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My Network Setup

Several people have asked how I get all the right things going on in all right places at all the right times, so I thought I'd try to explain it as simply as I could.

Right, there are 5 PC's on my setup, each having it's own specific role.

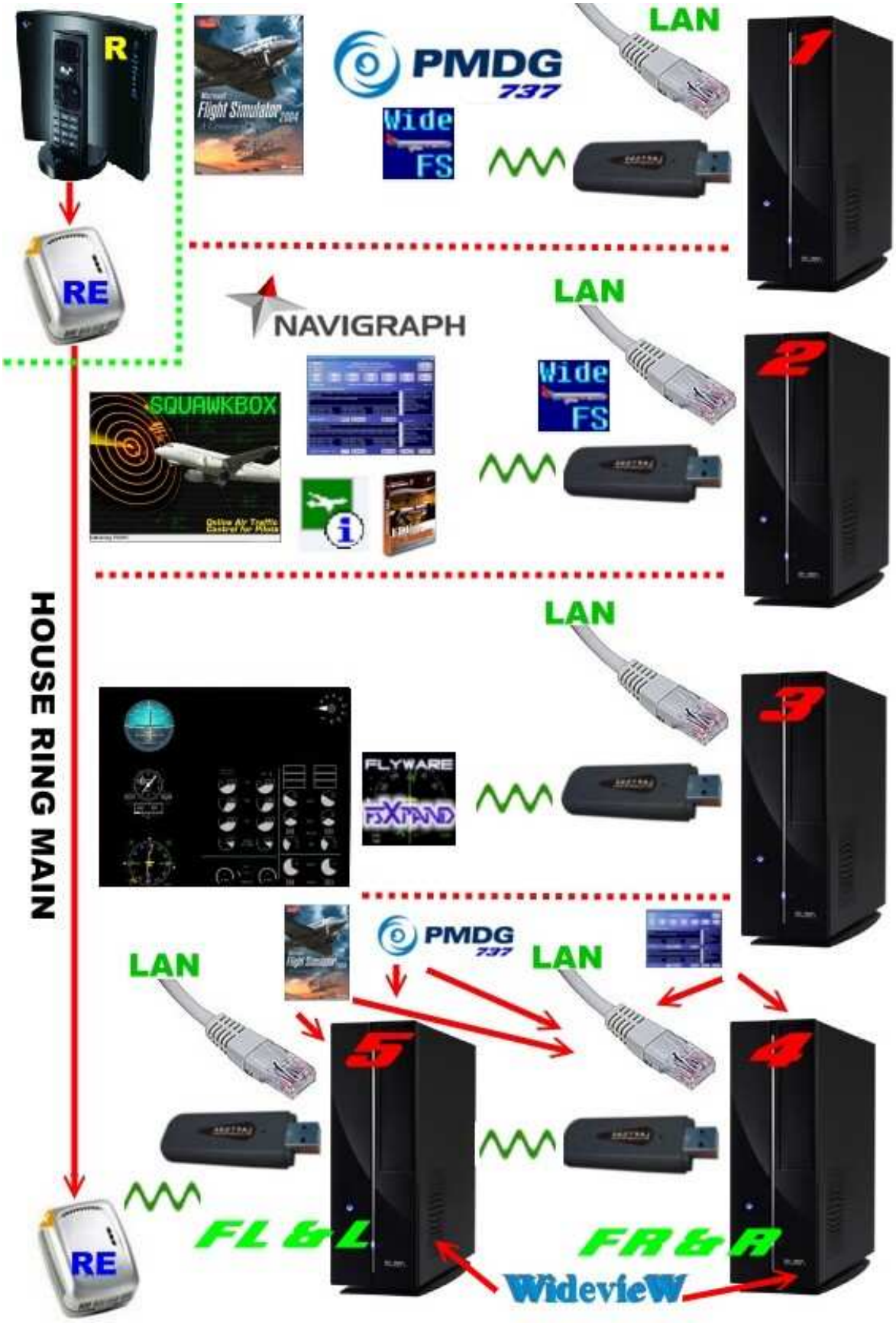
All PC's have both a wired LAN connection to a switch and a USB wireless dongle to connect to the outside world via my router.
I only actually need internet connection on one of my machines (the Services PC – No.2), but the price of these dongles is so cheap, it allows me the freedom to keep the systems updated and upto speed.

Computers.
1 is the Main Cockpit computer for front view and PFD/ND instrumentation
2 is the 'Services' Computer for Active Sky, Squawkbox, Navigraph etc.
3 is the FSClient Computer driving the 3 Standby instruments, the EICAS screens and the Flaps Gauge.
4 & 5 Are Wideview Computers giving me Forward Left & Left. Forward right and right views.

Wireless Link.
The cockpit is 30 metres from the Router, so I was experiencing 'disconnects' when conditions were not 100% ideal. So, I got hold of a Netgear WGXB102 Range Extender. This is a 2 part piece of kit. One part connects to your router via an RJ45 network lead. You then plug into a mains plug near the router. The second unit plugs into a mains outlet near your wireless cards/dongles. Network connection is transmitted over the mains wiring in your property. Now I have 100% connectivity, 100% of the time. Brilliant :o))

IP Addresses
The default IP on my router is 192.168.1.254, so that means I can separate the wireless and the wired connections by allowing a different range of addresses for each type of connection. All the wireless adaptors are automatically assigned an IP address in the range 192.168.1.something by the router.
I have then manually assigned IP addresses to the wired cards in the range 192.168.0.something. They are actually assigned 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.
This means I can choose what protocols to include or exclude from each adaptor.

Connections.
All inter-cockpit connections are via the wired Lan cards. For example, the Wideclient on the Services machine is instructed to look for the Server on 192.168.0.1. And with WidevieW using the IPX protocol, only the wired cards have IPX installed.



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