

Re: Garmin GPSMAP 296 Spoken messages/alerts in aviation mode?

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- *From:* Jack Erbes <jackerbes@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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Frank wrote:

Frank wrote:

I am using my Garmin GPSMAP 296 in small airplanes.
Now I am wondering, when
you connect the external speaker to the GPSMAP 296, do
you get voice messages
in aviation mode?

Mark wrote:

In the owners manual Rev. A page 69 it makes mention of audible alerts on
the
terrain page.

Thanks for pointing to this section, but there is no mention in the manual if this is a spoken
voice alert or just a warning tone. It would be nice if the unit speaks out a "terrain" or
"obstacle" alert just like a real TAWS. Although I think the GPSMAP 296 must be
technically very capable of doing this, I am unsure about this.

Mark wrote

I have seen some headsets that have a jack to add audio to the
headset.

<http://www.anrheadsets.com/products30-3g.asp>

Some of the newer audio panels will have inputs for a external audio
input
and some intercom units will have a aux input also.

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If its an a/c you use alot you could add the jack to the audio panel or intercom and have it for adding music if you wanted to.

And if you are in there add the power to the gps also and then the battery can be charged while you are using it.

You will have to get the power / data cable with bare ends.

hook up the power and audio and cap off the data wires unless you have a GNS430/530 then you can connect the 430/530 to the 296 and see the flight plan on the 296 from the 430/530.

Mark, thanks for the information. I shall check with the aircraft operator if he gives me the possibility to add external audio to the audio panel or to the intercom or I shall look into the possibility to add the audio to the headset.

Frank,

The manual has a details on configuring the alarms and audio outputs. It has a setting for what language to use. It certainly implies spoken guidance, not just simple noises.

It also shows the details of the wiring in the cable and the connecting pins on the 296. The simplest solution might be to get the DC adapter with the built in speaker, if that worked out okay wiring it as an input to an intercom could be explored.

If you want it to be an audio input to typical aircraft intercom system it will require a little "engineering" but it might be as simple putting a plug on the audio pair, plugging it into an intercom controller, and setting the VOX levels to respond the the voltage rise when the GPS speaks.

I have a StreetPilot 2610 GPS receiver that uses a similar speaker and DC adapter, it works very well and is easily heard even in a moderately noisy automobile. Open speaker audio is not going to work in a typical light aircraft but buying the adapter would let you test it and give you the cable and a good starting point.

Jack

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Jack Erbes in Ellsworth, Maine, USA – jackerbes at adelphia dot net
(also receiving email at jacker at midmaine.com)

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