

VATSIM Board of Governors

Quarterly Meeting Minutes – 04th January 2009

Governors Present:

VATGOV1 Richard Jenkins – RJ

VATGOV2 David Klain – DK

VATGOV4 Roland Collins –RoIC

VATGOV5 Ross Carlson – RC

VATGOV6 Tim Krajcar – TK

VATGOV7 Martin Leat – ML (Minutes)

VATGOV8 Norman Blackburn – NB

VATGOV9 Kyle Ramsey – KR

VATGOV10 Florian Harms – FH

VATGOV11 Michael Zazula – MJZ

Founders Present:

VATSIM17 Matt Gunter – MG

Apologies:

VATGOV12 George Papanikolopoulos (Proxy to David Klain)

2010z – Meeting Called to start by RJ

2011z – MITRE Project Update

RJ - Mitre have placed VATSIM into its budget for the next year and placed full time staff on the VATSIM project. MITRE wants to release their 2009 plan to membership to involve the VATSIM membership.

RC - There has not been that much communication in the last few months regarding technical aspects of the project. The current status is that MITRE is working on writing software to help bridge connections between the VATSIM network and their simulation laboratory. The goal is to connect systems based at their simulation laboratory into the network to be able to collect data on the events. MITRE want to record voice and screen data from events to be able to analyze at a later date in more detail. RC has been working closely with MITRE to let them learn our systems. There has also been talk on the possibilities of running experiments on private server using members of the VATSIM network (Pilots and controllers) and also real world controllers at their lab and also using target generation system.

DK - offered to help in coordination in face to face.

FH - Will there be more major events on the VATSIM network?

RJ - Indications via email show they will although awaiting technical to better record the data.

MJZ - Supports the MITRE/VATSIM cooperation but has been asked by VATSIM members what benefits VATSIM gets from it?

RJ - No financial benefit at all. The benefit is from publications in aviation journals around the USA and also places such as Korea, South America etc. This enhances the VATSIM name.

MJZ - Asked RJ and RC keep in mind we may be able to benefit from technology that is being developed in the future from MITRE

FH - placed article in German aviation magazine about the test results and received 3-4 emails on it from real world company's so this proves it is benefiting the network. The link has the potential to help open other doors for the network.

RoIC –Commented on how it helps cement relationship with the real world

RC – MITRE are aware it needs to be a 2 way program and that VATSIM does need to benefit from the project.

2030z RD VATCAMC

The BoG discussed the problem of filling the RD vacancy in VATCAMC. A previous notice resulted in only two applications, both not meeting the key selection criteria, and there was no appointment. The BoG discussed renewing efforts to fill the vacancy and also discussed the possibility of reducing VATSIM to only 6 regions.

Action: VP Regions to continue with efforts to resolve this matter.

2041z RD VATSA

RJ- DK, RJ, NB vetting applications and candidates found.

Action: RJ proposed to finalise this the week after the meeting.

RJ – An update was given on the state of VATBRZ and spoke of a lot of staff changes. The new Director was building up a pool of instructors.

2053z GRP

RoIC – A letter to EC went out after the last BoG meeting action point. The time frame from the letter going out and this BoG meeting was short. The EC estimate the report to be ready by the end of Jan 09

RJ –The holidays have caused a problem in getting the information requested. The review is needed by March 31st. RJ wants to make sure all divisions are involved and be able to have their say on the GRP. It was then asked on the best way for this to happen.

MJZ – A good starting point to prepare comprehensive statistical data, we need hard data which include staffing hours etc to show what effect GRP has had on the Network.

RJ – This is possible although the server needs some modifications for this to work. RJ to talk to TK on the matter

RoIC –Asked who should be involved in the [GRP review] discussion? Division Directors, Training Directors.

2059z MG Leaves

ML – It is important for all divisions to be given the opportunity to make comment on GRP in a formal way. It was suggested to use the forums to conduct the talks.

RJ – Agrees to use forums. An invite to be sent to Division directors and training directors. It was asked for RoIC to communicate this to EC.

Action: VP Regions to follow up.

2103z Marketing

FH – Talks between RJ, FH and ML about publishing information from VATSIM outside the Network. It was suggested that events need to have information circulated earlier outside VATSIM. FH asked all to share any information they have that could be used to promote the network in any way e.g. MITRE. FH spoke about VATSIM as a brand and how we should market it as one.

FH - Events suggested local VACCs meeting up not major events. FH spoke of how VATSIM is a group of friends with a similar interest. An example was given of VATUK having a summer meeting on the South Coast of the UK of members meeting and controlling, socialising and having fun.

