

GPS TRACKING DEVICES

GPS TRACKING DEVICES A GPS tracking device is used to determine the precise location of a vehicle, person, or asset to which it can be attached and to record the position of the asset at regular intervals. Data on the location of the asset can be stored in the GPS tracking unit or transmitted to central location data base, or internet-connected computer, with the help of a cellular GPRS radio or satellite modem embedded in the unit. The location of the asset can be displayed against a map backdrop either in real time or with customized software when analyzing the track later. Vehicle tracking systems are used by fleet operators for fleet management functions like routing, dispatch, on-board information and security. They can also be used for monitoring driving behavior of an employee or that of a teenager by his parents. The vehicle tracking systems are popular as theft prevention and retrieval devices. The signals emitted by the tracking device can simply be followed and the vehicle located. When used as a security device the vehicle tracking systems can act as a replacement or addition to the traditional alarm. The use of vehicle tracking systems can significantly reduce insurance costs as the risk of loss is reduced dramatically. Some vehicle tracking systems are equipped to send automatic alerts to a phone or e-mail if the vehicle is moved without authorization or the alarm is triggered. The vehicle tracking systems are classified as passive and active. Passive devices can store GPS location, speed, heading and sometimes a trigger event such as key on/off, door open/closed. Once the vehicle returns to a predetermined point, the device is removed and the data downloaded to a computer for evaluation. Active devices also collect the same information but transmit data in real time through cellular or satellite networks to a computer or data center for assessment. With the installation of vehicle tracking systems, real time location of the whole fleet of vehicles is possible and consumer needs can be met more effectively and efficiently. Whether it is delivery or service, drivers only require a mobile phone or internet connection to be inexpensively tracked by and dispatched efficiently. The vehicle tracking systems also allows companies to quickly locate a field engineer and dispatch the closest one to provide site arrival information or meet a new customer on request. The GPS tracking devices can be used for asset tracking as well. Insurance or other companies requiring to track valuable assets for monitoring purposes can now see the real time location of the asset on the map and can closely monitor the movement and operating status. The GPS tracking devices can be used by mobile sales professionals to locate themselves in unknown areas as well as to locate their prospective customers, get driving directions and add nearby last-minute appointments to itineraries. The GPS Tracking key is a pocket-size GPS Tracking device, with a strong magnet. It can be attached to vehicle or asset and helps to record data such as speed, location, and time or how long the device remained stationary. The stored data can then be downloaded via USB port and the animated route could be viewed with Google. There are three types of GPS tracking devices. They are loggers, data pushers and data pullers. Loggers have an internal flash memory, a memory card slot or a USB port. They can store data gathered from the asset to which they are attached. The stored data can be downloaded into a computer for further analysis. They are used by sports enthusiasts while jogging or backpacking to calculate the length and duration of a trip. They can be used by parents for teenage tracking and by private investigators. They give the freedom of not having to track the target asset or vehicle closely. Data pushers send the position of the device at regular intervals, to a predetermined server. The server can instantly analyze the data that is coming in. they are most commonly used by the security industry. A GPS receiver and a mobile phone are kept in the same compartment and are powered by the same battery. The phone at regular intervals sends a text message via SMS, containing the data from the GPS receiver. The falling prices of mobile phones and SMS services have made these devices very popular and inexpensive. Popular applications for the device are fleet control, animal control tracking in sports such as gliding and in espionage or surveillance. Data pushers send the position of the device at regular intervals. These devices are always on and can be queried as often as required.

About the Author

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