Taking the wait time out of precision farming

CHALLENGE

Row crop farmer Brandon Hunt farms 10,000 acres of corn, wheat and soybean in Southwestern Kentucky. He had years of use out of his RTK system (or base station), but recently, he’s noticed the service would go out at certain points during his operations, especially under trees or in bad weather conditions. When RTK base station issues cropped up, they could be stuck for hours or even days without the ability to do their work.
APPROACH

Upon meeting with H&R Agri-Power, serving Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee, he made the switch to Trimble’s CenterPoint® RTX satellite delivered correction service given the technology’s benefits to farmers in remote locations.

Running Trimble’s TMX-2050 True Tracker implement guidance with active steerable hitches and CenterPoint RTX, Brandon was able to repeatedly position implements to within 1” every time he entered the field. Because of the year-over-year repeatability of this system, they were also able to use implement guidance on the cover crop seeder to plant cover crops in the middle of where the strip would be.

RESULTS

After the switch, Brandon was able to farm more acreage and have more crop coverage, while also worrying less about downtime.

Since signing up for Trimble’s CenterPoint RTX service, Brandon has noticed the implement guidance platform has been especially beneficial on his corn planters given the rough topography in Kentucky - which usually makes it challenging to stay on their guidance line.

With the addition of Trimble CenterPoint RTX, he sees increased value to his work in creating a much less stressful environment for him and his workers as they don’t have to manage an RTK base station and have more area they can cover.

He’s convinced: “Trimble RTX has made my life so much easier because it’s made my operators’ lives easier.” Driving is so much easier with Trimble RTX on their planters, sprayers and combines simply because they never have to deal with the difficulties of a signal going down.