

VATSIM EC Meeting Minutes

2nd Quarter – 28 April 2007

Attending:

Jesus Betancourt – RD South America
Kyprianos Biris – RD Europe
Ilan Jonas – RD Africa / Middle East
Craig Merriman – RD North America / EC Chairman
Terry Scanlan – RD Oceania
William Woo – RD Asia

Also Attending:

Roland Collins – VP Regions

Meeting called to order at 1207z by Chairman.

Welcome and intro of Dick Teh by Chairman.

Matters arising from previous meeting

Signup process changes

Roland: Noted that mockups had been sent to the BoG for approval and implementation. He will follow up on them again.

Technical portion of Region Transfer Process

Kyp: Reminding the group that these changes in the process are still pending.

Roland: Noted that this also had been submitted to the BoG and would follow if the EC still would like him to.

Global Transfer Policy changes

Roland: Mentioned that the policy was complete, but needed further review per member feedback. Certain areas related to visiting controllers needed further clarification. He has provided some input for EC review.

Chairman: was in agreement.

Kyp: Asked that the policy be formatted and put up for vote before the end of the meeting.

Voice ATIS

[Prior to the meeting Kyp submitted a document outlining some EUD concerns about voice ATIS]

Terry: Commented about the EC possibly looking at making a voice ATIS policy. Being that voice is optional, as is optional in the new version of VRC, thought it might be best to leave that to the local divisions to administer.

Craig: Agreed. It would give divisions more flexibility, unless there was an umbrella policy that could cover the general issues.

Ilan: Agreed with EUD concerns that voice ATIS should be allowed at the lower levels (ground and delivery).

Roland: Noted that the CoC doesn't make mention of ATIS, outside of the new voice ATIS making a new connection. In the real world, the ATIS is set in the tower by someone, not necessarily the tower controller. Added that the best way to go might be to make sure that the EC is happy with their ideas

about text ATIS first before moving onto voice ATIS. Also noted that the possibility of one controller providing the text ATIS and another providing the matching voice ATIS does exist.

Craig: Agreed this situation could exist and cause some confusion. Suggested starting a new topic in the forum to talk more about the subject.

Roland: Asked what the text ATIS situation is. With the possibility of one controller giving the text ATIS and another giving the voice ATIS, the EC might want to steer it toward only one controller providing the ATIS, with the preference being the tower controller. Approach or Center in some circumstances provide the local services, do they now provide ATIS?

Craig: Mentioned that the EC does give guidance on ext ATIS. Thought that anyone above tower should be providing ATIS, especially center as they cover so many fields.

Terry: Thought that center would be precluded from providing an ATIS regardless. It may be possible that approach could issue an ATIS, but for only one field. Doubted that the EC should be writing voice ATIS guidelines, it ought to be left to the local divisions. Noted that pilots very much like the voice ATIS service.

Roland: Noted that the current guidelines make no provision for anyone other than tower to provide ATIS. The exception would be approach providing ATIS only if tower is not available. Mentioned that the voice ATIS rules might just follow the text ATIS rules. Strongly suggested that the EC really start discussing voice ATIS and taking another look at the text ATIS guidelines.

Craig: Agreed with the thinking and thought the EC should look at the text ATIS and thought the EC could cover both voice and text within the current policy. Will start a forum topic for discussion of voice ATIS.

Granting Official Status for New vACCs/ARTCCs

Ilan: Discussed the need of this policy vs. the actual content and how developing regions are more affected by the issue. AME Region has about 12 new projects. These new groups have a need to become 'official'.

Craig: Felt that this is a regional approval process and might not need a policy.

Terry: Believed that it's a regional issue for RDs to monitor and thought that writing policy might not be the way to go.

Craig: Thought that policy would tie the RDs hands too much and not allow enough flexibility to develop new centers.

William: Thought that there still was a need for standard policy for the regions like AME and Asia.

Roland: Noted that CoR 3.05 gives the RDs all the flexibility they need.

Terry: Indicated that maybe some posted guidelines would help a region with developing centers.

