

GPS Dome 1.0

Installation Manual



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Introduction

This guide details a generic instruction for the installation and operation of the GPS DOME module. This guide has been written for both static and in-vehicle application although GPS DOME may be used in a range of applications.

Overview

GPS DOME (see Figure 1) is a compact, light-weight GPS anti-jamming module, designed to prevent loss of position fix and time in the presence of certain types of jammer. The unit may be installed on a range of installations that rely on GPS and connects between antenna and the GPS receiver.

Two active GPS antennas are connected to the SMA RF connectors; the primary and auxiliary antenna inputs. The RF Output provides connection to the input of the GPS Receiver.



Figure 1: GPS Dome – General view

Cautions

- (1) **The GPS DOME module should be mounted on a flat surface where possible and secured using the mounting holes provided.**
- (2) **To prevent damage to any cable assemblies used in this installation, ensure that cables are not bent, deformed or snagged to cause damage to the internal wiring or the connector ends.**
- (3) **This product is a high-tech electronics module; we recommend installation is undertaken by a professional.**
- (4) **During installation ensure there is NO power applied to the module. Make sure the GPS receiver is not powered.**

Installation

Installation Kit

Open the GPS DOME packing box to check that the contents of the kit of parts have been supplied as shown in Figure 2 and Table 1. Refer to the specification details on page 13.



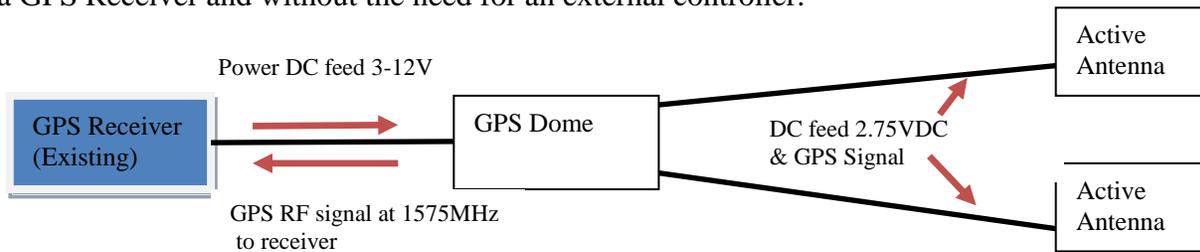
Figure 2: GPS Dome Box Contents

Item No.	Description	Qty.
1	GPS Dome 1.0	1
2	Taoglas AA.105.301111, Reference Antennas	2
3	Installation & User Guide (this Guide as required)	1

Table 1: GPS Dome Box Contents

GPS Receiver System with GPS DOME

The GPS DOME module is integrated into the static or vehicle GPS receiver as shown in Figure 3. Two antennas are connected to the module (supplied antennas or locally purchased for permanent installation); the GPS antenna connects to primary input 'P' and an additional antenna connects to the auxiliary input 'A.' The GPS DOME module is enabled/disabled automatically by the GPS receiver. It operates independently with a GPS Receiver and without the need for an external controller.



Figur 3: GPS Receiver with GPS DOME Integrated

SMA Cable Connectors

To prevent the risk of moisture ingress, it is recommend that a cable with high quality sealed SMA connectors (see Figure 4) is used to connect between the GPS DOME module and the GPS receiver unit. The cable must be of a high RF specification, and a good double shielded cable is recommended, such as Times Microwave LMR-100A-PVC. Single shielded coaxial cable is not suitable. If alternative antennas are installed the same cable specification and SMA connectors are required.



Figure 4: Unsealed and Sealed SMA Connectors



Installation Procedure

Before commencing the installation procedure read the **CAUTIONS** detailed on page 3. The following instructions are provided to install the GPS DOME system:

NOTES:

- (1) Installation and methods used to secure the GPS DOME system may vary depending on the application.
- (2) Use general purpose tools to carry out this installation procedure unless specific tools are called up in text.
- (3) The GPS DOME module is IP67 certified as long as the recommended SMA connectors are tightened to the correct torque and the cables are sealed using the correct sealant.
- (4) The reference antennas (Table 1, Item 2) are supplied with 3m cable lengths and are supplied for test purposes and temporary installations only. We recommend that for permanent/long term installations, magnetic antennas are replaced with locally sourced antennas.

