# Use your iPhone as GPS for HYPACK®

By Boris Schulze

Recently, I was on a ship doing a test survey. Sitting on the back deck, I wanted to check out a few HYPACK® features, but every time I started SURVEY, it didn't work well, as I did not have a GPS hooked up to my laptop. I could have run the simulation driver, but I wanted to have real positions. Buying a GPS mouse is another solution, as they are really cheap now, but not for me then and there.

Nearly all of us have a Smartphone which has a built in GPS. So, how can we get the GPS data into a laptop and HYPACK®?

I searched the web and found an app that does exactly what I wanted: it acts as a GPS Server, streaming the GPS data via the network (GPS2IP for iPhone, GPS Tether and btGPS for Android). I will concentrate on GPS2IP due to a lack of an Android phone. But the setup is similar for Android phones.

1. **Make sure your laptop and phone are connected** using the Hotspot on your phone or you are on the same WLAN.
2. **Setup GPS2IP to use the hotspot and a socket.** When this is done, it shows you the server connection on the main screen.

FIGURE 1. *Screenshots from GPS2IP*
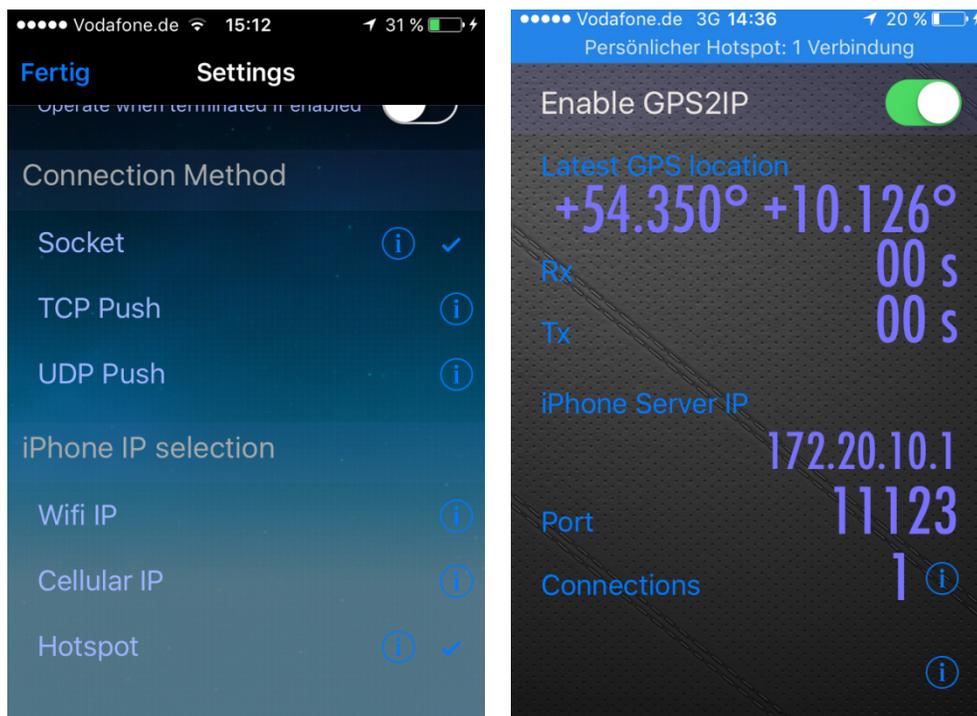
3. **Set up HYPACK®.** Just select the GPS NMEA-183 driver in HARDWARE and set the server settings you read off the screen of the app in the device connection settings:

FIGURE 2. *Configuring the GPS Driver in HYPACK®*
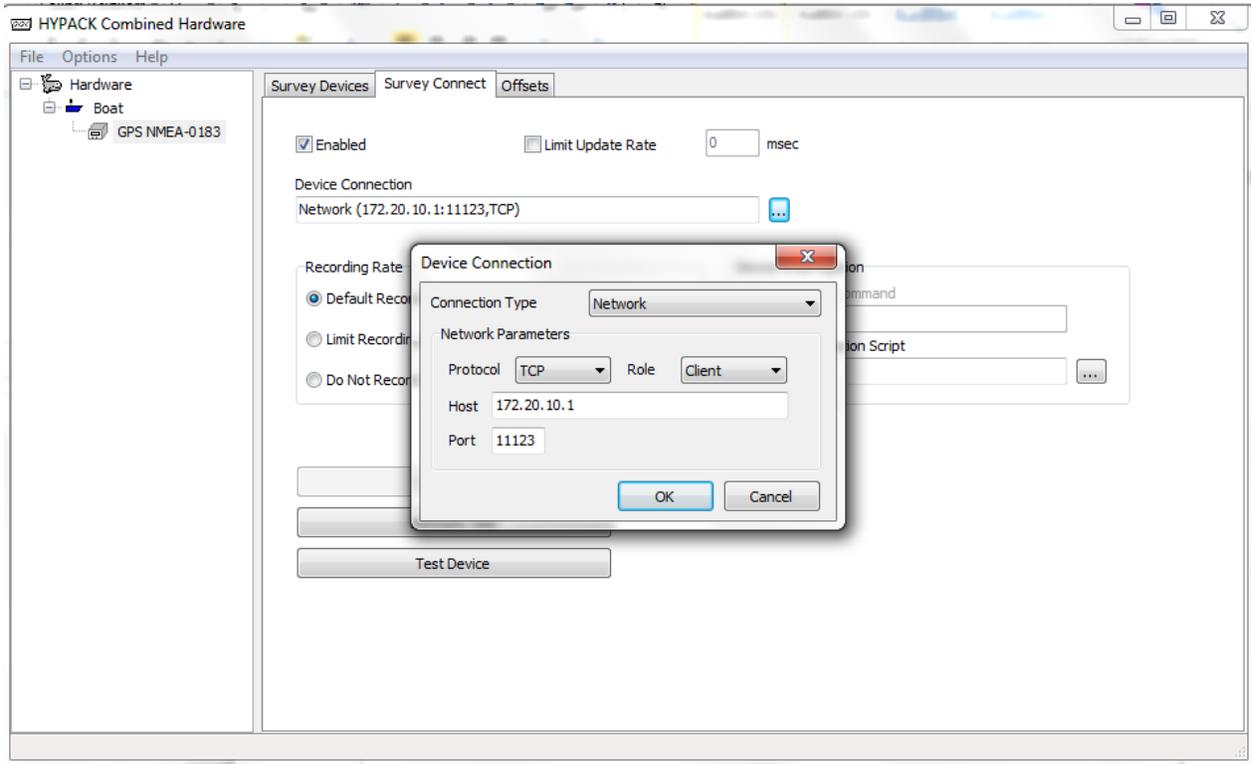
4. **Test the device** and see if the data is coming in:

FIGURE 3. *Testing the Device*

If this works you are ready to go.

5. **Start Survey and enjoy!** Just don't use this as your normal survey setup; the GPS in your phone will never replace your proper GPS receiver! The accuracy of your Phone GPS is probably only 5-10 meters (or 15-39 feet), so DO NOT USE IT for a proper survey! However, if you want to play around with GPS and you do not have the possibility to setup a proper GPS, this is a nice little tool.

Try it yourself and let me know what you think!