Trimble Nomad Series: Connecting to a GPS Receiver and/or a Beacon Receiver Through Bluetooth Wireless Technology

The Trimble® Nomad™ series can connect through Bluetooth® wireless technology to a Bluetooth-enabled GPS receiver, such as a GPS Pathfinder® ProXH™ or ProXT™, GPS Pathfinder XB, or Trimble Survey R8/5800 receiver, and/or to a GeoBeacon™ receiver.

Note: In this document, “Trimble Nomad series” or “the handheld” refers to all models of Trimble Nomad handheld computers. Where information refers to only one or more specific models, this is clearly indicated.

This Support Note explains how to establish a Bluetooth wireless connection between one or two of these receivers and a Trimble Nomad series using the built-in Bluetooth radio.

For more information about using the Bluetooth functionality of the Trimble Nomad series, refer to your Trimble Nomad Series Getting Started Guide.

Connecting the handheld to the receiver(s)

Note: The Trimble Nomad series has two Bluetooth serial ports. This enables you to connect to two devices (for example, two receivers) at the same time while using Bluetooth wireless technology.

Note: When connecting to devices such as the GPS Pathfinder ProXH or ProXT receivers, which offer two Bluetooth serial port services, only one of the services will be discovered and displayed in the list when you are connecting. For the ProXH and ProXT receivers, this is Bluetooth Port 1. As a result, the Trimble Nomad series can not connect to both serial port services on the device at the same time.

Repeat this procedure for each receiver that you want to connect to.

1. Turn on the GPS or Beacon receiver and make sure that Bluetooth is on.
2. On the Trimble Nomad series, turn on the Bluetooth radio:
   a. Tap Start / Settings / Connections/Bluetooth/Mode.
   b. Select the Turn on Bluetooth checkbox.

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**Tip:** If you want other devices to be able to scan for the handheld, select the Make this device discoverable to other devices checkbox.

3. Establish a partnership between the handheld and the receiver:
   a. On the handheld, tap the *Devices* tab.
   b. Tap *Add new device*.
   c. From the list, select the receiver that you want to add and then tap *Next*.
   d. Do one of the following. No passkey is required for connection to a Trimble receiver:
      – If you do not want to use a passkey, tap *Next*.
      – If you want to use a passkey, enter it now and then tap *Next*.
   e. If prompted to add the receiver to your device list, tap *No*.
   f. In the *Partnership Settings* dialog, select the *Serial Port* checkbox and then tap *Finish*. 
4. Configure the communication port to the receiver:
   a. Make sure that the receiver is selected in the list of devices and then select the COM Ports tab.
   b. Tap New Outgoing Port.
   c. Select the receiver that you want to add and then tap Next.
   d. From the drop-down list, select a COM port for the connection.
   e. Clear the Secure Connection checkbox.
   f. Tap Finish. The connection is made.

5. In the COM Ports screen, check that the Bluetooth ports are assigned correctly and then tap OK.

6. Tap OK to close the Bluetooth Settings windows.

Note: All the GPS Pathfinder XB receivers appear as BTGPS. The passkey is 0873.
To configure the TerraSync™ software to connect to a selected source of GPS signals:

1. From the dropdown menu, select the Setup section.

2. You can now do one of the following:
   - Connect to a GPS receiver, see step 3 below.
   - Connect to a beacon receiver, see step 4 below.
   - Connect to both a GPS receiver and a beacon receiver, see step 3 and step 4 below.

3. To connect to a GPS Pathfinder ProXH or ProXT receiver or a GPS Pathfinder XB GPS receiver:
   a. Tap GPS settings.
   b. From the GPS Receiver Port dropdown list, select the receiver that you want to connect to.
   c. Tap OK.
   d. Tap the GPS button to connect to the receiver.

The connection symbol appears in the status bar while the connection is made. Alternatively, tap Status/Receiver to check the information of the connected GPS receiver.
4. To connect to a Beacon receiver through the second Bluetooth serial port:
   
a. Tap **Real-time Settings**.

b. From the **Choice 1** dropdown list, select **External Source**.

c. Tap the **Settings** button beside the **Choice 1 – External Source** field and do the following:
   
   – Set **Type** to Single Base
   
   – Set the **Connection Method** to **Serial Port**
   
   – From the **Port** drop-down list, select the required beacon receiver.
   
   – Tap **OK** twice.

When the connection is successful, the radio icon appears in the status bar.