

AOPA PILOT

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THE VOICE OF GENERAL AVIATION

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[ACT TWO]

Klapmeier's Kestrel

The Case for a
Composite Turboprop p. 44

Northern Exposure

[Arctic Lodges: Fishing Allure p. 60

Curious Cargoes: They Lived to Tell p. 70]

Bell 47

THE REAL STAR OF M*A*S*H

Products

Glass cockpit cleaner offered

Plastek offers an inexpensive EZClear Instrument Cleaner kit for cleaning glass cockpit screens and instruments, although you probably don't fingerprint your instruments as often as the glass cockpit screens.

As tested by AOPA staff, it works well. You tear open one of three airtight "wet packs" containing a moist paper towel soaked with cleaner that meets Garmin pilot guide specifications for cleaning. That means it contains no ammonia and will not damage antireflective screen coatings. The company has taken care to assure it is not too wet and not too dry.

Moistening the screen once is followed by immediately drying the screen with a provided green polishing cloth. We found that one application of cleaner was enough, followed by one pass with the polishing cloth, to remove greasy fingerprint smears. The directions caution that if the instruments or screens are hot, such as just after a flight or in flight, or in the sun, the solution will dry too quickly and leaves spots. Wait until they are cool. After the initial application, customers report that just the use of the polishing cloth seems to take care of future finger smears for weeks, according to Plastek President Christy Hiller, who uses the product in her family's Bonanza.

The kit costs \$12.95 and includes three sealed moist towels. To learn more, visit the website (www.plastekllc.com), order from Aircraft Spruce, or call 888/252-5327 and order directly.

—Ian J. Twombly