

## **Florida engineering & surveying firm found in space**

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Ft Myers, Florida -- The National Geodetic Survey (NGS), the eminent scientists in the geodetic world, maintain four GPS CORS Sites in Florida: MacDill (Tampa), Cape Canaveral, Miami and Key West. The black hole, the void, the space is southwest Florida: Lee and Collier County.

Finstad Land & Spatial Surveying Corp. (FLSSC), a Woman Owned Business Enterprise (WOBE), owns and operates their three CORS sites: Orlando, Largo and Bonita Springs. The Bonita Springs site lies between Ft Myers and Naples.

FLSSC is in the heart of the NGS hole, the void, and the space.

Finstad Land & Spatial Surveying Corp received national recognition with NGS publishing their GPS CORS site position established as a Type "A" monument.

The closure on Finstad's cors site is 1:10,000,000 (one in ten million) This position is based on statewide HARN sites and relative to the existing control monuments. NGS velocities and calculated NAD83 and ITRF 97 coordinates were obtained using NGS standards.

The Type "A" monuments are the highest order of accuracy in surveying. Type "A" monuments are utilized when public safety is of the highest priority: transportation systems: airports, highways, bridges; high rise buildings, theme parks. Additional Type "A" monuments are established only from existing Type A monuments. Thus, creating an extremely high order of accuracy networking.

In 1999, Finstad was invited to participate in the NGS Statewide GPS networking: a monumental handshake effort joining the public and the private sectors to a common goal: high order accuracy in the existing monuments.

Millions of hours were donated by a wide variety of public agencies: NGS, FDOT, Orange County, Hillsborough County just to name a few. Donation of their facilities, equipment and personnel together with a number of private engineering and surveying firms donating their facilities, equipment: office and field, and personnel collecting the field data and performing the post processing. This has saved taxpayers millions of dollars.

Finstad's Bonita Springs location provides an additional published control point to fellow professional in closing their fully constrained geometric figure. This is an invaluable blunder control procedure. Remember all GPS performance criteria is a function of the number of satellites visible, obstructions, baseline length, multipath, environmental effects, availability of L1/L2 signals, occupation times and observation conditions.

**Site Data:**

**Station Name:** FIN1 **Location:** West Terry Avenue, Bonita Springs, Florida **Equipment:** Ashtech Z Receiver/Choke Ring Antenna Geodetic Base Station Software

Mrs Mary E Finstad, a Professional Land Surveyor & Mapper, was born and raised in Fairbanks, Alaska where she commenced her surveying career in 1978 with her husband,

Clint, an engineer and Land Surveyor. As a Florida resident since 1986, Mrs Finstad, residing with her husband in Naples, has concentrated on establishing a firm foundation in the surveying world and kept up with the latest technology: hardware and software. This is reflected through the accomplishments in both GPS networking and the utilization of their CORS site.

For additional information you may contact Finstad at: [clintmary@worldnet.att.net](mailto:clintmary@worldnet.att.net) Or NGS Cooperative CORS web page: <http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/>

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CONTACT: Mary E Finstad, PSM/Pres Voice Tel: +1 239 274 9518 Fax: +1 239 596 1096

Contact: CONTACT: Mary E Finstad, PSM/Pres Voice Tel: +1 239 274 9518 Fax: +1 239 596 1096