

Alabeo DA42 Twin Star V2

GTN 750 Implementation



Revised Feb. 2017

Alabeo DA42 Twin Star V2 GTN 750 Implementation (Revised)

This is a Flight1 GTN750 implementation for the Alabeo DA42 Twin Star V2 for FSX, FSX_SE and P3D. It replaces the original virtual cockpit MFD with the GTN 750 touchscreen, while retaining the Engine Information System sidebar. The EIS sidebar has been recoded so as to remove gauge element interference with adjoining GTN display, and resizing and positioning so that the GTN screen display fits tight without any gaps between the bezels and the gauges for seamless integrated look.

It features:

- Flight1 GTN750 MFD integration in the 3D COCKPIT, with functional on-screen GTN menus
- G1000 MFD popup, with the popup shortcut moved to the lower bezel of the MFD or SHIFT + 2, thus providing access to GTN 750 screen buttons for the top radio bar.
- GTN 750 popup, using the triangular button on the left bezel MFD or SHIFT + 3.
- GTN Direct-To using the Direct-to button on right MFD bezel.
- Set up XPDR, COM and NAV radios is possible in the virtual cockpit GTN750 by pressing hidden buttons under the top bezel.
- Functional original G1000 MFD radio, heading and altitude knobs are retained, as are left bezel buttons (freq. swap and GTN popup).
- Two alternatives for the panel.cfg are provided:
 - **DA42NoRadioBar_panel.cfg** - displays the main map screen minus the top radio bar.
 - **DA42RadioBar_panel.cfg** another displaying the lower buttons of the radio bar as well as the full map.

What you give up in the virtual cockpit:

- The G1000 MFD in the visual cockpit loses its native functionality (except the engine systems information sidebar), so you must rely on the 2D G1000 MFD popup, which is unaffected. The lower buttons and right bezel button are disabled for the VC G1000 MFD.
- The GTN750 HOME button, as well as the radio and volume knobs and buttons, are not accessible on the virtual cockpit.
- For the virtual cockpit GTN 750 you have access to all main screen buttons, and while not visible, you can access the bottom row of the Radios Bar on the top bezel of the G1000 MFD (COM, XPDR and NAV buttons), plus Intercom and COM monitor can be pressed to enable their respective screen popups.
- In both options the bottom status line is not visible, so as to maintain a reasonable aspect ratio of the Map screen, particularly the compass rose. The Radios top bar option flattens the rose circle a bit on the map, but it might be a compromise you might want to live with.

These panels have been tested with Windows 10 64bit, Prepar3D v.3.4 and FSX Acceleration.

If you have any questions, PM me at jfrexach@yahoo.com.

Jorge Rexach

HOW TO INSTALL

You should have the following files:

