

Blackhawk pumps up the Cheyenne I

By Thomas A. Horne

[Blackhawk Modifications Inc.](#) of Waco, Texas, now offers an engine upgrade package for the Piper Cheyenne I twin turboprop.

The modification replaces the Cheyenne I's stock, 500-shaft-horsepower Pratt & Whitney PT6A-11 engines with 620-shp PT6A-28 engines. Although capable of 620-shp, the new engines are flat rated to 500-shp. This means that they can keep on producing 500-shp at higher altitudes than the originals. It also means better climb rates and less time and distance to climb to fuel-efficient cruise altitudes.

Blackhawk says that the new upgrade—dubbed the “XP28”—will give the Cheyenne I the same performance as the Cheyenne II, including a 250 knots true airspeed cruise speed. The conversion uses freshly overhauled PT6A-28s and comes with a flight manual supplement and new performance charts.

“For not much more than a typical -11 overhaul, an operator can now attain desirable performance levels which will rejuvenate value and demand. It's a good time to own the celebrated Cheyenne I,” said Jim Allmon, president and CEO of Blackhawk.

The XP28 is priced at \$475,000 for the remainder of 2009. The price is based on a core exchange of the current engines, and four-blade Hartzell or McCauley propellers are an option. The installation can be performed at Blackhawk's Waco site, or at any of Blackhawk's 50 authorized facilities.

October 27, 2009

View the original article at <http://www.aopa.org/aircraft/articles/2009/091027blackhawk.html>