

Virtual Air Traffic Simulation (VATSIM) Special Operations

Quick Overview

There is a desire by some pilots to simulate military flight activity on the VATSIM network. It was found that it is necessary to control that activity. VATSIM created a virtual standard to regulate military simulation by establishing VATSIM Special Operations (VSO) and certifying partners who wish to participate in military flight activity.

VSO is a unique part of the VATSIM world allowing many types of realistic military actions and maneuvers. VSO maintains strict guidelines, policies, and training requirements that exceed those for civilian virtual airline partners and requires dedicated organizations to train their pilots to those standards.

VSO organizations are allowed to engage in:

- conducting joint training exercises with other approved VSO organizations
- war games
- air to air refueling
- carrier operations
- flying low level military training routes
- flying escort missions
- executing air combat maneuvers
- interception/scramble of other aircraft
- having access to special use airspace.

VATSIM does not permit civilian airlines or pilots who do not belong to a VSO organization to perform the above operations. Any pilots wishing to take part in them are required to join a VSO organization and complete the required training. Any pilot found online and not complying with the rules will be subject to disciplinary actions.

VATSIM does allow anyone to fly military aircraft on the network, but only from point "A" to point "B" as designated on a filed flight plan. None of the privileges mentioned above will be allowed by non-VSO certified pilots.

A list of approved VSO organizations can be found at my.vatsim.net> Virtual Airlines> Partner List>Special Operations The SOA Policy and Procedures Manual (PPM) can be found at my.vatsim.net>Policies. The PPM provides in-depth information on establishing or joining a Special Operations Organization and maintaining a VA partnership with VATSIM. If you cannot find what you are looking for on this Quick Overview or in the PPM, you may email vpvas@vatsim.net