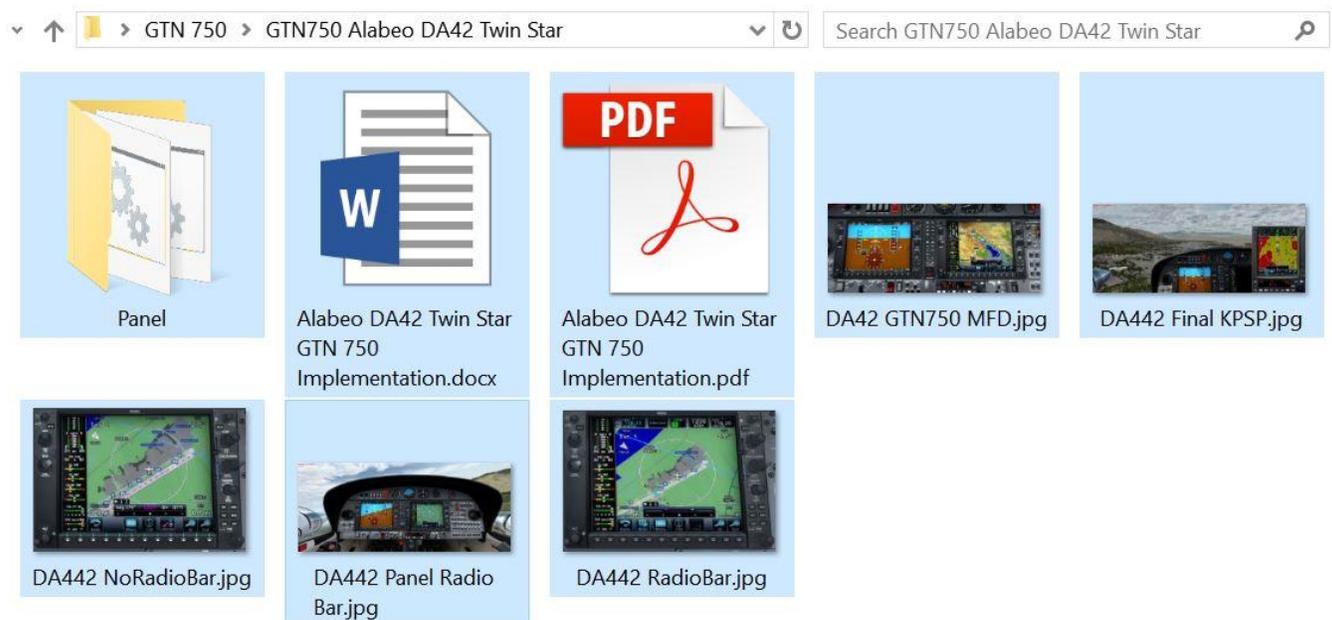
- ...\\P3D-FSX\\simobjects\\Airplanes\\Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\\Panel\
 - DA42RadioBar_Panel.cfg
 - DA42NoRadioBar_panel.cfg
 - OriginalPanel.bat
 - RadioBarPanel.bat
 - NoRadioBarPanel .bat
- ...\\P3D-FSX\\simobjects\\Airplanes\\Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\\Panel\\ DA42_G1000\
 - G1000_GTNMFDEMBP100.xml
 - GTN750_MFD_STARTUP.bmp
- ...\\P3D-FSX\\simobjects\\Airplanes\\Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\\Panel\\DA42\
 - iconpanel_background.bmp
 - ToggleCAR14401.xml
 - ToggleDirectTo.xml
 - ToggleCLEAR.xml
 - ToggleCOM_SWAP.xml
 - ToggleENTER.xml
 - ToggleFPL.xml
 - ToggleMENU.xml
 - TogglePROC.xml
- This readme file.



A. EASY INSTALL PROCESS:

This is a very straight forward, easy installation for the GTN 750. Note that the “Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star” is the DA42 Twin Star folder in my installation. You must substitute with your aircraft root folder, however the gauges subfolders **DA42_G1000** and **DA42** should not be renamed.

1. Copy your panel.cfg in the \Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\panel folder, and paste it in the same folder. Rename the resulting "panel - Copy.cfg" as "**OriginalPanel.cfg**". This backs up your current configuration, and allows use of the provided bat file to automate the restoring of your original configuration. Note: “Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star” is the name of my Alabeo DA42 Twin Star aircraft root folder, yours might be different.
2. Copy your current installation’s ... \Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\panel folder and call it **panel.bkup**. There are never enough backups!
3. Copy the entire files from the provided GTN750 Alabeo DA42 Twin Star files into your Alabeo DA42 Twin Star root folder.



This action will copy into your Alabeo DA42 Twin Star root folder all the required files and folders without affecting your existing files and folder structure.

4. You should have 4 *.cfg files in your main panel folder '**DA42RadioBarPanel.cfg**', '**DA42NoRadioBar_panel.cfg**', as well as your '**OriginalPanel.cfg**' and **panel.cfg**.
5. Batch files have been provided to create the desired panel.cfg. These overwrite the panel.cfg residing in this folder without any confirmation prompts. If you have altered the current panel.cfg file, **make sure**

you have backup copies (reread Step 1) before overwriting with these batch files, and have updated these changes to the remaining panel configuration files, or your work might be lost.

