

NRI Ground Control Station (GCS) – The key to successful mission planning

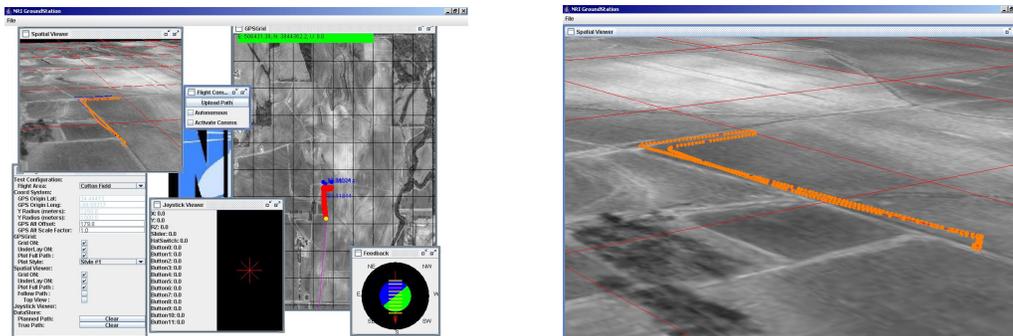


The optional NRI Ground Control Station (GCS) is a self-contained Windows-based application that unlocks the power of fully autonomous flight for the AutoCopter. The GCS enables mission planning in 2D using stored satellite images. Flight plans are uploaded to the AutoCopter via wireless data link and enable the aircraft to takeoff, fly its programmed route, and land fully autonomously. During flight the aircraft state data (aircraft attitude, altitude, speed, and other parameters) are relayed to the GCS via wireless data links and displayed in real time on the GCS screen in 2D and 3D.

The joystick control enables the user to interrupt the planned flight and take control of the AutoCopter anytime during the autonomous mission. The joystick can be used to maneuver the AutoCopter for any of the basic flight modes, including landing. After assuming control of the AutoCopter with the joystick, the user may re-engage the fully autonomous mode and the aircraft will resume its programmed flight. Additionally, the GCS enables the user to save flight plans, export flight plans, obtain feedback for analysis, and import previously constructed flight plans.

The GCS range is limited only by the data link capabilities. NRI uses 900 MHz data links that are capable of 40+ miles with (Line-of-Sight) when configured with Yagi antennas.

The GCS includes NRI's proprietary software, notebook computer, joystick, wireless modems for the computer and the AutoCopter, all cables and antennas, plus the operators manual.



Screen shots of the Ground Control Station (GCS)

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