



Topcon introduces AM53 and Tierra telematics solutions for remote Ag fleet management

TURIN, Italy / FORT ATKINSON, Wis. (USA) – February 26, 2017 – Topcon Agriculture announces Tierra telematics is joining its catalog of solutions, offering telemetry advantages to farmers and contractors designed to increase productivity, reduce fuel costs and emissions, improve machine security, optimize maintenance and manage equipment utilization.

“The solutions provide access to daily machine run-time reports, with accurate and reliable data. Fuel costs are minimized with real-time reports of idling, engine activity, motion and labor. Machines are more secure with GeoFence boundaries, curfews monitoring and instant notifications. Maintenance is improved with service alerts that catch issues before they cause further damage. Machines that are not being used can be easily noted and redeployed on different job sites,” said Fabio Isaia, CEO of Topcon Agriculture.

Topcon AM53 is the on-board hardware device used for fleet management.

Isaia said, “It is rugged enough to perform even in extreme conditions with minimal maintenance needs — firmware updates are automatic and the user can get instant feedback through diagnostic LEDs.

“AM53 takes little space in the cabin (135 x 118.8 x 35.8 mm) and is lightweight and very easy to install. It offers complete localization features and data logger capabilities, automatically recording timestamp, GNSS position and relevant CAN data, and periodically transmitting data packages to the server through the GSM network,” he said.

The AM53 device is designed to offer a powerful on-board processor with significant internal memory (up to 50 hours), allowing up to 5 second logging of all parameters when the engine is running and every time the machine status changes.

Topcon Tierra offers a set of subscription plans to enable the features according to the customer’s needs — from the basic localization service to the most advanced remote diagnostic solution, with real-time dashboards and configurable reports. The solution is fully upgradable without the need of any additional hardware.

By logging on to the Topcon Tierra website or mobile app, operators can access the server to control the fleet, configure alerts, set GeoFences, run reports and take advantage of actionable information for better informed decisions and increased efficiency and profitability.

About Tierra

Tierra is a Topcon telematics company that develops fleet management and IoT solutions. Leveraging Topcon's +25 years in Ag product development and with +10 years of experience in telematics, Tierra is able to provide fully tailored solutions for Agriculture.

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Topcon introduces AES-35 electric steering system designed for open platform vehicles

TURIN, Italy — September 7, 2016 — Topcon announces a new addition to its line of high-torque electric steering systems, the AES-35. It is designed to offer hydraulic performance with electric convenience to produce accurate electric steering for a wide range of vehicles.

“Designed for non-steer-ready and other specialty vehicles, the AES-35 is a ruggedized, weatherproof system capable of installation on in-cab and, more importantly, open-platform or non-cab environments,” said Nicola Finardi, Topcon Agriculture lead for innovation and product development. “Unlike many steering assist units in the market, the Topcon AES-35 — along with the already proven Topcon [AES-25](#) — are systems offering industry leading features that other universal or electro-mechanical units do not yet offer.

“Like the AES-25, the AES-35’s high-torque electric motor can operate in both forward and reverse to produce autosteering at all levels of accuracy when used with the Topcon AGI-4 GNSS receiver/steering controller,” said Finardi. “The AES-35 can even operate with RTK positioning accuracy, providing autosteering performance to 2 cm. It is also capable of operating with wheel angle sensors that are sometimes required in applications requiring high-accuracy with repeatability.”

Compatible with a wide range of equipment, including tractors, sprayers, spreaders, swathers and combines, the AES-35 offers new flexibility in GPS autosteering to operations that do not use cabbed vehicles.

Finardi said, “Autosteering is great technology that enables productivity and profitability. The AES-25 brought high-performance electric steering to non-steer-ready equipment. Now, the AES-35 brings that same high-accuracy electric steering performance to open-platform or non-cab equipment which opens up new markets for Topcon worldwide.”

For more information on the AES-35, visit topconpositioning.com/agriculture.

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Topcon introduces Artemis, VRC system for seed drills

TURIN, Italy – February 26, 2017 – Topcon Agriculture announces an expansion to its solutions portfolio with the addition of the field-proven Artemis variable rate control system for pneumatic seeders.

The Artemis system operates the metering unit with an electric motor — maintaining its speed proportional to forward speed, removing the need for a mechanically driven land wheel and associated mechanical drive.

“The system maximizes field efficiency and prolongs drill working life,” said John Newcombe, product manager, Topcon Agriculture. “This new addition in the Topcon catalogue provides focus to the requirements of European pneumatic seed drills. It is a solution for both OEM adoption and also to be supplied to Topcon dealers for attachment to existing seed drills.

“It can control up to four granular products at once, which allows the operator to do both seeding and fertilizing in one pass,” he said. “It also includes all normal monitoring and control functionality such as tramlining, low hopper alarms, high and low fan speed alarms.”

The system is ISOBUS compliant, allowing it to be used modularly to retrofit older equipment for upgrading and improved productivity.

Artemis can also include an optional integrated blockage monitoring designed to further increase its capabilities and maximize efficiency for operators.

Additionally, as an ISOBUS compliant system, Artemis can be used with any ISOBUS compliant Universal Terminal (UT). When Task Controller (TC) functionality is available in the UT — as with X23, X30, X35 consoles — it can also manage pre-defined variable rate application and benefit from section control capability (drill configuration dependent).

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Topcon Agriculture introduces new SI-21 Lightbar for enhanced guidance

TURIN, Italy / FORT ATKINSON, Wis. (USA) – February 26, 2017 – Topcon Agriculture announces the release of the SI-21 Lightbar, designed as a cost-effective, user-friendly product designed to complement manual guidance, providing users better visibility of steering corrections required to stay on line.

“The SI-21 Lightbar can be installed remotely by the operator, supporting manual guidance with a better view of needed corrections,” said Nicola Finardi, Topcon Agriculture vice president of Solutions Strategy Development.

The new Topcon Agriculture SI-21 Lightbar includes an integrated graphic display featuring the swath number, cross track error, speed, area covered, area remaining, and the master switch status — all designed to track performance for improved efficiency.

The SI-21 Lightbar provides operator feedback via LEDs as well as a graphics display. It offers high-visibility even in bright, sunny daylight conditions and LED brightness is independently controllable. One of the SI-21’s most important benefits includes offering a straight-ahead or “heads up” view for the operator to steer by, while allowing for a more desired, offside location for the console.

The new SI-21 Lightbar is compatible with the entire Topcon Agriculture X-Family of displays including the X14, X25, X30 and X35 and offers optimal operator visibility separate from the console.

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Topcon Agriculture Introduces new MR-2 permanent GNSS RTK base station

TURIN, Italy/ FORT ATKINSON, Wis. (USA) – February 26, 2017 –Topcon Agriculture announces a new modular GNSS permanent RTK (real-time kinematic) base station — the [MR-2](#). Combining all current and planned constellation tracking with a comprehensive set of communication interfaces, the MR-2 is designed to service any precision application requiring high performance RTK positioning.

“The MR-2 delivers navigation support for a wide-range of applications — it is an ideal component for OEMs (original equipment manufacturers) needing a custom, high-accuracy modular design for easy integration,” said Jason Hallett, vice president of Topcon global product management. “Its housing is water and dustproof and is built to withstand harsh environments with superior vibration and shock tolerances. The MR-2 is also designed as a ‘future-proof’ system — meaning it tracks all current and planned constellations — making it a smart investment in the expanding GNSS environment.”

A variety of communication interfaces such as Ethernet, serial, and CAN are available. The MR-2 also offers best-in-class multipath rejection.

Additional information is available at topconpositioning.com.

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