6. You must create the desired panel.cfg, as at this point you have your original panel.cfg. Execute the appropriate batch file to create the panel.cfg file of your choice. These are:

- RadioBarPanel.bat : copies the *DA42RadioBar_Panel.cfg* to panel.cfg
- NoRadioBarPanel.bat : copies the *DA42NoRadioBar_panel.cfg* to panel.cfg
- OriginalPanel.bat : restores the OriginalPanel.cfg you renamed in Step 1.

7. Verify that all folders and files within the '\Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\Panel' folder have been created into new folders '**DA42_G1000**' folder and '**DA42**' folder.

8. You must have also configured the GTN 750 into your aircraft so that the F1GTN.ini (in the aircraft's root folder) and the F1GTNSTACK.ini (in the panel folder) are present. If not, run the F1GTNConfigP3D or F1GTNConfigFSX first. You might also copy these files from a previous aircraft GTN 750 installation.

9. That's it. Go fly. If you don't see any changes, recheck the panel.cfg file.

To switch between the alternative GTN displays, use the batch files provided. Remember, if you modify your panel.cfg file, you should manually update these changes to the other GTN config files (*DA42RadioBar_Panel.cfg*, *DA42NoRadioBar_panel.cfg*, and *OriginalPanel.cfg*) to ensure these are not lost if you overwrite in the future.

To revert to your original configuration file, use the *OriginalPanel.bat* to copy the 'OriginalPanel.cfg'. Alternatively, you can manually copy the backup copy from the 'panel.bkup' folder to the 'panel' folder, overwriting the current panel.cfg. The gauges subfolders '**DA42_G1000**' and '**DA42**' will not interfere with your original installation.

B. MULTIPANEL INSTALL PROCESS:

This involves creating a different panel folder for each panel version. Before you start, follow steps 1 and 2 above to back up your existing files and configuration.

1. Make a backup copy of the AIRCRAFT.CFG in your aircraft root folder (e.g. ... \simobjects\Airplanes\Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\aircraft - Copy.cfg).
2. Copy your panel.cfg in the \Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\panel folder, and paste it in the same folder. Rename the resulting "panel - Copy.cfg" as "**OriginalPanel.cfg**". This backs up your current configuration, and allows use of the provided bat file to automate the restoring of your original configuration.
3. From your aircraft root folder, make a copy of the current panel folder for as many variations as you might need, e.g. :

```
... \Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\panel\  
... \Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\panel.GTN\  
... \Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\panel.GTN2\  

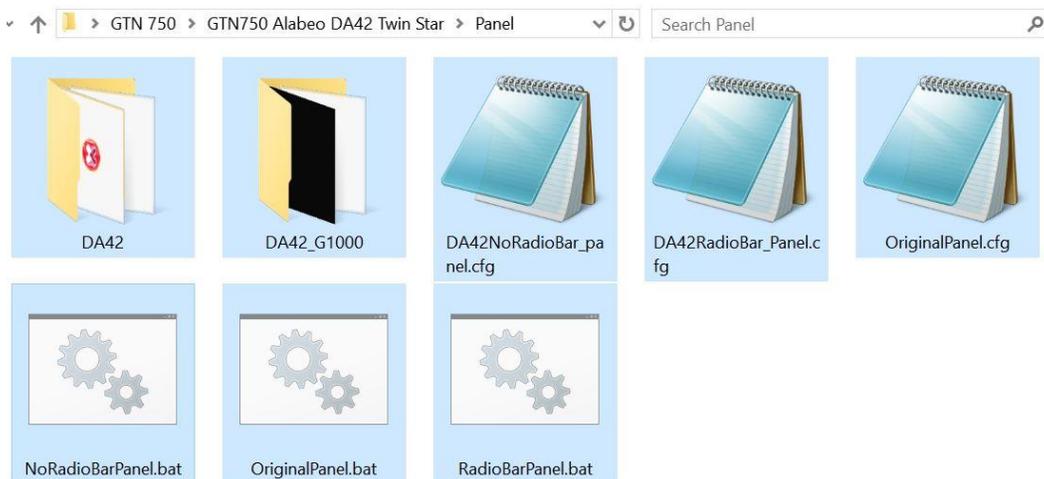
```

