

MediaMapper

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

What is the MediaMapper software?

The MediaMapper software enhances your GIS by adding geo-referenced digital photographs. The software combines GPS data with digital photographs you take in the field to create maps with geo-referenced photographs. These maps easily export for inclusion in your GIS database, and can even be published on the Internet.

What are the benefits of using the MediaMapper software?

In the field, you don't need cables between your GPS data collection system and the digital camera. With only a small variation to your GPS data collection technique, you can obtain geo-referenced photographs. In the office, the MediaMapper software combines the GPS positions with images from the digital camera and prepares the file for export to a variety of popular GIS databases.

Who can benefit from geo-referenced digital images?

Most field data collection greatly benefits from visual records of features and events. With geo-referenced images, detailed inventories of utility and urban assets, along with temporal studies of erosion, wildlife population and plant growth and the recording of environmental impacts such as forest fires and storms, can all provide essential and timely information for decision makers and rescue workers.

What digital cameras are compatible with the MediaMapper software?

The MediaMapper software is compatible with all digital cameras that use the Design Rule for Camera File (DCF) standard. The camera needs to have a built-in clock to record the time of each photo, and the ability to transfer the digital image files to your computer.

Is a cable required between the digital camera and the GPS receiver?

No, the digital camera and the GPS data collection system are not physically connected.

How is a GPS position assigned a digital photograph?

With each GPS position, time is recorded. This enables the MediaMapper software to match the time of each GPS position with the time recorded by the camera for each photograph.

Are there special requirements for collecting GPS data in the field?

It is important that GPS positions are collected at the location where you take the photograph. The easiest way to do this is to record GPS positions and take the photograph at the same time. You do not need to record GPS positions when you are not taking a photograph.

Note: The simplest technique is to open a data file and set the "Not In Feature" or "Between Feature" logging interval to 1 second. The GPS data collection system can simply log positions until you are finished in the field.

Trimble

Can digital images be combined with feature and attribute data?

Yes, you can take digital photographs when you are doing feature and attribute data collection. However it is recommended that you set each feature to have a *logging interval* of 1 second so that you achieve the best possible accuracy for your digital photograph.

After processing the feature and attribute file in GPS Pathfinder® Office you export the file (as usual) to your GIS. You also export the position data from GPS Pathfinder Office to MediaMapper. MediaMapper assigns the positions to the photograph, and prepares the file for export to your GIS. In the GIS you can match the MediaMapper file with the feature and attribute file because the positions are the same.

Which Trimble data collection systems can be used to collect the GPS data?

- GeoExplorer 3
- GPS Pathfinder systems including:
 - GPS Pathfinder Pocket
 - GPS Pathfinder Power
 - GPS Pathfinder Pro XR/S
 - Asset Surveyor® software on the TSC1 datalogger
 - TerraSync™ software on a user supplied CE device
 - ASPEN® software on a user supplied Windows computer

Which version of the GPS Pathfinder Office software is required?

The GPS Pathfinder Office version 2.80 software is required for data transfer, differential correction (if required) and export to the MediaMapper format. Note that the GPS Pathfinder Express service does not support the MediaMapper format.

Is it necessary to register the MediaMapper software?

Yes, you will need to register the MediaMapper software after installation, via the Internet or by emailing Trimble Support. Without registration, your software only run for 14 non-consecutive days.

Can the MediaMapper software be moved from one computer to another?

Yes, but you will need to register the MediaMapper software again for the new computer otherwise it will only run for 14 non-consecutive days.

What formats can the MediaMapper data be exported to?

MediaMapper data can be exported to:

- ArcView Shapefiles
- MapInfo Interexchange (MID/MIF) Format files.

- MapInfo Geoset Format files.
- HTML
- Graphic files including WWF, BMP, JPEG, GIF, TIF, PSD

When exporting my data, what coordinate systems can I use?

Exported files are represented as latitude, longitude coordinates in terms of the WGS84 ellipsoid.

When using the MediaMapper software, in what coordinate system can I view my data?

Latitude and longitude values can be viewed with the MediaMapper software in terms of the following formats:

- Decimal degrees (DDD.DDD)
- Degrees and decimal minutes (DDMM.MMM)
- Degrees, Minutes and decimal Seconds (DDDMMSS.SS)
- Military Grid Reference System (MGRS)

How many digital images can be stored in a data collection session?

The digital camera specifications and the resolution of your photographs determine this.

What are the minimum requirements for the MediaMapper software?

Pentium II or better, 64MB of RAM, 24MB of available hard disk space, a CD-ROM drive, a VGA/SVGA monitor or better and Microsoft Windows 95, 98, 2000, Me or NT 4.0 (service pack 4 or later).

What documentation is provided with the MediaMapper software?

The MediaMapper software includes online help, a tutorial, and a printed user guide. Note that the MediaMapper software is available in English only.

Is online support available?

Yes, online support is available at www.trimble.com/mediamapper.

Where can I find more details on the MediaMapper software?

Online at www.trimble.com/mediamapper or your local dealer.



Trimble Navigation Limited
645 North Mary Avenue
Post Office Box 3642
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3642
1-800-827-8000
in North America
1-408-481-8000
outside North America
1-408-481-7744 Fax
<http://www.trimble.com>

