VATSIM Board of Governors
Quarterly Meeting Minutes – 28 September 2008

Governors Present:
David Klain - DK
Florian Harms - FH
Norman Blackburn - NB
Roland Collins - RolC
Ross Carlson - RC
Tim Krajcar - TK
Michael Zazula - MJZ

Proxies
RJ - DK
ML - FH
MB - DK
KR - DK
GP - DK

Meeting called to start by DK at 2000, new members are welcomed and the meeting then started.

MITRE Project

RC spoke about the 4th MITRE event on 27th September 2008. 250 pilots arrived into Atlanta on constant descent arrivals. There was not as much traffic as desired. RC informed the BOG that the MITRE project had been re-funded for 2009. MITRE is still looking how viable the partnership is between VATSIM and MITRE; there will be more events to follow. FH question – can he get data for marketing. RC- MITRE will release information soon for circulation to general membership. In 2009 they hope to give feedback sooner on events. DK asked could VATSIM release data before MITRE. RC said ATL controller did .showstats before logging off. MITRE logged all aircraft within few hundred miles of ATL, but a raw data file. TK said he could get data from vataware. DK asked FH to gather data and publish. FH asked for controllers and pilots for their views for future press releases.

FH will lead project on data release.

Central America

RolC asked about making Spanish a requirement of the post for South American Regional Director. RolC said to make requirement, DK agreed as they need to contact members via email, forums etc. DK said to make Spanish preferred not a requirement. RolC said would handle within 24 hrs. DK asked if local NOTAM and forum post would help the situation. RolC suggested a global NOTAM due to the next issue. DK agreed with a global NOTAM as this may attract a local member who currently controls elsewhere. RolC to post NOTAM and forum post.

South America

- VATSA applications have been collected in. There was a large amount of members who applied. At this time they are being filtered down. NB offered to assist with the vetting of these applications.

GRP Update

RolC was aware that there was going to be resistance at the start of the project. After many new staff changes there is still debate around the globe about the GRP. There is still reluctance to the project and also still doubt about it being effective. The EC have pushed GRP through and it was agreed that it needs to be given fair trial. All divisions need to change their ways of working to adhere to GRP and then check for effectiveness.

2048 MJZ joined

FH noted a drop in controllers in Europe over last 4 months and said the EC need to push it through to ensure all areas are working to the scheme. DK asked if the BOG need to speak with the EC to keep GRP on track. RolC will take the matter to the EC to make sure a fair trial is being undertaken. NB said that VATUK have taken on VATPAC's idea of an online assessment and feel it's productive but that Europe is still split. FH commented on high traffic levels in EUR and VATUK London area. RolC reminded the BOG of major airports; to stop new controllers controlling major airports.

DK suggested RolC sent a message to EC stating that – 1) The BOG gives its support to the EC, and that they expect them to carry out the implementation of GRP across the globe. 2) There is resistance at certain levels, and BOG direct EC to gather data on how it's being carried out in their regions within 30 days.

RolC tasked to create a letter from BoG to EC regarding GRP implementation. Draft for BoG review.

2107 BOG enter Executive Session

2109 BOG leaves Executive Session

Marketing Plan

FH spoke on how the new marketing plan was still in discussion phase and he would like all BOG members to pass feelings to him on the matter within the next 7-10 days. He can then create a final document for submission. DK asked FH to forward the document again to all members, then feelings can be made and then in turn it can be taken to vote.

FH asked TK for data for the last 3-4 months including new members and connection times and connections. TK to liaise with FH directly.

Server Migration

RC – USA-S1: CZ is currently copying data onto it and that there are no changes since last meeting.
Data server – Mike Evans has been moving old data. Both servers are running in parallel. TK reported holdup is being caused by output data i.e whosonline etc. TK added once it's run he can add new features. MJZ commented on utilities the sups needed and has submitted lists that are the key features for a Supervisor. TK said they will be added once it's live. MJZ would like certain features to be added for first version and will pass the list to TK.

DK sets target date for move to new server for 1 November.

DK passed his thanks to all working on the project

Pilot Rating – Deferred

Website

FH will create website away from the server then move it onto web server. This should be completed within the next quarter if all goes to plan. TK said he would work with FH on this to push the matter through and to implement the CMS.

Supervisors Guidelines

MJZ spoke on the proposal of new supervisor guidelines that had been passed around on the mailing list to all BOG. Some members raised some concerns about the wording and MJZ he would address this.

DK Departs meeting

2236 - Enters executive session

2240 - Leaves Executive session

Meeting closed by FH at 2249