Step 1. With reference to Figure 5, carry out the following:

- a) Mark out and drill four holes suitable for M3 screws.
- b) Allowing for ease of cable connection, align the GPS DOME module to the holes.
- c) Secure the GPS DOME module using appropriate fixings (not included), such as four self-tapping M3 screws.

Step 2. With reference to Figure 6, the location of the two antennas to be fitted is as follows:

- Locate the antennas to a suitable area on a horizontal surface that always faces the sky, e.g. on the roof area.
- Avoid placing the antennas near obstacles including: roof racks, other antennas such as AM/FM and cell phone that could block a clear view of the sky, preventing the satellite signals from reaching the antenna.
- Ensure that there is 10cm separation distance between the antennas.

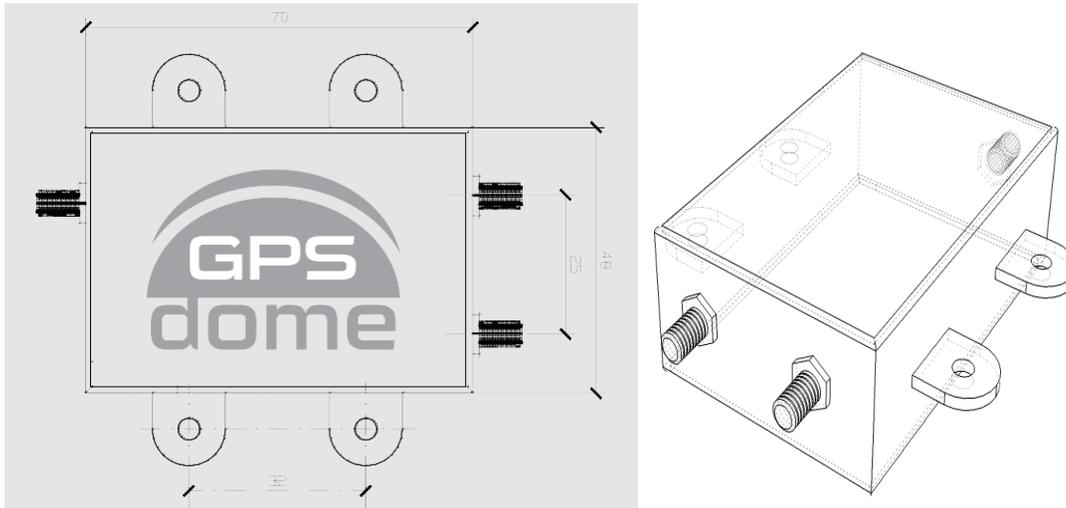


Figure 5: GPS Dome Mechanical Interface

NOTE:

Step 3 is not mandatory and may vary depending on the application and specification.

Step 3. With reference to Figure 6 to route each antenna cable, carry out the following:

- a) Mark out the required holes for each antenna, 10cm apart, and drill the appropriately sized holes.
- b) Fit the correct size rubber grommet (not supplied) onto each antenna cable.
- c) Taking care to avoiding sharp objects that can damage the antenna cables, push a cable through each drilled hole.
- d) Fit the rubber grommets around the drilled holes.
- e) Secure the antennas as appropriate.



To prevent damage to any cable assemblies used in this installation, ensure that cables are not bent, deformed or snagged to cause damage to the internal wiring or the connector ends.

- f) f) Route the antenna cables away from moving parts, under the carpet and behind plastic trim, to the GPS DOME module location.

Tips:

It is recommended that the cable between the GPS DOME and the GPS receiver is kept short. The GPS antennas are required to be located as far away from other RF jamming sources as possible.

There are large variations in the performance of GPS receivers supplied by different manufacturers. GPS DOME adds an anti-jam capability to all receivers, but the overall anti-jam performance of the combined system will depend on performance characteristics of the receiver.

GPS DOME reduces jamming signals that enter the receiver through the antenna port. However, a poorly-designed receiver can also absorb the jamming signal through the body of the receiver itself. A good receiver will have EMC shielding to prevent leakage of RF radiation through its sides; if this is not the case, and a better receiver can't be used, install the receiver in a shielded case.