- Verify that you have the F1GTN.ini file in the Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\ root folder. This file was created when you install the Flight1 GTN 570 software to the Alabeo DA42 Twin Star. If you have not installed the GTN to this airplane, make a copy from another of your aircraft, or run the F1 GTN configuration utility.
- Open the aircraft.cfg file using notepad, and at the beginning of the file is the section of the different liveries of your aircraft. Copy the [fltsim.X] section for your favored livery and paste it below last one. Then change number X in [fltsim.X] and use next in sequence. Then change the title to identify GTN version and add gtn to panel line. If you don't need original G1000 you can just modify panel line to panel=gtn.

Example:

```
//*****
// ALABEO DA42 TWIN STARFSX/P3D
// Copyright © Alabeo 2015 - All Rights Reserved
//*****
[fltsim.XX]                ---> change XX to next number
title=Alabeo DA42 Twin Star WHITE GTN      ---> change title to identify modification
sim=P100
model=
panel=                ---> add folder suffix (for panel.GTN folder add GTN after '=' sign (no spaces))
sound=
texture=
kb_checklists=
.....
visual_damage=1
```

- Verify that you have the F1GTNSTACK.ini file in the **\Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\panel** folder, or copy it from another aircraft with GTN 750 installed.
- Unzip the attached panel.zip files into a temporary folder, open the panel subfolder, highlight all folders and files, right-click and copy all to the newly created **panel.GTN** in your installed Alabeo DA42 Twin Star folder. You should have the following new folders and files (plus those files from your copied panel folder):



- ...\\P3D-FSX\\simobjects\\Airplanes\\Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\\Panel.GTN\\
 - DA42RadioBar_panel.cfg
 - DA42NoRadioBar_panel.cfg
 - RadioBarPanel.bat
 - NoRadioBarPanel.bat
 - OriginalPanel.bat

- ...\\P3D-FSX\\simobjects\\Airplanes\\Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\\Panel.GTN\\DA42_G1000\\
 - G1000_GTNMFDEMBP100.xml
 - GTN750_MFD_STARTUP.bmp

- ...\\P3D-FSX\\simobjects\\Airplanes\\Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\\Panel.GTN\\ DA42 \\
 - iconpanel_background.bmp
 - ToggleCAR14401.xml
 - ToggleDirectTo.xml
 - ToggleCLEAR.xml
 - ToggleCOM_SWAP.xml
 - ToggleENTER.xml
 - ToggleFPL.xml
 - ToggleMENU.xml
 - TogglePROC.xml

8. Open your flight simulator and select the aircraft with the GTN panel (remember the title change in the [fltsim.x] section of the aircraft.cfg file.

9. If you don't see your GTN aircraft livery:

- Check the aircraft.cfg file. Your "panel=XXX" must have a corresponding "panel.XXX" folder
- Check panel folder structure and naming for correctness.
- Check panel.cfg file version, you might not have overwritten the original config file.
- Check folders to ensure they contain the required files.

10. To restore to the original files:

a) Check that you have the backup panel folder and files within

...\\simobjects\\Airplanes\\Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\\panel.bkup"