Kyp: Reminded EC that RDs have the authority, given by the BoG to manage the airspace in the regions and define regional policy. So, Ilan could develop region policy to define how vACCs are developed.

Craig: Agreed and mentioned that this all goes back to Roland's point.

Ilan: Would prefer global guidelines, not policy. Felt that having the policy being only in AME region it might lower the expectations of limits for the new vACCs. Being official means adding the vACC to the cert database, some can disappear quickly it can then become a problem. Having a global guideline

would allow an RD to give better responses to requests. Would want to encourage some places where vACCs start up in small groups, have good activity and good ATC hours.

Roland: Suggested that guidelines might be created, but not global guidelines. Guidelines could be made to they would be sent to 'applicants'. As a general rules and looking toward sustainability, some key elements are that a vACC should have about 200 members and growing, have the ability to fill all of the key administrative roles.

William: Agreed with Roland. Felt that a strict number of members should not be used, because smaller regions might need to work with smaller groups to develop a sustainable vACC.

Craig: Thought guidelines could be made general enough to support smaller numbers.

Roland: Wanted to clarify that 200 was a guide or rule of thumb that has proven to work in the past.

Craig: Further discussion was needed to see if guidelines could be developed.

Kyp: Suggested that changing the wording in the VATSIM Europe guideline to include ARTCCs/FIRs or something more general and to use that as the guidelines.

Ilan: Would like more discussion and to work toward having some posted guidelines.

Craig: Noted that there are two lines of thought and that the EC should really talk more about this.

Global Ratings Policy

Craig: Noted that global ratings were being discussed within division staff and that the VATUSA Academy was undergoing change and could support that ratings change.

Kyp: Has talked to division directors. Divisions were happy with the global policy. EUD felt they needed more time to adjust. There was concern that some smaller divisions did not have delivery or ground. EUD asked that an S1 could log on as tower. Also that C3 would be something that could be achieved by experienced members (online hours, time, etc).

Terry: Spoke to Oceania divisions. Noted that divisions are already working toward ratings scheme.

Craig: Noted that North America divisions still had some differences of opinion on the ratings, but felt a consensus could be reached.

Roland: Noted that much discussion has already been had on this topic in the forums. Talked about the implications of moving to alternate ratings schemes. Senior controller rating could be left to local divisions to determine how controllers could be recognized and gives local flexibility.

Kyp: Agreed with Roland and summarized discussion.

Roland: Pointed out that the scheme is the one that will have the most global support. People will have to adjust.

Terry: Agreed with the ratings scheme. Also presented some examples of adjustments that might need to be made by controllers.

Craig: Agreed with Roland and Terry.

Kyp: Proposed a time scale of, getting approval by the BoG with an announcement in June and fully implementing by Jan 1st 2008. This would allow enough time for everyone to adjust before server hard-coding takes place.

Craig: Agreed with timescale.

Roland: Was very pleased that everyone was in agreement with the scheme. Indicated that the divisions should be notified of the upcoming changes so they can start to think about how this is implemented as service delivery versus a rating.

Craig: Mentioned that announcement might present an ATC service delivery model instead of ratings change.

Roland: Thought it would be a slow change as the people start to realize that ratings names are somewhat meaningless under this ratings scheme. Also noted that most regions and divisions have a very small number of senior controllers, which is appropriate.

Kyp: Agrees with Roland, as well as leaving the senior controller rating for the division to define its meaning.

William: Pointed out that students such as a new S1 would be trying to train for the next service level up, would not be able to log in as approach, in the case of an S1, if we had hard-coding in place.

Kyp: Pointed to a previous discussion where talk of the #2 ratings (S2 and C2) could be used as temporary training ratings. This might be needed because hard-coding would not allow an S1 to connect as an approach controller. Detailed the concepts behind using the #2 ratings.

Roland: Noted that this has been discussed already. Suggested that the topics of ratings and training be talked about separately, as they are two different things. The idea is that when a controller obtains a rating, they have met the training requirements for that 'rating'. The only area where there is not exactly the case is S1. S1 can be addressed as a separate issue. S2 and C2 have been talked about before and never went too far.

