Windows Device Manager.

# **GPS140 Monitor Application**

When first started, the application selects the first available COM port and attempts to communicate with the GPS through it. If the first COM port is not the correct COM port, simply pull down the list box and select the correct one. Note that used COM ports (such as mouse ports) will not be displayed in the list.

After you have selected the correct COM port the program will attempt to communicate with the GPS card using the most common parameters (9600 Baud, ZNMEA protocol) If it is successful you will see data start to be displayed on the screen. If communication cannot be established with the card, the application will try another protocol (ZBinary). If communication still fails the application will go to the next highest baud rate and try both protocols again. This continues until successful communication is established with the card. The status message in the upper right portion of the screen will tell you when the application is searching for the correct baud and when it has locked on to communications.

You may change the selected protocol by using the drop down protocol box. There are two protocols available, ZNMEA-0183 and ZBinary. Note that there is no baud rate change message defined for ZNMEA. This means that the baud rate selection box will be disabled when this protocol is selected.

The following information is displayed on the main dialog:

GPS Status – Indicates the status of the calculated position. If the value is 'Valid', then othe position is valid. Otherwise the position is invalid.

Fix - Fix mode can be 2D or 3D or Invalid

Quality - Can be Invalid, GPS-Fix or DGPS Fix

Date and Time – Date and Time of the GPS receiver. The receiver gets the GMT date and time from the satellites

Num of Navigation Satellites – Number of satellites that are currently being used foer navigation. When this number is less than three, the position is invalid.

Num of Visible Satellites - This is the number of satellites the receiver can 'see'.

Position Dilution of Precision – A measure of how much the error in the position estimate produced from satellite range measurement is amplified by poor arrangement of satellites with respect to the receiver antenna.

Horizontal Dilution of Precision – A measure of how much the satellite geometry affects the position estimate

Vertical Dilution of Precision -- A measure of how much the satellite geometry affects the position estimate

Latitude – Position in Degrees, Minutes and fractions of minutes

Longitude -- Position in Degrees, Minutes and fractions of minutes

AMSL Alt – Altitude above mean sea level in meters.

Geoid Alt - Height of geoid (mean sea level) above WGS84 ellipsoid.

Speed - Speed over ground in Knots

Course Over Ground - Course in Degrees and fractions of degrees

Magnetic Variation – Difference between Magnetic north and true north at the current location

In the Satellite list box the following columns appear:

Ch # -- Receiver's channel number (1-12)

PRN # -- Satellites Pseudo Random Noise number.

EL - Elevation

AZI - Azimuth

SNR - Signal to Noise ratio

### **Limited Warranty**

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