

PS1 INSTRUCTOR STATION

© Garry Richards 2003, 2004

Restricted Release – Version 1.1.7 Alpha

This version is for testing only. It is incomplete and may contain bugs. Please do not share this version with anyone who is not a member of the alpha test group.

A public beta release version of this software will be made freely available to the PS1 community when it has sufficient functionality and has been properly tested.

Requirements

This software runs under the Microsoft .NET framework version 1.1. If that is not already installed it can be obtained through the Microsoft Windows Update web site. Running the software without the .NET framework installed will be unsuccessful and may cause Windows to display misleading error messages such as 'file mscoree.dll missing'.

The .NET framework requires a PC with a Pentium processor. It will not work with 486 processors.

PS1InstructorStation will run under Windows 98 and Windows XP but is being developed under XP. Its appearance may be different under Windows 98 and I am unable to compare the two as I have access to XP only.

Your PS1 and Broker folders need to be shared across your network.

Installation

Copy PS1InstructorStation.exe and PS1InstructorStation.pdb to a folder of your choice on a PC that is not the PS1 PC. Make a shortcut to PS1InstructorStation.exe if you wish.

The .pdb file contains debugging information and is essential during the testing phases. Updates will always include new versions of both files.

First Usage

Start at least the Broker, 747IPC and PS1 first and then run PS1InstructorStation.

You should see a window of size 1024 x 768 pixels containing various buttons, plus a data display. The software has been designed for eventual operation through a touch screen in the cockpit. That is why the size is fixed and the colours are muted. The buttons can also be pressed using the normal Windows methods of course.

Click on the CONNECT/DISCONNECT button. A fresh window will appear.

If you are not using the standard broker port (1863) change the value in the port box to your port number.

Click on LOCATE 747 BROKER. A file dialog will open. Use it to find the Broker (747brok.exe) in the bin folder under the main Broker folder. Click on 747brok.exe and the dialog will close. A message will appear giving the location and ipaddress of the Broker.

Click on CONNECT TO 747 BROKER. If the window then disappears you have connected successfully. The data display at the top right should now show live data from PS1.

If the window remains, the program will be locked for one minute while it tries to connect. If it fails you will see an error message.

You can avoid ever having to revisit the connection page by ticking AUTO CONNECT TO BROKER but ensure that you always have PS1 running before starting the instructor.

Functions

In this version all malfunctions will trigger immediately when clicked. The button will change from green to red.

No other functions do anything yet but you can click on any button. Some produce a visual effect such as changing colour but they do not yet communicate with PS1.

On the PRESETS page you can right-click on some buttons, such as Ceiling, to bring up a keypad and enter a value.

Errors

Should a program error occur, a window will appear with a heap of technical information. Please copy and paste the text into an email and send it to me.

Development

The malfunctions should be triggered by a variety of means, not just immediately. I have already developed a triggers page and run it past Matt. As I program each trigger I will send you updates for evaluation. I want to have all triggers working in time for WorldFlight 2004. Matt has offered space on his web site for the public release and this may happen in time for that.

Thank you for being a tester.

Garry Richards
30/09/04