

THE NAVSTAR GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM

The Navstar Global Positioning System (GPS) is being developed and deployed by the U.S. Government. The system will beam continuous and precise radio signals to users anywhere on earth, at sea or in space.

Each navstar, an octagonal aluminum structure with wing-like solar array panels, is built to function for at least 7.5 years. Each contains a radio system that broadcasts continually on two frequencies. The heart of the system is a set of atomic clocks so precise that they would gain or lose just one second in 70,000 years. These clocks are the advanced technology which make Navstar's precise accuracy possible.

Ground receivers can be installed in ships, planes, and ground vehicles. Some are light enough to be back packed.