Ilan: Asked if the EC was suggesting that Sweatbox is being used as the only assessment tool.

Craig: Thought there might two sets of ratings restrictions built into the hard-coding, one for VATSIM one for Sweatbox.

Ilan: Preferred that live traffic be used as well as Sweatbox.

Craig: Disagreed with Ilan and said that he had had positive results with this type of training when he was with Boston.

Kyp: Followed on with discussion on using the C2 rating and also using the Sweat Box program for training where the student was elected not to use live traffic for his training sessions.

William: Was also against using Sweat Box for training as many students were discouraged from going online using this program.

Ilan: Once again affirmed his opinion against using Sweat Box for training as it was limited to the creativeness of the person creating the scenarios and quite often did not replicate real world traffic.

Roland: Said not to place too much importance on using Sweat Box as when in initial training there would be 80% theory and 10% practical and online experience. In effect we are using a simulation to train for a simulation. He reaffirmed that the main aim of training was to get more controllers online.

Terry: Suggested that an Approach controller wanting to undertake training as CTR could use a call sign such as SY-APP_T or ML-BIK_T which could be used in the presence of an INS or MENTOR etc and get online training with an OTS mentor or INS.

Roland: Commented that pilots flying online liked to see the correct call signs in use and not pseudo call signs used for training purposes. He suggested that if hard coding of these call signs was removed then the Training Departments could regulate when a student CTR controller could log on as CTR.

Ilan: Agreed with Roland about removal of the hard coding of the ratings but was still of the opinion that a call sign designator for training was an advantage so that pilots would know they are being given a service by a student under instruction.

Roland: Summarized the feeling of the meeting and suggested that the Hard Coding be left as it is and that the Training Departments would then allow a student CTR controller to log on as a CTR controller under instruction.

Terry: Agreed that this was the most expeditious way forward. Allow local Divisions to approve training styled call signs which would be obvious for pilots flying online that this controller was under instruction.

Kyp: Summed up the discussion by saying that the only major change is that an S3 could not operate as a CTR position unless approved to do so by their training department. They must use an approved "Training" call sign allocated by their training department.

Craig: Expressed some concern that some may abuse the system by continual use of a "Training" call sign and never taking the next step up to a Controller Rating.

It was then agreed by the meeting that all were in accord and that a summary of the pertinent points be made to assist divisions to understand the background and reasoning behind the policy.

Global Transfer Policy

Craig: Made comment that this was still a work in progress and that there were some minor issues within his region that were to be addressed. He mentioned that there were some major differences between what ratings meant in each region and that they were seeing quite a lot of transfers into, then out of NAM after gaining a rating from the academy. He said there were big differences even between Canada and North America which posed problems when considering Visiting Controllers and thought that some standard should be considered for Visiting Controllers.

Roland: Felt that there was a need to address the Visiting Controller issue in the traditional sense, meaning that a controller wished to operate from his home base but occasionally operate ATC in another area.

Roland: Asked if the EC wished the Global Transfer Policy to be put to the BOG without any further changes.

Craig: Was happy for the document to go forward as it is.

Kyp: Asked that a summary of the document be circulated once again so that EC could review it one last time and it was agreed that this would be done.

Region Reports

EC Chairman: Asked all RDs to ensure that their reports were in and available to attach to the minutes.

The meeting closed at 0220Z

Region Reports

VATNA Region Report 2nd Quarter - 2007

North America

Steven Black (Canada) and Matthew Temple (US) have been appointed as directors. Both gentlemen have been filling staff vacancies and are starting to move forward with local rules reviews and approvals as well as division policy reviews. Going through this quarter and into the next, the region should see more stability and growth.

