Installing the TGS Gauge into the panel of your favourite Sim

Version 2.0

When I wrote the tutorial for PFEv2 a lot of changes have happened since then, we have had the demise of Microsoft Game Studios who created FSX and then Dovetail Games have taken over FSX with the Steam edition and Lockheed Martin's P3d has joined the race.

Also we have a program on the market from Flight1 Software call FS Panel Studio for FSX and FS 2004 which is a very useful tool to have for installing gauges.

I will break this tutorial down in sections so just scroll down to the section that applies to you the… "User"…please check the pictures in accompanying document...TGS Screenshots for further assistance if needed.

Section 1: Installing the TGS.gau into Flight Simulator.

Section 2: Manually Installing into FS 2004.

Section 3: Manually Installing into FSX/FSX Steam Edition.

Section 4: FS Panel Studio for FSX & FS 2004.

Section 5: L.M P3D.

Before we get started…I recommend telling your Anti Virus software (if installed) to leave PF3 or TGS.gau alone by going into your security settings, for example I use McAfee so you would need to click on Navigation - Scheduled Scan - Exclude Files and Folders, select PF3 and add it to an exclusion list, this way TGS.gau won't or shouldn't get quarantined as a potential virus.

Okay…so we now need to locate your TGS Gauge, so depending where you installed PF3 and if you let the installer use the default directory it should be:

C:\FS_Addons\PF3\TGS_Gauge\TGS.Gau

Section 1: Installing the TGS.gau into FS:

This applies to FS 2004, FSX/FSX-Steam Edition.

Now that you have the TGS.gau at your disposal you now need to _COPY_ and _PASTE_ the gauge to your GAUGES folder that's located within your Flight Simulator root folder, only you know where FS 2004/FSX/FSX-Steam Edition is installed on your system.

The most common locations for Flight Simulators are as follows…

C:\Program Files\Microsoft Games\FS9

C:\Program Files\Microsoft Games\FSX

Steam\Steamapps\Common\FSX

A good idea is to load FSX so you receive a security message asking you to trust the TGS.GAU file, if you click "Yes" then you won't see the message again…you can always trust the message from Oncourse-Software.

IMPORTANT:

Always make a COPY of your panel.cfg that you intend to install the gauge into, if a mistake happens it could render your panel useless and a re-install of your aircraft or worse case FS!!

Section 2: FS 2004:

Now to begin installing into **FS 2004** as a "_Window_"

Okay...you now have the gauge at your disposal and you now want it working in your favourite aircraft, whether it's a _Cessna 172_ or a high end aircraft like _I-Fly's 737_.

So we will begin to install the TGS gauge into a Stock aircraft in FS 2004.

Firstly you will need to locate your FS 2004 aircraft folder and the aircraft of your choice, for this we will use the _Cessna 172_, open the folder and open the Panel folder and also open panel.cfg using "Note Pad."

Look for [Windows Titles] which is at the very top of the panel.cfg and it looks like this; now add the text as shown in Window06 in my example, after the last window in your panel.cfg

 [Window Titles]

Window00=Main Panel

(Various Windows Reside Here)

Window06=TGS

Now once this has been done (the easy bit) you now need to enter the exact position where you want the gauge to be seen in your panel, for this we use 0,0, 100,100 co-ordinates this puts the gauge at the bottom right hand corner, this is what it looks like in your panel.cfg.

//---

[Window06]

Background_color=0,0,0

size_mm=140,140

position=8

visible=0

ident=TGS

gauge00=TGS! TaxiGuidanceSystem, 0, 0,100,100

//---

Now "Save" your file and exit out of there completely.

Load FS 2004 and see if the TGS Gauge as installed correctly in your aircraft, if it has then load your favourite flight in FS and PF3 and enjoy!!

Now we will install the TGS Gauge into a 3rd Party aircraft, we will use *I-Fly's 737* for this example using "*Windowed*" method as we did for the *Cessna 172*.

Open up your panel.cfg in the panel of your choice, some 3rd party aircraft give you the choice of Normal or Wide panel configurations, for this we will be using a "Wide" panel configuration.

 [Window Titles]

Window00=Dummp Panel

(Various Windows Reside Here)

Enter this text under the last Window, so you will need to scroll down to you see

Window23 and then add Window24=TGS under it so it looks like this….

//---

```
[Window24]

Background_color=0,0,0

size_mm=200,200

window_size_ratio=1.000

position=0

visible=1

ident=250

window_size= 0.500, 0.500

window_pos= 0.000, 0.000


gauge00=TGS! TaxiGuidanceSystem, 0, 0,100,150
```

//---

So to re-cap, you now have a gauge that works in a "Stock and 3rd Party" aircraft as a "_Window_"…you can now move the gauge around your panel, just by right-click, click on undock and moving it around, you can resize if you so wish!