If possible increase the distance between the GPS DOME antennas and any jamming source. For example, if there is a jammer operating from the cigarette lighter socket in a car, locate the antennas towards the rear of the vehicle.

If GPS DOME is installed in a complex environment, such as a vehicle, experiment with the placement and orientation of the antennas for best results. Due to the complex propagation environments within vehicles, different installation options may produce a higher or lower performance.

Figure 6: Example GPS Dome Installation

Step 4. Connect and secure the following cables to the GPS DOME module using an SMA torque spanner set to 1Nm (8.85 in-lbs):

- a) Antenna 1 cable connector to the auxiliary antenna input '**A**' connector.
- b) Antenna 2 cable connector to the primary antenna input '**P**' connector.
- c) The RF output to receiver '**R**' connector using a locally sourced cable, for example, Times Microwave LMR-100A-PVC fitted with high quality sealed SMA connectors. The other end connected into the GPS receiver, RF antenna input.

Step 5 Coil and secure any excess cable into a hidden location, such as under the carpet, using wire ties (not supplied).

General Operation

The GPS DOME module operates without manual intervention.

Two LEDs located on the GPS DOME module, provide the following indications:

- LED 1 - When the module is powered ON and operating correctly; a green LED is illuminated.
- LED 2 - The presence of a jamming event is detected; a red LED is illuminated.

If the GPS DOME system fails to operate correctly refer to Troubleshooting on page 12.



Maintenance

GPS DOME does not contain any user-serviceable parts and contains no moving parts. With reference to the CAUTIONS on page 3, no maintenance is required apart from examining all the cable assemblies for secure connection, damage and corrosion.

Troubleshooting

Nothing is working and my GPS receiver does not acquire lock

Complete the following steps, in order:

- Check that there are no obstructions (e.g. buildings, trees or tunnels) around or above the installation; move to another location as necessary.
- Isolate any internal jamming sources; switch off all other electronic devices.
- Check all cable connections for damage, excessive bending and are correctly secured.
- Check that the GPS receiver functions correctly when connected directly to ONE antenna, without GPS DOME connected. Repeat with the other antenna. If both antennas are confirmed as OK, then reconnect GPS DOME.
- Check that the antennas are connected to GPS DOME '**P**' and '**A**' connectors, and that the SMA connectors are tightened.
- Check that the GPS DOME '**R**' connector is connected to the GPS receiver, and that the SMA connectors are tightened at both ends.
- Check that 12 VDC power supply is connected to GPS DOME; the voltage is correct and the fuse is serviceable.
- Check that the green LED is ON, if fitted (is lit when 12 VDC is present and an active GPS receiver is connected).

Jammer Rejection Performance is Poor

There are many factors that determine how well GPS DOME performs, including:

- Being in an environment where signals are blocked.
- GPS receivers are slow to lock when moving, so it may help to wait for a good signal before driving off.
- The properties of the jamming source (power, waveform, direction).
- The type of GPS receiver being used.
- The GPS DOME installation may be incorrect.

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- The distance between GPS DOME and any jamming sources (the bigger the better).
- The propagation environment (open field, in-vehicle, urban, etc.).

Help and Support

The GPS DOME help and support contact details, is as follows:

Phone: +972 (0)4 770 7700

Email: info@gpsdome.com

Specifications

Table 2 details the Environmental & Electrical Specifications. All specifications are at nominal supply (3 - 12V) and temperature (+25°C) unless otherwise stated.



Table 2: Environmental & Electrical Specifications

Item	Parameter	Description/notes	Value			Units
			Min.	Typ.	Max	
Physical Operational Environmental						
1	Temperature range		-10		+85	°C
Default System Configuration						
RF Specification						
2	Protected frequency	GPS L1		1575.42		MHz
Power Supply Specification						
3	Supply Voltage	Receiver DC line	+3		+12	Volt
4	Supply Consumption	Including antennas		0.5	0.6	Watt
5	Antenna Bias	Voltage Current per o/p Self re-setting fuse		2.75 10 200	25	Volt mA mA

Antenna parameters

Item	Description	Value			Units
		Min.	Typ.	Max.	
Type	Active GPS Patch				n/a
Elements			2		n/a
Gain			30		dB
Noise Figure			2		dB
Supply Voltage			2.75		Volt
Supply Current		2	10	20	mA