**MaineDOT CORS Network Update – IT and Data Management Changes and Consideration of Subscription Model.**

Since 2007, the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) has operated a network of Global Positioning System (GPS) Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS) to support real-time positioning applications across the state. Currently (September 2025), MaineDOT maintains 19+ CORS sites that collect, store, and stream GPS satellite data to users via a real-time network. Users connect through a cellular data link to a centralized server in Augusta, receiving Real-Time Kinematic (RTK) position corrections to enhance location accuracy.

For the past 18 years, this service has been provided at no cost to users, requiring only the necessary GPS equipment and a cellular data connection. However, due to growing demand, and increasing operational complexity and cost, MaineDOT has had to make changes aimed at ensuring the continued reliability and sustainability of the network.

**Key Updates Under Consideration**

* **Licensing and Infrastructure Management**  
  The increasing number of users has prompted consideration of additional software licenses to support expanded access. Additionally, because State IT resources are no longer available to provide system IT infrastructure management, MaineDOT has contracted Trimble Navigation to manage the backend operations using Trimble Pivot software. This arrangement includes storing data on two separate servers to ensure redundancy and system resilience. Under this model, Trimble oversees core system operations, while MaineDOT’s RTN (Real-Time Network) Team continues managing user accounts, including login credentials and troubleshooting system access issues.
* **Subscription Model Introduction**: Due to the changes noted above, the cost to operate the network is increasing by at least $150,000 annually. MaineDOT is considering introducing a subscription access model to cover the added cost Under this model, users would be required to pay an annual fee of **$500 per user account** for access to the RTK correction service.

Users who **stream and redistribute MaineDOT CORS data commercially** would be subject to a **$500 annual fee per CORS station** accessed for reselling or restreaming purposes.

With the implementation of the subscription model, new user accounts for existing users will be required. While the new accounts are required early-on we do not intend to implement a payment requirement until **August 1, 2026.**

Federal, State and other government bodies as well as, municipalities, and quasi-municipal utility organizations may apply for a fee waiver, subject to review and approval.

* **Satellite System Enhancements**  
  MaineDOT is also planning enhancements to the CORS network by integrating satellite data from multiple global systems, including:  
  NAVSTAR, the US DOD constellation, (denoted as G)   
  GLONASS, the Russian constellation (denoted as R)

Galileo, the European constellation (denoted as E)

BeiDou, the Chinese constellation (denoted as C)

NAVSTAR, GLONASS and GALILEO are currently available, and we are planning on adding BeiDou in 2025.

Access to multiple satellite constellations significantly improve reliability and accuracy, especially in challenging environments such as under dense tree canopies.

These improvements aim to ensure the MaineDOT RTN remains a reliable, modern, and sustainable resource for the surveying and geospatial community across Maine. We appreciate your ongoing support and welcome any feedback as we consider these next steps in network development.

For additional information, please contact the MaineDOT RTN Team at [rtnsupport.medot@maine.gov](mailto:rtnsupport.medot@maine.gov).

We have attached instructions on how to sign up for the new MaineDOT RTN.

Respectfully,

Your Trimble Pivot Team

Address:  
MaineDOT Property Office   
16 State House Station   
Augusta, ME 04333   
  
Email:   [rtnsupport.medot@maine.gov](mailto:rtnsupport.medot@maine.gov)

**Survey, Control and Right of Way webpage:** [www.maine.gov/mdot/surveyinfo/](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.maine.gov%2Fmdot%2Fsurveyinfo%2F&data=05%7C01%7CHarold.Nelson%40maine.gov%7C4867e7546b7b4aae76b608dbe504b0b9%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638355580533913255%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=EKx4O1FntTVoeFnrlBgbdOZOiU3LOFjLGdBRtVPYxcg%3D&reserved=0)

**CORS DATA (RINEX):** [https://mdotcors.maine.gov/](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmdotcors.maine.gov%2F&data=05%7C01%7CHarold.Nelson%40maine.gov%7C4867e7546b7b4aae76b608dbe504b0b9%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638355580533913255%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=qwCq%2FooHVZlLHItRRK7mFLfwXVrE1Ooy5YVmuhDuKcU%3D&reserved=0)