### Now for the REDBIRD FMX



How many people and institutions have been duped by the Redbird Company? Over 170 based on the figures given by their CEO.

ANN Guest Editorial By Jerry Gregoire, Redbird Flight Simulations

Urgent Aero News.net

Urgent ANN Guest Editorial: Flight Training In The Time Of Insecurity

Tue, 21 Jun '11

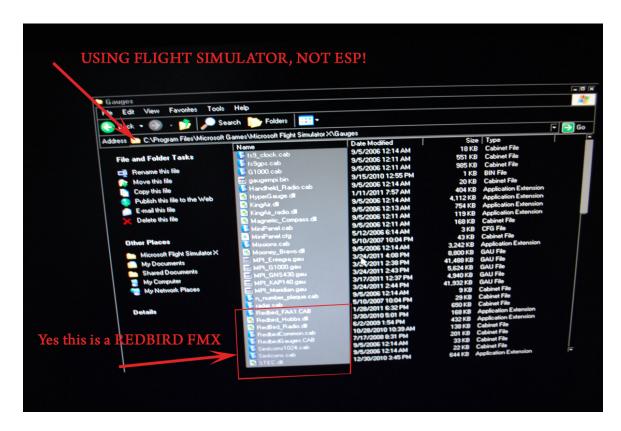
One should read his article he is truly the "one and all knowing and God's gift to flight simulation"

Jerry says that they have sold 170 full motion flight simulators and is more than anyone has ever sold over any period of time. It is also less than 5% of the available market. Lots more work to do (and people to take advantage of).

What Jerry does understand is the way he has built his company, purely based on a carnival ride, Hokus Pokus! Of course most people do like carnival rides until they get motion sickness.

Redbird has built their simulators based on Microsoft's Flight Simulator, not Microsoft's ESP nor Lockheed Martin's Prepar3d. No disrespect to Microsoft Flight Simulator, it's a great product that took years to develop unlike the Redbird company (just a few years old).

FYI, Microsoft Flight Simulator goes back to 1979 for the Apple II. <sup>3</sup>



The biggest problem is with the FAA certification, is it really certified? According to the FAA's AC 61-136 it's NOT! Read below, taken from the FAA advisory circular!



(zoom in)

### **READ ON!**

### The FAA states:



# Advisory Circular

Subject: FAA Approval of Basic Aviation Training Devices (BATD) and Advanced Aviation Training Devices

(AATD)

Date: 7/14/08 AC No: 61-136

Initiated by: AFS-800 Change:

(1) Contain a detailed description of the hardware and software components that comprise the device configuration presented for approval. A detailed description should be submitted for each device configuration if approval for more than one device configuration is desired. The description of the hardware and software components must include the manufacturer and model or version number of each component, or other such information necessary to correctly identify each component in the particular configuration:

"Contain a detailed description of the hardware and **SOFTWARE** components that comprise the device configuration presented for approval!

Redbird's Qualification Guide states they are using **Microsoft's ESP** but they are intentionally using **Flight Simulator FSX** (big \$\$ savings to Redbird and a violation of their GAG).

- g. The ATD manufacturer must include copies of the following documents with each ATD manufactured and delivered for sale under an acceptable QAG:
  - A copy of the AFS-800 manager's letter of approval and authorized use of the ATD,
  - A copy of the ATD QAG for all aircraft configuration(s) represented,
  - A list of the ATD major hardware and software components as mentioned in paragraphs 3c(1) and 4a of this appendix, and
  - Aircraft performance information for the aircraft or family of aircraft being represented.

AC 61-136 Appendix 2

i. A manufacturer or operator who changes an ATD in any manner must send a revised QAG to the FAA for approval as described in paragraphs 3b and 3c. An ATD that has been changed from the most recent QAG criteria may not be used for any authorized purpose until the FAA approves the changes.

### 4. COMPATIBILITY OF SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE COMPONENTS.

- a. An approved ATD consists primarily of two components: software (programming) and hardware (central processor, monitor or display, appropriate flight and power controls, and avionics). The software and hardware components must be compatible because the hardware sends "values" from sensors to the software by means of voltage and digital inputs (e.g., avionics frequencies, switches, and buttons). Hardware and software compatibility are assured when the hardware manufacturer and the software developer work in close cooperation to develop the correct union of inputs for the ATD.
- **b.** In some cases, the hardware manufacturer and the software developer do not work together in developing the ATD. Instead, the software is "licensed for use" to the ATD manufacturer and incorporated into the device. In those cases, the manufacturer must attest in writing that all hardware technical requirements (analog and digital input values) are compatible with the software used in the ATD. To do so, the manufacturer should obtain a "compatibility statement" from the software developer, which may, at the FAA's discretion, be used to satisfy this requirement. The following is an example compatibility statement:

"This is to certify that <Name of Software Company or Developer> has demonstrated that the operating system and/or functional kernel(s) <Software part number and version/revision>, is fully compatible with <Name of ATD Manufacturer, Make and Model> and can assure that the communications/transport data latency is not greater than 300 milliseconds all analog and digital input signals meet the performance criteria established for software performance by the ATD manufacturer."

We would love to see the document from Microsoft that allows them to use FSX in their sims.





Since Microsoft does not authorize its use, the simulator is NOT APPROVED! PERIOD, END OF STORY! What about all that pilot logged time?

### Read'EM and Weep!

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Sounds like Redbird owes the aviation community an explanation! Love to hear it.....

Now what happens next? Up to the FAA I guess and their marketing arm King Schools (wonder if they know?)

More to come.

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