

## Re-starting an RT200 System from Storage

### Recommended maintenance

#### Summary

The RT200 system requires minimal maintenance to keep it up-to-date. The ideal time for system maintenance is during the off-season before the system is first used for the season or taken from storage and re-mounted.

#### Recon

**PowerBoot Module (battery):** NTech recommends that the Recon be kept on a charger all the time to maximize life of the PowerBoot Module (battery). When stored for a long time without a charge, it may fail. Place the Recon on its charger and confirm that the PowerBoot can be fully charged and will hold it. (A failed PowerBoot will not hold a charge for more than ~30 seconds.) Visit <http://www.tdsway.com> for more information on maintenance of the Recon PowerBoot Module.

**Software:** If the Recon PowerBoot Module is disconnected or drains, all information in the Recon's volatile memory will be erased. This includes all software and documents. It is important to accept the "Restore from backup" message when first powering up.

It is recommended to check for software updates at NTech's website. The current version of RT Commander software and the current published algorithms are available.

#### GreenSeeker Sensors

**Windows:** Cleaning the GreenSeeker sensor's two windows is necessary for its optical detection system. Use a moist towel to clean the windows of all sensors. This maintenance can should be continued throughout the year as chemical overspray will build up on the windows.

**Housing seal:** Inspect the GreenSeeker sensor for cracks or breaks in the housing to ensure that the weather-tight seal is still in tact. If condensation is seen inside the sensor, there is a risk of malfunction of the sensor, and it should be returned to the factory for repair.

**Corrosion:** If re-mounting, add dielectric gel to all of the GreenSeeker sensor's 12-pin connectors prior to connecting cables or terminators. This will help prevent corrosion. *Note: Dielectric gel is the same as the silicone "tune up" grease found in automotive stores.*

#### Cables

**Cuts:** Inspect all cables for cuts or breaks to prevent the possibility of an electrical short or intermittent signal.

**Gaskets:** All cable-ends that insert into the GreenSeeker sensor ports should have a black o-ring. Verify that the o-rings are present and in good condition.

**Pins:** Inspect the pins for straightness prior to connecting to the sensors or Interface Module. Clean any debris or corrosion that might have accumulated on the cable pins with an aerosol electrical contact cleaner. Once cleaned, add dielectric gel to the cable ends.

#### Interface Module

**Connectors and Ports:** Clean any debris or corrosion that might have accumulated on the connector pins with an aerosol electrical contact cleaner as necessary. Once cleaned, add dielectric gel to the connector pins to protect them from chemicals and moisture.

**Power:** Connect the +12V battery cable to the Interface Module and confirm that the “Power” and “Status” lights flash momentarily along with three quick beeps.

*RT200 System connected*

The following steps are easier to verify once the entire RT200 system is re-connected and the previous maintenance steps are completed.

**Interface Module:** Check the status lights on the Interface Module and verify that they are flashing and that the power light is on solid.

**GreenSeeker sensors:** Begin an RT Commander test job and position the system over a uniform background (shop floor, yard, etc.). Use a common target such as a dark blue or green towel and place it about 2-3 ft below each sensor. Observe the NDVI value on the Recon, and verify that each sensor makes the NDVI value rise by roughly the same amount. This will help to locate a GreenSeeker sensor that is having trouble.

**NTech Industries, Inc.** [www.NTechIndustries.com](http://www.NTechIndustries.com)

740 South State Street Ukiah, CA 95482

707-467-3747 phone 707-467-3750 fax

405-707-3044 phone 405-707-3041 fax