

Owner/Operator

By Tom Benenson

Display Device Is Sunlight Readable

A SUNLIGHT READABLE DISPLAY device, dubbed t-Pad 800 (tactical pilot awareness display), was introduced by navAero at the EAA AirVenture. The display is an eight-inch diagonal color touch screen, 600x800 pixels, (portrait mode) attached to a curved aluminum base that fits around a pilot's leg. Connecting the device to a laptop computer lets it mirror whatever programs are running on the PC. Programs that can be displayed on the t-Pad include FliteMap, JeppView

FliteDeck, Mountainscope, Flightsoft/Vista or anything else that can run on the PC. "If the weather's good, you can even let the kids in back watch DVD movies," suggested Ken Crowhurst, vice president of marketing at navAero. According to Crowhurst, the brightness of the screen is infinitely controllable so it is very readable in direct sunlight but also can be dimmed for night operations. The t-Pad 800 display, priced at \$995, comes with two software programs; one provides the touch screen capability, and the other, PivotPro, changes the display orientation from landscape to portrait. There may soon be more surprises from navAero. The company, Crowhurst said, is working on a collision avoidance system that passively monitors transponders and will display the bearing, distance and alti-

tude of all aircraft—and all lighting—detected within 10 nautical miles. The company is aiming at a "price point" of about \$1,500 for the system, and while it would prefer users run it on a t-Pad, the traffic alert system will run on any display unit. For more information, call 866/628-2376 or 312/346-0683; www.navAero.com.

