

Virtual Air Traffic Simulation (VATSIM) Special Operations

Quick Overview

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There exists a desire among some pilots to simulate military flight activity on the VATSIM network. It was found that it was necessary to control of some of that activity and 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 adventures 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 allow civilian airlines or pilots who do not belong to a VSO organization to perform the above operations. Any pilot wishing to take part in the aforementioned are required to join a VSO organization and complete their 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.

Approved VSO organizations can be found on the VATSIM main page under Virtual Airlines> VA & SOA Partners> view our partners>special operations or go to www.vasops.vatsim.net and click Special Operations. Also, you will find our Policy and Procedures Manual (PPM) on the same page. The PPM provides in-depth information on joining a Civilian Airline or 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, please email your questions to vasops@vasops.vatsim.net.