Membership Totals											
		Pilot /Obs	S1	S3	C1	C3	I1	I3	Sup	Adm	Total
VATCAN	Q1	1359	163	62	27	12	12	18	4	1	1658
	Q2	1444	180	64	24	15	14	17	3	1	1762
	Diff	85 (6.3%)	17 (10.4%)	2 (3.2%)	-3 (-11.1%)	3 (25.0%)	2 (16.7%)	-1 (-5.6%)	-1 (-25.0%)	0 (0%)	104 (6.3%)
VATUSA	Q1	7804	2900	725	317	443	55	20	31	14	12309
	Q2	8503	2970	781	321	451	58	23	35	15	13157
	Diff	699 (9.0%)	70 (2.4%)	56 (7.7%)	4 (1.3%)	8 (1.8%)	3 (5.5%)	3 (15.0%)	4 (12.9%)	1 (7.1%)	848 (6.9%)
Unaffiliated	Q1	15367	152	63	25	30	6	11	1	5	15660
	Q2	16566	157	65	24	29	6	11	1	5	16864
	Diff	1199 (7.8%)	5 (3.3%)	2 (3.2%)	-1 (-4.0%)	-1 (-3.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1204 (7.7%)
Total	Q1	24530	3215	850	369	485	73	49	36	20	29627
	Q2	26513	3307	910	369	495	78	51	39	21	31783
	Diff	1983 (8.1%)	92 (2.9%)	60 (7.1%)	0 (0%)	10 (2.1%)	5 (6.8%)	2 (4.1%)	3 (8.3%)	1 (5.0%)	2156 (7.3%)

Supervisors:

Supervisors were added while others were had their supervisor rating reduced, resulting in a net gain of 3 supervisors for the region between quarters. I am looking to add more supervisors with a goal of 40-45 for the region.

Canada

- Steven Black appointed as Division Director.
- Division is actively seeking a replacement for the training director.
- Advisory Committee formed, consists of the VATCAN EC and FIR Chiefs to better facilitate communications and coordination among division staff members.

- Deputy Director is working with the Training Committee to work toward standardized ratings and improved VRC training.

United States

- Matthew Temple appointed as Division Director.
- Division is undergoing many changes among the senior staff. ARTCC staffing is fairly stable at this time. Changes in HQ staff include:
 - Deputy Director – Tom Ferry
 - Training Director – Chris Waldo
 - Training Director - Karen Dunbar
 - Webmaster – Andrew Miller
 - Central Division Dir. Of Air Traffic - Michael Oberg
 - Southern Division Dir. Of Air Traffic - Tom Seeley
 - Deputy Training Director – Fred Clausen
- VATUSA website will be revamped and redeployed under the guidance of a new web team that is being assembled.
- VATUSA Training Academy will be suspended as of 30 April 2007. The reason for the suspension is to redeploy the Academy with a more efficient model that will be in place before year's end. Until then, members will be handled under the previous model.
- VATUSA Convention was held March 23-24 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Event was a success due to the efforts of a number of people.

Respectfully submitted,
Craig Merriman - VATNA1
North America Region Director

VATSIM Europe Region Report

www.vateur.org

April 2007

Kyprianos Biris VATEUR1
director@vateur.org

VATEUD Division report

www.vateud.org

1) VATEUD staff changes

Dustin Watts has left the position of Assistant DCRM, VATEUD10. The position currently is vacant.

2) vACC staff changes

No major changes

3) VATEUD training department

Next VATEUD instructor course is currently running and expected to end at the beginning of June. Later on we plan to run 2 courses parallel, as Stephen Murphy will join Marc Riedel in conducting these courses.

4) Pilot Training

Not directly VATEUD related, but I find it worthy to mention that VACC-SAG is running a very successful pilot training program on vACC level. 2 weeks ago, another 21 pilots finished this program, and may now call themselves "VACC-SAG certified pilot". Extensive training manuals and documentation about this program is available, interested members may want to get in contact with Mr. Gert Lichtenthaehler, the chief of the pilot training department at VACC-SAG. He's happy to share his experience about this program.

5) ATC staffing

Despite having updated statistical data available, I'm under the impression that the "winter season" showed nice ATC staffing levels at VATEUD. Event focus was on regional events, with special mention to the very popular "real-ops" series. For these events, the real schedule of the featured airport is available for prebooking by pilots, also spontaneous traffic is welcome. In addition to these real-ops events, so-called "shuttle" or "triangle" events between 2-4 airports in different countries have become popular. To mention a few we saw shuttles between Berlin and Rome, or Triangles between Geneva, Nice and Genova.

