



MEASURING THE EARTH

THE SCIENCE OF
GEODESY

TIMING AND WORLD MARKETS GPS and financial markets, such as the New York Stock Exchange, have become intimately linked. Not only does GPS provide a precise location, it also provides a precise time from multiple atomic clocks onboard GPS satellites. These atomic clocks keep time within billionths of a second. Precise timing allows for synchronization between global financial computers, in a system where time-stamping of trade orders could mean the difference of millions of dollars.

Photo: Manhattan from the top of the Empire State Building by Daniel Zietlow, UNAVCO



a monthly series on the how and why of geodesy