Now with any 3rd party aircraft you must "Save" a copy of your original panel.cfg…because if a mistake happens and you need to re-install it you may need to ask for a new key as in PMDG and Captain Sims's case, which could take a day or two!

So we will add the TGS Gauge as a "_Fixed_" gauge, basically it will be installed into panel and can't be moved!

Only install as a "_Fixed_" gauge if you are entirely satisfied at having it in one place all the time.if not install as a "_Window_"…it's your choice!

You may need to experiment here so again my advice is to make a copy of your panel.cfg before you start.

The best way to see what panel you would like to install the TGS gauge into is launch FS 2004, load your aircraft and open the panel that you think is best by going into "Views" from menu bar or clicking any simicons to open any particular panel within that aircraft.

Look for a suitable spot in the panel to place the TGS gauge and please note the gauge must be visible at all times, also be careful not to overlap any gauges otherwise it won't work correctly or the other gauge may bleed through.

Installing a _Fixed gauge_ into _I-Fly's 737 "Aft Overhead"_ Panel.

Under [Window Titles] look for Window06=Aft Overhead Panel and now scroll down to the section of the panel.cfg with same name.

See below...

[Window Titles]

Window00=Dummp Panel

(Various Windows Reside Here)

Window06=Aft Overhead Panel

(More Windows Reside Here)

And this is the section you need to look for in your panel.cfg.

//--

[Window06]

Background_color=0, 0, 0

size_mm=1200, 706

position=4

visible=0

Ident=10175

zorder=8

gauge00=iFly737-800! OverHead_background_AFT, 0, 0, 1200,706

(Various Gauges Reside Here)

gauge09=TGS! TaxiGuidanceSystem, 000,000,000

The co-ordinates for the gauge are set to zero's as you can see, this puts the TGS gauge to the top left hand corner of the "Aft Overhead" panel.

So add the line gauge09 as shown above and don't forget to "Save" your work… You may now experiment with the co-ordinates to get a better position in the panel.

FS 2004 is an old sim, yet still proves to be more stable in adding gauges with very little issues, over the years I have added it to Captain Sim 757,Level D 767,PMDG 737 & 747,MD11,Wilco's 737PIC,SStSim Concorde and Just Flight's/PSS 757,777 the list is endless!

Known Issues:

PMDG aircraft can be a little more problematic, you may get warning message that there is not enough "Windows" or you may also need to add the gauge to the "Virtual Cockpit" as well as the 2D Main panel…you will need to do a bit more work with these aircraft…sorry it's beyond our control !!

Section 3: FSX/FSX Steam Edition:

Now to begin installing into FSX/Steam Edition:

Before we begin please note that FSX Steam Edition is Deluxe, Acceleration, SP1&2 and Gold Edition rolled into one!!

Like FS 2004, you need to locate your FSX folder root folder, the folder and file structure within both Microsoft and Steam versions of FSX are the same.

Please note:

As at present you cannot install any 3rd party gauges like TGS into any stock aircraft in FSX Steam Edition.

You can ONLY install the TGS.gau into a stock aircraft for FSX Boxed Version …

Now to begin installing into FSX as a "*Window*"

Go to your FSX root folder and look for simobjects - Airplanes and look for your favourite aircraft (we use *737-800* for this) and then look for Panel and open it to gain access to the panel.cfg using "notepad" again...

For this we will use the default *737-800*…so here goes!

Under "Window Titles" add the line Window10=TGS under the last window entry in windows titles.

See below for how it should look...

[Window Titles]

Window00=Main Panel

(Various Windows Reside Here)

Window10=TGS

And now add a new window so the gauge will show within your panel, see below for an example...

//--

[Window10]

Background_color=0, 0, 0

size_mm=512,384

window_size_ratio=1.000

Position=0

Visible=1

Ident=110

Window_size= 0.500, 0.500

Window_pos= 0.000, 0.000

gauge00=TGS! TaxiGuidanceSystem, 160,110,180,160

//--

Both windows numbers must be the same or it won't show in the panel...in this case it's 10.

This now puts the gauge in the middle of your glare shield; however you won't want it there, so experiment with the co-ordinates to get a satisfactory position.

Now we will install the TGS gauge as a "*Fixed*" gauge into a 3rd party aircraft, again we use *I-Fly's 737* in FSX and this time we will use the Aft Overhead panel as this shows the gauge without it being hidden!

So again in your panel.cfg look for [Windows Titles] and look for Window06=Aft Overhead Panel

[Window Titles]

Window00=Dummp Panel

(Various Windows Reside Here)

Window06=Aft Overhead Panel

(Various Windows Reside Here)

Window21=Mini Panel

Now scroll down to Windows06 in the panel.cfg and add the line to the bottom of the gauges, see below for an example of a "*Fixed*" gauge.

