

## Cirrus gets a new Perspective by Garmin

May 20, 2008 by Thomas B. Haines, Editor in Chief

Apparently management at [Cirrus Design](#) saw [Garmin International's](#) “gotta, gotta get a Garmin” ads for the Super Bowl and then went and got a Garmin—in fact, a whole panel for their Cirrus SR22 G3 line.

I had the chance to sample the Perspective panel and the other features unique to it, including a new paint scheme, last week at Cirrus’ Duluth, Minnesota, factory. Look for a feature article on the enhancements in the July issue of *AOPA Pilot*. But for now, here’s an advance look at the highly capable system.

First, in order to choose the innovative Perspective option, customers must order a fully optioned SR22 G3 or Turbo G3.



The Perspective panel is not just another G1000. Unique to Cirrus, at least for now, are impressively large dual 12-inch displays. The primary flight display features Garmin’s recently announced [synthetic vision technology \(SVT\)](#) and several crew alerting messages.



Also unique to Garmin is a blue “LVL” button on the GFC 700 autopilot mode controller. The LVL button is a pilot’s get-out-of-jail-free card when things are starting to go bad. Simply push the LVL button and no matter what mode the

autopilot is in or even if it is off, the autopilot will roll the wings level and hold altitude. The system gives the pilot time to figure out what's happening with the airplane or the automation and solve it before things get out of control.

The autopilot and the features of the PFD and MFD can be accessed through knobs and keys on a panel just below the MFD and above the newly redesigned throttle. The panel includes alpha and numeric keypads for entering waypoints, frequencies, and transponder codes.

The Perspective package includes a more capable and fault-tolerant electrical system and new environmental control system. The option adds 40 pounds to the airplane's empty weight and costs about \$48,000 more than the Avidyne Entegra system standard on Cirrus models.

So, what do you think about this latest safety feature? Have you found yourself in a situation where you wished you could have pushed an LVL button?

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