Fred and Leroy Hofmann from Sutton, Nebraska, grow corn throughout the South Central region of the state. Fred and Leroy originally chose an RTK base station to power their precision agriculture equipment, but often had issues receiving corrections due to foliage around the property. In order to obtain the RTK signal needed to reach every vehicle on every part of the farm, they were forced to set up an array of GNSS RTK base stations. This was costly and creating extra time, effort and expense every planting season.
APPROACH

The Hofmanns knew they needed to make a change to this process only two years into their RTK base station setup. They worked with Crossroads GPS in York, Nebraska to identify CenterPoint RTX via satellite as the best correction service to eliminate their RTK base station headaches. By doing so, they knew they could cover every corner of their property with sub-inch GNSS accuracy and have the ability to drive wherever they needed to go, including certain fields where RTK signals simply couldn’t reach and didn’t work.

RESULTS

Since moving to Trimble CenterPoint RTX correction service, the Hofmanns are able to move much easier from field to field without the need of moving a base station, saving them time and increasing productivity. Though moving a base station might seem like a small inconvenience to many, repeating this chore added up to a significant time expense for these farmers.

Trimble’s CenterPoint RTX has completely changed their thinking on GNSS correction services. With their subscription, the satellite delivered correction service works anytime and anywhere; there is never even a chance for a lost signal. Now in their second year of using the service, the Hofmanns couldn’t be happier with the results. They don’t worry about anything other than turning on their Trimble GFX-750™ display, Autopilot™ automated steering system and Field-IQ crop input control system - which, as part of the Connected Farm works with CenterPoint RTX to keep them on line, day after day, year after year. Not only are they saving money, but they get the same level of repeatable accuracy and haven’t missed a beat on their farm. In their words:

“Don’t mess around with RTK, go straight to CenterPoint RTX and be done with it.”