

Here are some of my postings in rec.aviation news group.

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Mon, Feb 21 2005 5:10 pm

I went up with a friend who is a CFII to do some night IFR last Tuesday. Everything went fine, except when So. Cal. cleared me to RAL for CNO GPS-B while I was going out bound from the published hold at PDZ, I could not get RAL programmed into my Trimble 2000 Approach as the IAF. I tried it again, and it just sequenced to HINTIN by itself. RAL VOR was out, so I could not pick it up on my NAV/COM. Finally, my friend gave me a heading to RAL from his Anywhere Map. Everything went fine after that.

I will study my Trimble 2000 Approach's operation to find out what I did wrong. But my friend's Anywhere Map showed me the value of having a color moving map during IFR approaches, and now I want a color moving map for myself.

I know panel mount like Gramin 430/530 or 480 w/MX20 are nice, but I have no budget for a panel mount right now. So, I am looking for the best portable map FOR IFR FLIGHT on the market.

The following are a list of features that I wish for. But I am willing to settle for something that is as close as possible:

Color,  
Bigger the better (to help with my aging eyes),  
Approach procedures (at less with final approach waypoints like Garmin 296, but all waypoints, including waypoints for ILS and DME, will be nicer),  
Holding patterns,  
Terrain warning,  
Vertical navigation for published LNAV/VNAV and LPV approaches (are they available on any protable?),  
Automatic log book.

I will consider PDA or PC based system as well.

Your suggestion?

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Tues, Apr 12 2005 11:53 am

JeppView/FliteDeck is the best kept secret in GA. Jeppesen market heavily to airlines, corporate, jet operators & part 135, but did not

do enough to market this package to GA. I have only subscribed to their southwest service for 2 months and I am loving it! So far I use it the way you intended - replace my paper charts subscription. However, the potentials of FliteDeck, both at home & in aircraft, are unbelievable.

JeppView v. paper Jepp charts.

Pro:

Easy update, your computer does the work v. What a pain

Update through mail & website, available anywhere v. Mail only

No more heavy flight bag v. Weight depending on subscribed areas, could be significant

Can be installed on 4 PCs (home, office, airport & portable pc) v. One 1 set of charts

Limited flight plan function v. None

FliteDeck v. None

Con:

Must print to use, but JeppView makes printing easy to manage v.

Already printed

Limited flight plan function unless you also get FlightStar v. None

What makes JeppView/FliteDeck a good buy is FliteDeck, even if you only use it at home in simulated mode to familiar yourself with the planned flight. I tried to use it in my plane on my portable, but it seems difficult because the size of my portable PC. I have order a sun light readable touch screen monitor designed for car PC, and it should arrive this week. My plan is to use my portable PC connected to the \$200 touch screen and my old Precedus GPS. I will mount the monitor within my view, and the portable PC could be kept anywhere within the reach of all cables. To increase reliability, I reformatted my hard drive, and installed only programs that I need for aircraft use. Since I already have the PC & GPS, my hardware investment is only \$200 for the monitor.

Preliminary testing shows my portable PC not having enough computing power for track up mode, but it is ok on north up mode. If this setup works well, I might upgrade my portable PC to a car PC which could have all computing power & memory my budget could afford.

I have very limited experience with AnywhereMap, thus, I am not qualify to compare JeppView/FliteDeck with AnywhereMap. TureFlight seems to be a very good program too, but it also uses government charts. I am so used to Jepp charts and the few times I used government charts, I just did not like them.

Overall, JeppView/FliteDeck subscription is the less costly and "legal" solution for my charts, update, & moving map requirement in a format that I am familiar with. Plus, if and when I get FliteDeck to work, I will have the same moving map as those jet pilots.

Information on affordable sunlight readable touch screen monitors  
[www.mp3car.com](http://www.mp3car.com) (general info & forums)  
[www.xenarc.com](http://www.xenarc.com) (well known brand)  
search on ebay for Tview T-700TS (cheap, I mean affordable brand)

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Sat, Apr 16 2005 6:02 pm

In an earlier subject, Jeppview vs. paper Jepp Plates, I was waiting for my touch screen to arrive so I can use it to display JeppView/FliteDeck moving map. Anyways, it arrived on last Tuesday, and I went to airport to hook it up, and took it for a ride. And it works! It is very sun light readable, the moving map looks great and the touch screen control works fine.

I only went up for a short VFR flight, and did not try approaches. But while taxiing in Chino, when ground told me to "continue on Lemma, right on Golf, left on Delta, right on Beta, then left on ramp," I watched my green arrow progressing on FliteDeck, anticipated every turn, and IT WAS SO COOL!

The previous subject soon became Jepp bashing, and I think Jepp deserves it for Jepp has been pricing itself out of GA's private plane market for years, and my feeling is Jepp was not serious about little guys like me. FliteDeck was a separate program from JeppView, and it was close to \$1k.

Earlier this year, I was in need of a new color moving map, but I have NO BUDGET for the new Garmin 296; and my charts subscription is due for renewal at the same time. My search for a moving map and charts subscription led me to decide on JeppView/FliteDeck because it is the most economical solution IN MY CASE. Yours might be different. And here is why:

I already have an old Toshiba portable PC that is too slow for anything else, so my hardware cost is zero for the PC, and \$200 for the screen. My paper charts subscription for California would have been \$144, but for \$100 initial setup and \$195 a year, I get computer charts and FliteDeck moving map program. Total investment this year is about \$500, and \$195 for each following years.

I know how most of you dislike Jeppesen the company, and so do I. However, if you have been admiring the magazine ads for that moving map on high end avionics, like Collins ProLine 21, Avidyne EX500 or UPSAT MX-20, but cannot justify spending that kind of money for high end avionics, take a look at JeppView/FliteDeck. With the extra PC you

already have, the same moving map could be have for a song (in aviation signing, that is).

BTW, although I have no experience with those high price EFB computers or monitors, it seems to me that you could have the same, or close enough performance for a lot less money if you choice hardwares designed for cars.

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October 26, 2006

After these postings, I added a used WxWorx for \$275 plus \$29 per month for service. The Toshiba is not powerful enough to run WxWorx. I gave our son Woody our old TV for his room as bribe, and he gave me his Dell portable which he never used (he has a much faster desktop). The Dell has more memory and handles WxWorx just fine.

Next feature: stereo music. The Dell can play mp3 music files. I added a stereo cable from the Dell to our PS Engineering portable intercom (\$6.00 to Radio Shack). I guess I can play video on those long cross-country flights too, but that might be too risky even for me. Now, I have in-flight entertainment!