

AUDIO UPGRADES

# PMA450 Audio Panel: True Dimensional Sound

*A new plug-and-play audio control system from PS Engineering that enables you to spatially position audio sources in different areas of the headset.*

by Larry Anglisano

## INTELLI AUDIO

That's what PS Engineering calls the patented technology that it licensed from the United States Air Force. Since fighter pilots (and GA pilots, perhaps to a lesser extent) are inundated with multiple types of audio signals at once, the branded IntelliAudio—which Air Force pilots know as Multi-talker—helps present the audio sources in a way that's more intuitive to process, or at least in a way that mimics how the human ear hears and registers sound.

IntelliAudio places Comm 1 and Comm 2 audio in various positions within the stereo headset, making simultaneous incoming radio signals sound as if they are coming from different locations.

For example, the user can place the signal sources in nine unique positions. The intent is to make it easier for the pilot to concentrate on the radio of choice while ignoring the radio of lesser importance at the time. For example, the pilot can choose to pay attention to ATC while ignoring an ATIS broadcast, depending upon what is pertinent at the moment.

## CHECKLIST



Audio setup and configuration is presented in an easy feature set.



Dimensional audio could reduce workload when using multiple radios.



## THE BETTER WAY

I think PS Engineering's Dimensional Sound IntelliAudio really is a better way of processing multiple audio signals. Frankly, I dismissed the technology when I first used Garmin's 3D audio feature that's present on the GMA350/35 audio panel because I found it to be overwhelming, especially when passengers are talking on the intercom.

In my estimation, PS Engineering did a good job of designing the HTRF function so that it's easy to configure and change on the fly. When I flew with it, I positioned Comm 1 in the left side of the headset and Comm 2 on the right. It seemed to be a logical configuration, based on a standard radio stack configuration. But on panels that are nonstandard (maybe the second Comm is located on the left side of the panel), you can adjust the audio to play where you want it.

The positioning of the audio was so precise that I often forgot the audio was confined to the headset. That speaks volumes about the technology in general. Contact [www.ps-engineering.com](http://www.ps-engineering.com), 865-988-9800.