

Embraer Legacy-600

Developed by Feelthere, Published by Wilco

Reviewed by Ken Hall (UKV1142)



Oh! I wish I'd had (access to) one of these.....

I dread to think of the countless hours I have wasted just sitting around airports waiting for a flight to commence or strolling around "airside" waiting for a connection. All of my business flights were out of Leeds Bradford and involved an initial flight to Brussels, if I was bound for the Scandinavian or Baltic states, or via Schiphol for onward transfer to Central, Eastern or Southern Europe. Typically that would involve an hour waiting to board the initial flight and, depending on timetables, a couple of hours or more waiting for the connecting flight. The Friday return to the UK was always even more frustrating – especially considering the airlines' propensity for overbooking! – with the prospect of being bumped onto an alternative arrival into Manchester and then the inevitable taxi or mini-bus back to Leeds.

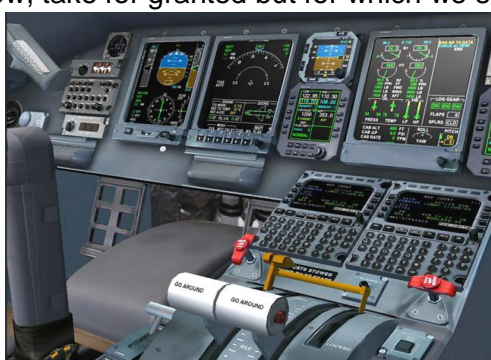
No, one of these would have been absolute bliss. Door to door – almost – in pure, unadulterated luxury. Ah! How the other half live!!!! Enough! Time to dream and take a flight of fancy in the ultimate personal transportation device – the Embraer Legacy-600 from Feelthere/Wilco.

Although this package is available as a boxed item, the method of installation for me was via a downloaded file of 53.6Mb. A self-executing file quickly and painlessly installed the aircraft "safely" into FS9 and deposited a short-cut to desktop in order to configure and set-up various preferences before firing up the Sim and ogling this new offering. From the outset the visual impact it quite stunning. Sleek, shiny and raring to go. Having selected the initial configuration of "cold and dark" – it does "exactly what it says on the tin" and allows you into a very bleak looking workstation. Following the (PDF) manual the first course of action is to bring up the overhead and start working on making the place a little more hospitable and social with a few lights on! Whilst not as complex or daunting as the PMDG style of aircraft it is clear that to do the job "properly" will involve a degree of study and attention to detail. This is very much a "systems" aircraft. The PDF file prints out at A4 size but is comprised of 26-A5 sheets with two per A4 side so that what could be a huge print job is made a deal more economical for us "poor" Simmers! Once the batteries are running and avionics switched on, the "office" takes on a much more pleasing effect with lots of coloured instruments lit up like a Christmas tree! In standard 2-D mode the effect is very pleasing indeed and the 3-D or Virtual Cockpit no less so with everything equally available in either option.





An interesting and useful feature of the glass instruments is that they can be “zoomed” by clicking on them (or by Shift + 7, 8 and 9) – clicking a second time puts them back where they belong! The attached screenshot shows how this can be used, say, during a take-off run (or landing!) when the main, critical information is displayed but also allows a greater view of the pavement. The VC images give a good indication of the quality we so often, now, take for granted but for which we should be eternally grateful.



A fully functional FMC is included in the suite of goodies available here that can be updated via the Navigraph web site for the latest Airacs, which, in the Feelthere section, include the Terminal Procedures that makes for a very business-like and professional application of the real world technology. The FMC – or as it is often known in the Flight Sim World “headache!” - is worth spending time with in order to master its complexities but also to take advantage of the many benefits it has to offer. So how does she fly? Well, from a Simmers view it is pretty well perfect and behaves impeccably (but then I’m not a real world pilot!). From inserting the data into the FMC and lighting the fires it is a joy to be a part of this creation. Although there is no “Autothrottle” (because it does not exist on the real Legacy) there is a “work round” (Keypress organised through the Configuration Manager) to make it think



there is one but, to be honest, that part of flying is no big deal and anyway if there was nothing to do except punch the AP button then this could be a rather dull exercise in aviation!!!



All of the “usual” animations are represented but one of my favourites has to be the Buckets being deployed for reverse thrust. Just superb, just superb!

Overall, my impressions of the Legacy-600 are extremely good. Despite the excellent VC my own preference would be to fly from the 2-D panel making use of my suite of GoFlight modules that work well with this aircraft. Even the MCP-Pro which, despite its Boeing looks, allows me to pretend more realistically!!!!

There is, however, a curious dilemma with this download! Within the package, according to the Wilco publicity machine is an animated Flight Attendant and a Virtual Cabin in which she performs her “attending” duties. Not on my set-up! When the aircraft is stationary, engines shut down and door open – the Flight Attendant should be standing at the foot of the air stairs to meet and greet as the VIPs walk between the ropes forming the safety barrier. Inside the Virtual Cabin we should see the sumptuous leather upholstery etc, etc.

This screenie shows the air stairs but nothing else that should be there! An e-mail to the Wilco Support site gave me a reply in about twenty minutes (excellent service) but only to say “We don’t understand those problems. If you strictly follow the procedure described in the manual, you should be able to see the flight attendant. To get into the cabin, install F1View (available from our site).”



The Virtual Cabin as available to me is shown also! Now, I have uninstalled, reinstalled to no avail. I have even downloaded a second time using IE (first download through Mozilla) but with exactly the same results. I can’t understand it at all. I have used Active Camera to probe the inside of the Cabin and I have used the F1View module referred to above. Still the same results. Now whilst that may be disappointing for some, it does not overly concern me as I have enough to do without chatting up the Cabin Crew and at the end of the day it is “only” eye-candy. However, some people like to see it and when it is so loudly advertised then I guess it should be available

even if you don’t use it. I would, perhaps, use it to show off Flight Sim to an “unbeliever” or “initiate”. Maybe, then, a good reason to purchase a boxed version and not rely on a download site although I stress that I have *never* experienced any difficulties with previous downloads. I shall enjoy what I have, ignore the rest and dream on! Now, that’s two European trips each month, 6-hours wasted per return flight over eleven years. Hmmm! That’s 66-days somebody owes me! Dream on.

What I Don't Like About Wilco Legacy	What I Do Like About Wilco Legacy
Some Texture Faults	Dynamics

Price & Star Rating £25.70 \$52.00 Euro36.95 Sim-reviews Awards 5-5 Stars	
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Computer Spec: Asus A8V MoBo – AMD64 – 3500+ 2GB DDRAM XFX256Mb 6600GT	