Subject: [c-a] ANR Headset Test!

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[The Canard Aviators's Mailing list]

We just flew back from Golden West with this little report. I see John already let those of you who did not attend that we had over 40 EZ's sitting on the ramp. Anyway one of the headset vendors "DRE" were really good sports about testing their ANR headset setup in a direct comparison against the top of the line Bose.

They had a pretty sophisticated array of headsets in a row all hooked up to one main intercom. They had a large speaker sitting directly in the middle of the group that covered all the engine noises both low and high. In the test were DRE's setup and headset, Bose, and both the Lightspeed 20k and the new 25K.

They turned up the volume to a significant roar and we went about listening both passively and with active noise cancelling on comparing each make and the two Lightspeed models. The results between 4 testers were:

- 1. Lightspeed 20K was every bit as good at noise cancelling as the Bose and it was more comfortable both in the headset and in the pocketbook.
- 2. Bose This was an excellent headset but in our combined unanimous agreement...not worth the difference in the price.
- 3. Lightspeed 25K It was excellent but it seemed there was very little if any difference between the 20K and the 25K. The one new nice feature on the 25k is that it has an automatic shutoff for those of us who tend to forget to turn it off after a flight. (Very nice)
- 4. Sadly the DRE unit/headset. Though Lightspeed and Bose were clearly (soundwise) better at cancelling noise the DRE put up a good fight but just were not in the same league. We were really rooting for them too!

Please understand that this was a highly informal test and all the headsets were MUCH better than any of the old passive stuff.

Sorry some of you didn't make Golden West but from the looks of it this event will be around getting better each year.

Tim VZ26FM

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