



Topcon's Millimeter GPS+™ cuts subgrade cost for Barnhill

Company: Barnhill Contracting Company
Location: SE Division/Fayetteville, NC

Project: New Brigade Housing & Training Facility
Location: Fort Bragg, Fayetteville, NC
Scope: Construct roads, curbing, and misc. concrete work
Cost: \$3,500,000

Topcon Products:
HiPer+ GPS+ base / rover
FC-100 field controller
Pocket 3D software

Barnhill Contracting is one of the largest contractors in North Carolina. This established company specializes in highway construction and site preparation. Barnhill Southeast Division owns and operates four asphalt plants, and focuses on paving as a major part of their business.



Kermit Moser,
vice president, manager
SE division

Kermit Moser, vice president and manager of Barnhill's southeastern division, was impressed with Topcon's Millimeter GPS+™ right from the start. "When I first heard about this new system," he said, "I thought to myself 'This is a lifesaver for us.'"

Barnhill typically figures a seven percent overrun of base stone in bids to account for subgrade inaccuracies. "On this project at Fort Bragg, that seven percent has been reduced substantially."

Moser described another ongoing project being graded with Millimeter GPS. "Coastal / Benchmark put a system on our Cat 12H grader on the Highway 87 project in Bladen County," he said. "We had success with it right out of the chute - it performed great."

Barnhill demonstrated Millimeter GPS+ performance to North Carolina DOT engineers. "We let them check a 1,500-foot section of road. It was dead on." NCDOT has authorized Barnhill to use Millimeter GPS+ in place of a stringline-controlled graded as required by contract specs.



Millimeter GPS+ has proven itself to Barnhill Contracting. "We've increased our fine grading production from 2,500 to over 4,000 square yards per day," Moser stated. "Our job analysis shows that our costs for road subgrade preparation are 18% less than we projected."

Steve Carlyle, 25-year veteran grader operator, commented on using Topcon's Millimeter GPS+. "Out on Highway 87, I tripled my production even cutting four to five tenths off to get to subgrade," he said. "I like the control box - it's easy to operate. You don't have to worry about dialing in cross slope - it's all done automatically."



Steve Carlyle,
grader operator

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