

AssistNow Online

evaluation information

Introduction

AssistNow Online is u-blox' free, MS-Based A-GPS service that provides GPS aiding data such as ephemeris, time, coarse position, etc. for a faster Time To First Fix (TTFF).

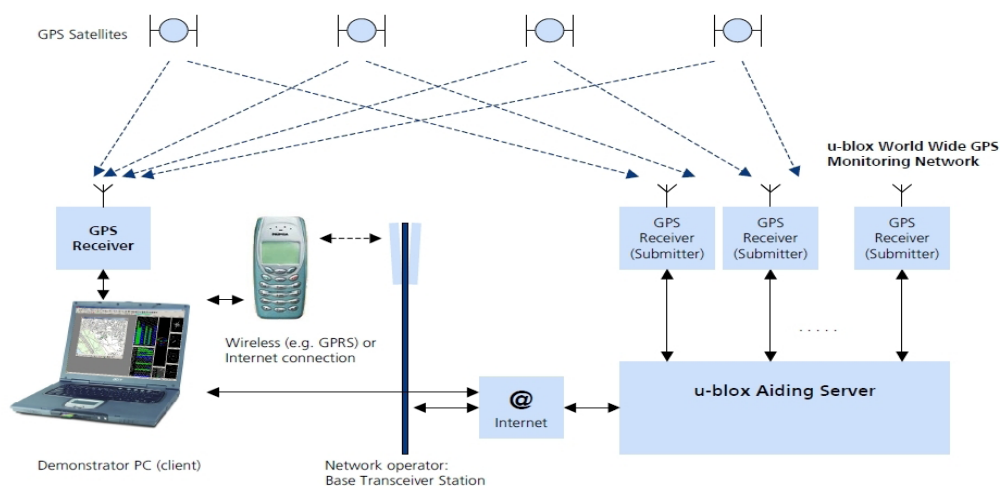
u-blox maintains a world-wide network of GPS monitoring stations, collects measurements and distributes aiding information derived from these measurements over an Internet-connected Server. The information includes ephemeris, almanac and time. This information provides u-blox GPS receivers with a faster Time To First Fix (TTFF) in situations where the receiver has difficulty collecting required data, and where Internet connectivity is available. u-blox provides AssistNow Online free of charge. This service is provided on a best-effort basis, and does not assure a defined service level regarding availability, bandwidth, latency or correctness of data.

This document describes how a user can access AssistNow Online for evaluation and demonstration purposes using u-center. The *AssistNow Online Implementation for u-blox GPS Receivers Application Note* (document number GPS-SW-09008), provides technical background about the A-GPS functionality and implementation.



The setup described here is for evaluation and testing purposes only. u-blox requires that customers using AssistNow Online for mass production use a proxy server. Implementation of this is described in the *AssistNow Online Implementation Application Note*.

AssistNow Online – Evaluation Setup



Registering for an AssistNow Online A-GPS account

To register for AssistNow Online, simply send an e-mail to agps-account@u-blox.com. An automatic reply will be generated with the following information:

- User name (same as e-mail address)
- Password
- Disclaimer / Terms of Use

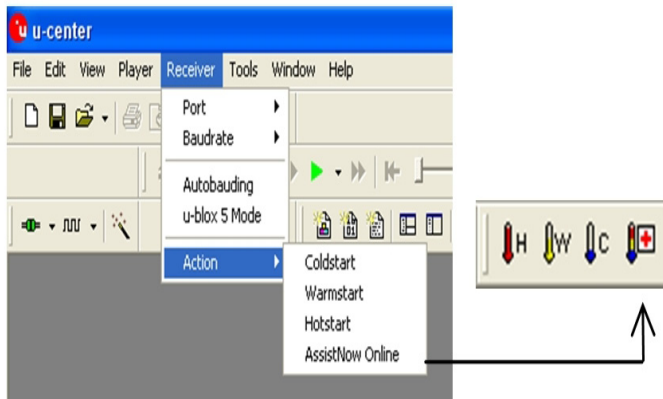
The account is activated immediately. Carefully read the attached disclaimer and terms of use before proceeding.

A-GPS with u-center

Two versions of u-blox' powerful GPS evaluation tool u center are available on our website: u center for PCs and u center Mobile for PDAs. u center can submit A-GPS requests and receive aiding data from the u-blox AssistNow Online Root Server, transfers it directly into the GPS receiver and initiates aided startups

Running A-GPS with u-center

The A-GPS service will only function if the PC has internet access, regardless if a wired or wireless connection is established. The "Action Toolbar" contains an additional symbol with a thermometer and a red-cross sign. This is the "AssistNow Online" button.



Invoking aided cold starts

1. Connect a u-blox GPS receiver to u-center and make sure that the communication between u-center and the GPS receiver is working (i.e. messages from the GPS receiver are visualized in the usual way).
2. Click on the "AssistNow Online" button. The "AssistNow Online" window appears.
3. When using AssistNow Online for the first time, specify the user name (typically e-mail address) and password. User name and password will be remembered for later use.
4. The TTFF performance depends on the distance to the last known position (= Reference Position) and the accuracy figure. Specify the last known position or estimated position and accuracy estimation.
5. Click on OK to start the download.



6. The GPS-receiver will be restarted and downloaded assistance data will be forwarded to the GPS receiver immediately.
7. On u-center, observe the acquisition performance by viewing satellite signal levels and the "Data" docking window. This docking window displays the actual TTFF after a first position fix has been made.

The "Accuracy" figure must contain a realistic value. For example, if the distance from the last known position is less than 30 Km, then specify 30000.00 m. Entering an unreasonably high accuracy figure (e.g. 9'999'999.99), or wrong reference position coordinates (e.g. Latitude = 0°, Longitude = 0°) will not provide the benefits of faster TTFF, and may even degrade performance.

Terms of Use

Terms of use for AssistNow Online, a free service provided by u-blox AG:

- u-blox grants permission, under the terms and conditions of this Agreement, to retrieve u-blox GPS Assistance Data and to use u-blox GPS Assistance Data in your Products based on u-blox technology.
- You are aware that in order to use the GPS Assistance Data provided by u-blox, you must create an application-dependent configuration of the devices to be used, which may influence operation, accuracy and availability of the said data.
- You agree not to pass on any user names, passwords or other account details in any form to third parties without written permission from u-blox.
- Furthermore, you agree that no rights related to the GPS Assistance Data are assigned to you.
- u-blox reserves the right to disable or completely deactivate an account, or to discontinue these Services at all at any time and without prior notification.
- u-blox assumes no warranty for the availability and accuracy of the information generated by the products using the GPS Assistance data such as, but not limited to, position, speed, time and acquisition performance. u-blox expressly excludes any liability in connection of using GPS Assistance Data.
- AssistNow is a trademark of u-blox AG. Permission is granted to use this trademark to promote and describe functionality, but only in connection with integrating u-blox receivers into your end products. This trademark may not be altered in any form.
- In case of questions or bugs, please contact u-blox Customer Support. Include your username, and the date/time [UTC] when you encountered difficulties in using these Services.
- The setup described here is for evaluation and testing purposes only. u-blox requires that customers using AssistNow Online for mass production use a proxy server. Implementation of this is described in the *AssistNow Online Implementation Application Note*.

Additional Information

If you are interested in finding out more about AssistNow Online, u-blox Customer Support will be happy to provide you with more information and documentation. The next step is to request the *AssistNow Online Implementation Application Note*.

Ordering information

Please contact u-blox to obtain access to the free AssistNow service.
This service is available to u-blox OEM customers.

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