Schoene gruesse/best regards

Martin Georg

VATSIM Europe Division Director (VATEUD1)

vateud1@vateud.org

VATUK United Kingdom Division.

www.vatsim-uk.org

VATSIM-UK

1. We are pleased to welcome David Winters onto the UK staff team as VATUKT3 (New Pilot Coordinator). David replaces Phil Bayman. David was previously and still is a pilot mentor within the UK division and continues to provide excellent support to pilots in the UK along with his dedicated team of pilot mentors.
2. Rating structures as previously mentioned at the last meeting have yet to be implemented.
3. The Training Academy is still WIP and we hope to have some test students to undergo training in the near future.
4. The UK continues to perform very well in all Iron Mic Competitions and the recent addition of EGTT_CTR was long overdue but very welcome.
5. The UK having had a wonderful run over the last 5-6 years of annual shows has currently come to an end. The issues with IFC have caused the loss of our show presence for 2007. We are currently looking at other avenues where we can showcase VATSIM-UK to a wider audience.

Kind regards,

Neil Dewson-Smyth

VATUK1

VATSIM-UK Division Director

Europe RCRP Chair

director@vatsim-uk.org

VATRUS Russia Division

www.vatrus.net.ru

VATRUS report

The first quarter of 2007 was full of events. Within the region there was formed a new ATC team - "Sheremetyevo ATC Group". The main goal of this group is to provide first quality ATC Service at UUEE and Moscow FIR on regular basis. Another group of controllers keeps providing the ATC Service at UUDD on regular basis. We work hard on involving the real life controllers into VATSIM. In this quarter new real-life ATC controllers have already started to provide ATC service at UHPP.

New horizons in the international cooperation were subdued. It has lead to remarkable fly-in, together with VATJPN. As a result, we have been invited to take part in another international fly in. So, VATJPN+VATKOR+VATRUS now, it's equal to friendship. Also our controllers and pilots were involved into several different international events. They easily responded to the request from our foreign colleagues to help in their events. So on request from "The Leipzig Air VA" we provided special ATC service for their mini fly-in to UUEE. In planning stage there are some more events: Traditional "9th. May" event, on May, 9th "; Civil flights and military operations in Caucasus region; Corporate event from "Thomson Virtual" by their request. Certainly all of us are proud.

On April, 26th an incredible event will be held - 12th hours fly-in. Our pilots and the dispatcher will provide support and services back to back in Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Kiev FIRs at the same time. Technical maintenance of this fly-in is organized in a specialized conference of educational character by Intel working with the Russian State Humanitarian University. We are proud to announce we will be supported by Microsoft company; Saitek Russia and personally by Igor Panyuta, its director.

Staff changes:

DCRM- Artur Abadjan (VATRUS5)
Resource Manager - Michael Volchenkov (VATRUS10)

Yuri Trunov
VATRUS1
airman@ongp.ru

From:	Terry Scanlan	Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna.
To:	VATSIM EC	
Date:	20 April 2007	
Subject:	OCEANIA REGION REPORT	

As mentioned in the previous report, OCEANIA Region will host a VATSIM OCEANIA Convention in Australia in October 2007. Submissions from two cities were submitted, one from Melbourne and the other from The Gold Coast in QLD. After due consideration of both the submissions the convention was awarded to the Melbourne organizers and their website for the convention is www.vatoce-convention.net.

The convention will be held over the weekend of October 5th to October 7th and will contain a good mix of both social and flightsim related activities. Updates to the site will be made as we get closer to the convention but we are open to receiving registrations now.

The last three months has seen the VATNZ division grow and there have been several appointments to fill the various staff positions available. Member participation is strong and we can expect to see a healthy growth in this division in the following quarter. See the VATNZ division report below for full details.

The VATPAC division is undergoing some changes at the moment and these relate to the IT side where a new website is under construction and should be online within the next few weeks. This period has seen the resignation of the Deputy Director, Mr. Jackson Harding and at the time of writing this position is still vacant and will be advertised in the next week or so. See the VATPAC division report below for more details.