ML – Attended the event and mentioned of how it created a “Buzz” between the members and this then creates a friendship which makes people more willing to control and mentor. It was suggested that this idea be pushed to Division level.

FH - Agreed with ML and spoke about talks currently going on in VATEUD about possibilities of recreating similar events/meetings.

MJZ – Spoke on how it would be a good idea to sort something out for people to meet when travelling the world.

FH – Agreed a good idea and has taken note.

ML – If this was the case we as a network would need to be careful in condoning this with child protection issues.

RJ – Minors would have to attend with an adult.

RoIC – Agreed with ML that we have to be mindful in regard to young people.

2124z New Website Update

TK- Now his number 1 priority after stats server has now been setup. The current plan from FH is to build around a CMS. It needs to be worked out what needs to be changed or left alone i.e. CERT and also server usage.

FH - Has time in Jan to work on it with TK.

2130z Supervisors

MJZ - was expecting to finish the new guidelines for the BoG meeting but has not been able to. A few more days is needed to fine tune and will discuss via mailing list.

Action: VP Supervisors to pass guidelines via mailing list.

MJZ - I move that on behalf of the Board of Governors the Vice President Supervisors be granted authority under CoR 2.06(B) to appoint Supervisors who meet the criteria set forth in the Supervisors Code of Conduct, provided notice of any candidate has been given to the Board of Governors at least 72 hours before the appointment and further provided that there has been no objection raised by a member of the Board of Governors within 72 hours of the notice having been given.

RJ – Seconds the motion

VOTE

VATGOV2 David Klain – FOR

VATGOV4 Roland Collins –FOR

VATGOV5 Ross Carlson – FOR

VATGOV6 Tim Krajcar – FOR

VATGOV7 Martin Leat – FOR

VATGOV8 Norman Blackburn – FOR

VATGOV9 Kyle Ramsey – FOR

VATGOV10 Florian Harms – FOR

PROXY for VATGOV12 George Papanikolopoulos – FOR

With all in agreement the motion was *passed*.

New business

2137z VP Pilots

2137z BOG Enters Exec session

2147z BOG leaves Exec Session

DK – *I move that on behalf of the Board of Governors that Keith Smith be selected as VP Pilot Training.*

TK – Seconds the motion

VOTE

VATGOV1 Richard Jenkins - FOR

VATGOV4 Roland Collins –FOR

VATGOV5 Ross Carlson – FOR

VATGOV7 Martin Leat – FOR

VATGOV8 Norman Blackburn – FOR

VATGOV9 Kyle Ramsey – FOR

VATGOV10 Florian Harms – FOR

VATGOV11 Michael Zazula – MJZ

PROXY for VATGOV12 George Papanikolopoulos – FOR

With all in agreement the motion was passed.

2148z World Wide Unicom

DK – Regulations state that 122.800 is UNICOM. Brazil says its charts and website state that it's 123.45 in the local area which is the real local UNICOM. Other areas have been allowed no standard such as Africa.

DK - recommends we use 122.8 as standard to make sure all pilots online know it as it does not show in pilot clients.

Rolc – There is a clause in the COC B7 which states 122.8 or other another designated frequency. This needs to be changed before anything can be acted on.

TK - Revise to say "Tune to 122.800 for Unicom"

RolC – Would be happy to propose a Revision to B7.

MJZ – Agrees on changing B7 but add to it how to use UNICOM.

RC – asked objections to multiple UNICOM frequencies

RolC - One frequency gives any pilot the chance to talk to any other pilot and not have to chase around frequencies

ML – It would be hard for Supervisors to police multiple UNCOM channels.

RC- Agreed with ML and asked how much supervisors monitor UNICOM

MJZ – Agreed with ML and stated that supervisors monitor UNICOM. He would support one UNICOM for this reason.

ML – Suggested that in the review it is agreed what information is passed on UNICOM.

Action: VP Regions to take the matter to the EC and to continue the discussion on the mail list due to time constraints.

AOB

2212z VATSIM policy

DK – There are lots of policies' or ways that we do business that are not in the COC - Documents such as charity fundraising policies etc. It was suggested a locked forum be created to be a FAQ forum which has such policies' posted and easy to locate for all membership.

Action: VP Operations to create test forum to start collating information.

2220z Downgrades

RoIC – Spoke about the revised policy submitted and to place the amendment to vote.

RJ – Will place on vote the week post meeting.

Action: President to place vote on the BoG voting system.

2224z Meeting closed by RJ