



Post-hoc analyses of the telemetry data recorded by ArcPad[®] have also proven to be a veritable gold mine of information. Since field teams primarily work from a moving vehicle, the speed the vehicle is travelling when an observation is made has a significant impact on the accuracy of the location data. For example, a vehicle travelling at 25 mph will be off by more than those made at 45 mph. After a field team returns to the office, the data points that the field team has collected are married with the "speed over ground" attribute of the nearest tracklog point, indicating at what speed that the vehicle was travelling when the observation was made. This information can be used to assess the accuracy of the location data collected on a later expedition. Data collection metrics can also be developed and assessed for each geologist or field team, with a goal of improving performance: the time a team spends collecting data in the field, the average vehicle speed while collecting data, the number of observations collected per hour, the number of observations per mile, and the number of additional notes made by each geologist can all be quantified and compared.

When combined with touch knowledge of the G13 controller, a geologist can add a quick drop point that contains the minimum information necessary to be considered a "good" observation with a single glance and click on the computer screen. The process typically takes between one and five seconds, substantially increasing the amount of reliable data that can be recorded from a moving vehicle.

In the STATEMAP field vehicle, the G13 is placed on the center console (see photos below) and the user controls the G13 with the left hand, while controlling the pointer in ArcPad[®] with a mouse in the right hand. Graphical “cheat sheets” for each of the three menus are typically taped to the dashboard of the vehicle for quick referencing. These have been reproduced graphically above as pictures of the customized ArcPad[®] tool icons superimposed on a picture of the G13.