b) Check that a backup copy of the aircraft.cfg exists in

...\\simobjects\\Airplanes\\Alabeo DA42_Twin_Star\\aircraft - Copy.cfg

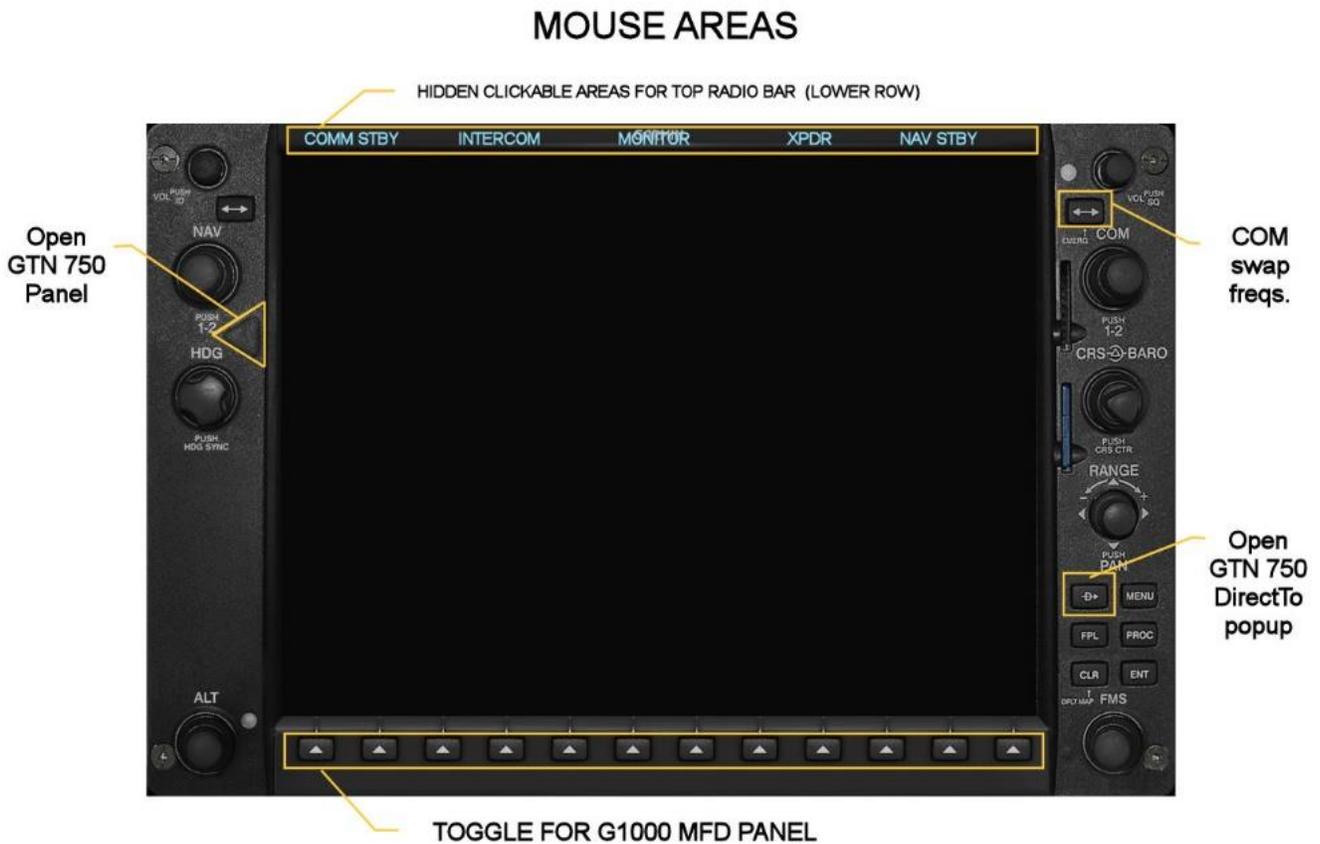
c) If you confirmed a) and b):

- 1) Delete or rename the aircraft.cfg file and then rename the aircraft - Copy.cfg to aircraft.cfg.
- 2) Delete the panel folder and all its files.
- 3) Rename the "panel.bkup" folder to "panel".

11. If you experienced problems with this last installation process, I would recommend you follow the easy steps which do not require creating different folder structures for panels, nor modifications to the configuration file. In this case, to revert to the original panel all you need to replace is the original panel.cfg file.

C. CLICKABLE MOUSE AREAS:

All knobs on the DA 42 Twin Star G1000 MFD bezel are enabled, as well as the buttons on the left bezel. On the right side, the COM Swap button is enabled, and the DirectTo button is configured to open the DTO popup window in the GTN 750.



The MENU, FPL, PROC, CLR and ENTER buttons on the right lower bezel are clickable dummy buttons for possible future shortcuts to Home, Flt Plan, Proc, Map and other GTN750 screens as soon these input codes become available.

The 2D G1000 MFD toggle has been moved to the bottom bezel, clearing the top bezel for access to the hidden radio rows.