How intuitive is your field software?
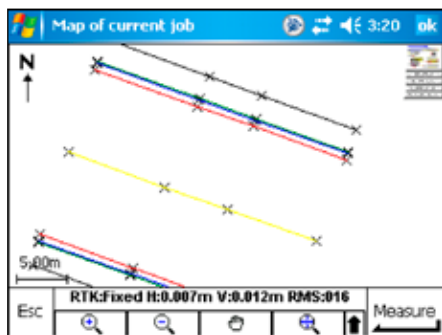
When most folks hear the term 'intuitive' they typically think of software that is, "easy to use, because it's easy for me to understand." Imagine a more potent version of intuitive: Software that is, "easy to use, because it understands me." Such is the case with the Measure Codes. Perhaps it's not clairvoyant, but it certainly is a smart way to work.

Measure Codes is a feature within Trimble Survey Controller that makes short-work of repetitive tasks. By pre-defining tasks in Trimble Survey Controller, you can streamline your daily work and eliminate thousands of unnecessary keystrokes in the field.

Rigorous attention to process has always been a key element of surveying. Sticking to a fixed workflow ensures consistency and accuracy. But removing some of the monotony of the daily grind does not have to result in sloppiness. In fact, streamlining process can actually improve overall data quality.

Measure Codes

Reduces repetition
Eliminates keystrokes
Prompts for attribute collection
Aids adherence to standards and QC

As a visual aid for QC and review, each feature is clearly designated with a unique color in Trimble Survey Controller.

The Challenge

A road cross-section survey gave us an opportunity to put Measure Codes to the test. The section of road included 9 features: sidewalk, top-back-of-curb, gutter, edge-of-pavement and centerline (plus the same 4 features on the opposite side of the street). To shorten the walking distance, we prefer a zig-zag surveying pattern, moving laterally across the cross-section, rather than a linear pattern. The zig-zag has the additional benefit of capturing points evenly for each feature throughout the entire cross-section.

Cracking the Code

With Measure Codes, we set up a Code Group of nine feature codes to account for each of the features noted above. As we moved across the cross-section from sidewalk to top-back-of-curb to gutter, Trimble Survey Controller lead the way.

In advance of our reaching each point, the software anticipated our next move, pre-populated each screen and prompted us to collect any additional attributes (such as surface type) as needed. All said, Measure Codes made for a much easier operation and saved us about 30% of the keystrokes that would have been required otherwise.

Setting up Code Groups is a simple process that takes only a few minutes in the office or the field:

1. Add group, give it a name.
2. Add codes to buttons.
3. Edit the measure codes options to suit your specific needs.

Learn more about Measure Codes in Survey Controller. An all new webinar is now available: www.trimble.com/surveysense

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