Growth in this division is steady with a typical mix of Pilots and ATC showing 83% Pilots and 17% ATC.

Overall growth in OCEANIA is steady and total membership at the time of writing stands at 3314 which is up by approximately 10% from the last report.



Division Report

VATPAC – 31st March 2007

General

The first quarter of 2007 has been a difficult period for VATPAC. Numerous staff changes have caused delays in infrastructure and policy improvement projects.

VATPAC is also concerned by a competitive spirit that appears to be growing amongst some members and would be interested to hear from Divisions with similar issues.

This quarter has also included the splitting of NZ airspace into the new VATNZ division and realignment of staff roles accordingly.

Staff Changes

VATPAC regretfully announces the loss of our IT Director, Steve Ollis, and recently the Deputy Director of Division, Jackson Harding.

Neil Brown has been appointed as caretaker IT Director and has diligently picked up a number of IT projects.

The Deputy Director role is currently vacant.

Training

The new Oceanic Endorsement has proven quite popular and the quality of graduates from the program has been very high.

We are currently looking and ways of increasing automated assessment at lower level ratings to allow training staff to focus on the needs of higher-level students.

Events

VATPAC hosted a live ATC event out at Bankstown Airport this quarter "Rolling Thunder". The event was well patronised and a good time had by all.

We have established a new events mailing system to directly email members information about upcoming events and news.

Rob Hooley
VATPAC – Division Director



VATSIM NEW ZEALAND QUARTELY REPORT TO THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR – APRIL 2007

VATNZ has gone forward in leaps and bounds since its formal opening on 1 January 2007.

70 VATSIM members are now formally part of VATNZ with many more supporters regularly visiting the Website and participating in the forum discussions.

Since the website went live in December, we have had more than 73,000 hits and we now have 175 users logged in as members of the Website.

Development of the Website continues on a daily basis with many new initiatives by all members of the VATNZ Board and especially by our Director of IT Nick Johnston who has developed a tool for seeing current pilots and controllers online in the VATNZ Airspace and more recently a tool for seeing pilots and controllers who have booked flights or Control positions through the new vroute.info tool released to all VATSIM members.

Nick has also been responsible for a file to allow users of GOOGLE EARTH to view all VATSIM flights and Control Positions online at any time worldwide and this file has been made available to all VATSIM users and has been met with huge enthusiasm.

Training is coming along very nicely and following the resignation of Stu Paul as the Training Director, Leon Gibbs was appointed in mid-February and has done a superb job writing a new syllabus for all ATC positions. The skill level and capability of the Controllers is improving all the time and New Zealand ATC is a lot more active now following a dramatic increase in online

traffic.

Traffic Volumes since the beginning of the year:

	Inbound flights (others to NZ)	Outbound flights (NZ to others)	Local flights (NZ to NZ)	Total flights
Jan-07	278	228	759	1265
Feb-07	185	159	430	774
Mar-07	167	168	627	962
Apr-07	737	104	417	628
TOTAL	737	659	2233	3629

VATNZ is looking to introduce a new more streamlined approach to Controller Ratings from 1 May so that new Controllers have a more structured system to their promotions and to ensure that they are prepared for each new step. We believe that the new system will be more in line with the new, yet to be decided, global ratings policy that VATSIM is looking at introducing, so we're getting our members prepared early.

Events are still being well supported although some of our SNO (Sunday Night Ops) and Newbies Tuesdays have not been as well supported as we would have liked so we're looking at making them fortnightly instead, alternating between SNO and Newbies Nights.

Terry Scanlan

VATSIM Oceania – Regional Director.
tscanlan@bigpond.net.au

Region report for Vatsim Africa/Middle East

April 2007

(a remake of the original report lost in a computer crash)

General

- VATAME has **1798** total members (inc. suspended). This is yet another **decrease**. Seeing this second quarter of decreasing numbers, I can only assume it is the outcome of the dedicated job membership department does in removing duplicates and inactive accounts. This is the only option I can think of, seeing the excellent developments in the region and the good new signups rates.

