

The NOAA CORS Network (NCN): a Brief History and Current Status

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SUMMARY

The United States Department of Commerce's National Geodetic Survey (NGS) assembles and manages the multi-purpose, multi-agency, cooperative, GPS/GNSS continuously operating reference station (CORS) network, namely the NOAA CORS Network (NCN). The NCN is a cooperation of more than 240 federal, state, academic, and private organizations, provides free-of-charge GPS/GNSS data from more than 2000 CORS, supporting post-processed positioning activities throughout the United States. 99% of these stations are owned and maintained by NCN partners. The contributing partners freely share their GNSS measurements and station information with NGS in accordance with NGS's guidelines. NGS analyzes the NCN data, distributes it free of charge. This paper addresses the history, current status, and lessons learned in managing the NCN since 1994.

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