//---

[Window06]

Background_color=0, 0, 0

size_mm=1200, 706

Position=4

Visible=0

ident=10175

zorder=8

gauge00=iFly737-900! OverHead_background_AFT, 0, 0, 1200,706

(Various Gauges Reside Here)

gauge09=TGS! TaxiGuidanceSystem, 0,0,0,0

//---

This now puts the TGS gauge at the Top Left Hand corner of the Aft Overhead Panel and you can resize the Aft Overhead Panel or drag it down to the bottom of your screen so you can see the gauge working when connected to FS and PF3.

Some 3rd party aircraft in FSX-Steam Edition like I-Fly 737, you can actually have the TGS gauge installed as a "*Window or Fixed*" gauge.

Now for the last example I will install the TGS gauge in Wilco's A380v2 as a "*Window*" in **FSX-Steam Edition**.

The TGS gauge cannot be installed as a "_Fixed_" gauge in this aircraft's panel as it gets hidden behind the panel, so has to be installed as a "_Window_" ONLY!

So here goes for Wilco's A380v2…

Again look for [Window Titles] and add Window11=TGS under Windows10.

[Window Titles]

Window00=Main Background

(Various Windows Reside Here)

Window10=MessageBox

Window11=TGS

Now scroll down to the last window, this being [Window10] and add the following window to get the TGS gauge to show in the panel.

//---

[Window11]

Background_color=0, 0, 0

size_mm=250,250

window_size_ratio=1.000

Position=0

Visible=1

ident=120

window_size= 0.000, 0.000

window_pos= 0.000, 0.000

gauge00=TGS! TaxiGuidanceSystem, 0,0,0,0

This puts the TGS gauge at the Top Left Hand corner of the Main 2D Panel, feel free to move the gauge around the panel but be aware it will get hidden behind the Main panel.

Section 4: FS Panel Studio for FSX & FS 2004:

This program is for "Users" who are comfortable in adding gauges to their favourite panel and is *NOT* supplied with PF3, It can be purchased separately from WWW.flight1.com

Now as I mentioned at the beginning of this tutorial you can install the TGS gauge using this program.

When using this program you need to do **2 things** when installing the TGS gauge into your aircraft, firstly locate the sim you are installing the TGS gauge into by going to Options and select Root Mode and Directory.

Secondly you need to locate the TGS.gau, which can be done after you have opened up your aircraft panel either direct or by panel…that bit is down to you the "User"

Now I could type pages on this section, however if you are using this program you have read the accompanying documentation that ships with this program about adding gauges.

Section 5: L.M P3D:

As it stands at the time of writing this tutorial, the TGS gauge does not install into P3D's stock or 3rd party aircraft that is something beyond our control.

And Finally:

I have written this tutorial to offer my experience of getting the best out of TGS using the modern Sims we have on offer along with any tools that maybe on sale to us.

If you do have an issue with the gauge please pop along to our support forum for PF3 and we will endeavour to try and rectify your issue.

One last thing….I cannot be held responsible for any problems that may occur whilst installing the TGS gauge unfortunately things can go wrong and will.

F.A.Q's

Q. My gauge doesn't show in my panel either in FS 2oo4 or FSX…why not?

A. Check to make sure you didn't install it behind the panel.

A. You aren't trying to install into a "Stock" aircraft for FSX-Steam are you!

Q. I've installed the gauge as per your tutorial and the gauge doesn't show in a 3rd party aircraft like PMDG or Captain Sim.

A. Some aircraft like PMDG you need to install into same panel or similar in <u>Virtual Cockpit</u> to get it to show, 747-400 Queen of the skies is such an example.

Q. I use FS Panel Studio and it say's I have too many windows....what now.

A. You could try deleting a window you don't use and try again, if not use the standalone app TGS Displayer if running a dual monitor setup.

Q. I modified a panel and it got corrupted so now my panel won't show.

A. I'm hoping you made a copy of your panel.cfg so can delete the corrupted one and replace with a copy, if you haven't then a re-install of your aircraft is on the cards.

Q. My gauge is distorted in size; I mean it's stretched...

A. That also depends on your monitor's resolution in FS but, you can resize the gauge and make it more appealing.

Q. You haven't done many examples of aircraft...why?

A. If you want some more examples then check out PMDG 747,Flight 1 ATR 72 and Level D 767 from PFEv2.12 documentation.

This now concludes the tutorial for installing the TGS gauge but before I finish the following must be acknowledged.

Microsoft for Flight Simulators.

Ed Struzynski for FS Panel Studio for FSX & FS 2004.

Dave March for creating PF3 and its predecessor PFE.

Dave Leesley

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