Staff changes

- VATIL: Vatsim Israel said farewell to its mythological director in the past years, **Mr. Kobi David**. Kobi had taken VATIL to the top, achieving all goals set for the division in his time, while setting new standards to his successors and to other divisions as well. Along with Kobi Vatil said goodbye to the former staff members, with a big thank you for their contribution along the years. The division is now

ran under **Mr. Tomer Haim**, with an (almost) completely new staff list. VATAME wishes the best of luck to the new staff!

- **VATSAF**: Vatsim south African division went through turbulent times, with the resignation of **Mr. Fred MacDonald**, and a brief return of the former director and VATSAF initiator, **Mr. Wayne Higgins** who had to step back due to real life issues. The division is currently ran by the rest of the staff members until we choose a new director.

Activity

VATAME continues its development. To state a few, I'll mention:

- **Congo**: under the supervision of Mr. Tony Kovacs , Congo is being active on the scopes and training new controllers constantly.
- **Iran**: seeds of activity are seen in Iran as well, and VATAME is doing its best to help the Iranian start their own vACC.
- **Emirates**: Mr. John Jones is initiating a vACC in the Emirates region. A website is along the way and ATC training is being handled as well.

Those are just examples; the activity in other vACCs is rising as well, and more about that in the next report.

Best regards,

Ilan Jonas, VATAME1 ilan@vatsim.net

[Http://www.vatame.net](http://www.vatame.net)

REGION REPORT – VATASIA – Apr. 2007

Membership

Up to 31st March 2007, after excluding those members in suspension, VATASIA Region has 4051 members. There is a steady growth of 9.5% in total membership in the past 3 months. There is also sign of improving in ATC service as more ATC students joined. Some of these came from undeveloped FIRs like Indonesia and Vietnam. We also have a number of senior students graduate and earn the full Controller status. With this new force of experienced controllers, we could provide good quality service to VATSIM community.

The following is a break down on the current membership status

Rating	Members*	% of Total	% Change**
Pilot/Obs.	3668 (3337)	90.54%	+ 9.9%
Student	210 (196)	5.18%	+ 7.1%
Sr. Student	70 (72)	1.78%	-2.8%
Controller	49 (40)	1.21%	+22.5%
Sr. Controller	19 (18)	0.47%	+5.56%
Instructor	16 (15)	0.39%	+6.67%
Sr. Instructor	13 (13)	0.32%	0%
Supervisor	5 (5)	0.12%	0%
Administrator	1(1)	0.02%	0%
Total ATC	383 (361)	9.45%	+ 6.1%
Total Member	4051 (3698)		+9.54%

* Members: Total no. (no. at end of March, 2007)

** % Change: compare with the end pf December, 2006

Regional Staff changes.

VATASIA appointed Dick The as Deputy Region Director with effective from 1st April, 2007. We also create a new post of Development Manager. Glenn Blanco is now appointed to take the new position. His main duty is to assist and coordinate the development of new vACC/ FIR within the region.

Regional Website

The current official website for VATASIA is www.vatasia.net In the past few weeks, we experience hacker attack and shut down our regional forum of the site for a few days. The forum is now reestablished but we still investigate on newer version of software to minimize chance of further attack.

New Development

With the establishment of VATSEA division, it attracts quite a number of traffics as well as new ATC online. Many of these are originated from undevelopment area like Indonesia. Current, a group of Indonesian ATC is working of setting up a Indonesia vACC within VATSEA. Other area like Hochiminh FIR also has some ATC turn up. Hopefully, there will be some service for people interested to fly into this area.

Works on China division is still in progress. Preliminary work on Shanghai FIR is nearly finished and testing is ongoing. Some services over Shanghai may be available soon.

India vACC is growth steadily although progress is slow. With the help of the Hit Squad Team, members are under training and hopefully they can become independent by the end of 2007.

Other Divisional Development

The VATJPN, VATKOR recently held an interdivisional joint event on 14/4/2007 with good turn up. Both VATKOR and VATJPN are now under reform with new divisional staffs nominated including the DCRMs. This is also true for VATROC as they are now recruiting new staffs to reactivate their training system.

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