



Incorporating GPS data in DIDSON files

•*How do you incorporate GPS data in DDF files and verify that link is working?*

To read GPS data using the DIDSON software, you first go to "Aux->Select" and check the NMEA message(s) you wish to receive from the GPS, and set up the appropriate COM port settings to match the GPS output. The software has been recently upgraded to allow arbitrary multiplexed messages on a single COM port, but only those messages listed are recognized. If you choose multiple messages, you must make sure that all COM port settings are identical for any "checked" message type. Choosing more than one message with lat/long data has not been tested, but it should overwrite the same header locations with the last message to be received during a given frame period.

Make sure that the GPS unit is enabled for sending the desired NMEA message.

The GPS data should show up in either DEMO mode or when connected to the sonar, and are recorded automatically into the frame headers when present.

If you wish to test the DIDSON software, you can connect two PCs via a null modem serial cable, run both in DEMO mode, and check "Sonar->Test->Show Debug Data" on one application, which will cause that application to output simulated data for any "checked" NMEA messages on the corresponding COM port. The two PCs do not have to use the same COM port, however. The same data should show up in the status window of both applications.