<u>VATSIM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING</u>

2ND QUARTER 2009 – SATURDAY JULY 18TH 2009

Present :

Terry Scanlan RD OCEANIA – TS - Chairman

Kyprianos Biris RD Europe – KB

Bryan Wollenberg RD North America – BW

William Woo RD ASIA – WW

Ilan Jonas RD Africa Middle East – IJ

Jeffrey Smith Deputy RD OCEANIA – JS

Roland Collins VP Regions – RC

The meeting commenced at 1210Z

<u>AGENDA ITEMS:</u>

1. Matters arising from previous meetings
2. GRP – Brief Update
3. GRP – Strategy Planning
4. Ownership of FIRs that are located in another region
5. Other Business

The Chairman opened the meeting with a welcome message for the new RD for North America, Mr. Bryan Wollenberg

<u>1.MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES</u>

TS - Summarized outstanding matters including the Region Transfer Process which he acknowledged would be attended to with the new CERT process. Appointments of Supervisors had also been resolved with the appointment of several new SUPS across all Regions.

VP Regions was asked to update the EC on the matter of appointments of Regional Director for CAMC

RC – Acknowledged that the Central American Region had been without leadership for over two years and reported that the matter has been a great concern to VATSIM and regularly discussed

by the BoG. A proposal to reduce VATSIM to only 6 regions has been considered and a decision in the matter will be announced shortly.

2. GRP – UPDATE

The Chairman asked RC to brief the EC on the current position of GRP

RC – Started by saying that the competencies discussion has taken up considerable time but most have a better understanding of what the GRP is trying to achieve and that it has been an opportunity for all training directors to have input. The competencies document is to be finalised in the next few days after which the GRP Review will focus on Training and Assessment Methods

TS – Asked RC if the competency list now on the GRP forum is the final list of competencies and RC advised that it was and not likely to change.

KB – Believes that the new GRP should address two areas and that is competencies and training methods and assessments, it should in fact be two documents. The first being the revised description of the GRP and the other being the new list of competencies. He also believes that the revised GRP should be released as soon as possible as some divisions were already using it.

3. GRP – STRATEGY PLANNING

RC – Advises that the EC have ownership of the GRP and that a GRP – 2 policy needs to be drafted. This policy may take some time as it needs to be quite detailed in the drafting. RC also says that he would work closely with the EC in drafting the GRP policy as the EC needed to be aware of some of the conditions that the BoG have set. He also suggested that perhaps an interim GRP policy could be released as S2 was now in place and must be implemented within 30days.

TS – Was in agreement and recognized that Training Assessment methods would be a difficult one to introduce.

RC – Explained that Training Assessment methods used by Divisions can be decided by Training Directors but it must deliver the competencies as detailed in the GRP.

TS – Suggested that there could be a generic set of test questions made available for those Divisions or vACC that were not sure how to determine competencies.

RC – Advised that he would be asking all Training Directors to sign off on the competencies as detailed on the forum and that will give them a guide as to how they structure the training methods. The key to training under GRP2 is to find the most efficient way of delivering the training.

RC – Volunteered to review the current GRP documents and to bring them up-to-date with the current state of play and that this would form the basis of an interim GRP.

4. OWNERSHIP OF AN FIR OPERATING OUTSIDE OF LOCAL REGION

TS – Advised the EC that there had been a recent case where a member of VATPAC requested permission to open a vACC in French Polynesia. The vACC met all the criteria that was set by myself and subsequently opened. A situation arose where it was pointed out that France vACC actually owned the territory or FIR and that VATPAC should not be administering it. The vACC subsequently closed pending a review of arrangements. Under the CoR, OCEANIA and VATPAC are responsible for French Polynesia even though it is a French Territory. He went further on to suggest that the EC could have a look at this situation at a later date and perhaps develop a policy that would cover situations like this. He flagged it as a non urgent matter.

JS – Acknowledged that there is a language barrier here as the directors of the vACC France do not speak English and so that could be an issue with them.

KB – Advised that he would follow up from his side and ensure see what he could do to assist in getting vACC France to the party

RC – Commented that this situation exists in other areas and that it would be difficult to have any policy that would fit all situations. If there was to be a policy then it would have to be very generic and ensure that the two parties involved could come to an agreement.

IJ – Had the same situation with some members in England wanting to open St Helena but this was an easy solution as there was no one else that wanted to open it, it has a very small population. A simple LOA will cover such occurrences.

TS – Confirmed that this was the approach that VATPAC was taking and things such as 'Visiting Controller' requirements would be waived for members of the vACC France. Also VATPAC would ensure that it's members operated under the French requirements and would provide the necessary documentation to allow their membership to become familiar with procedures for this area.

WW – Raised the issue of the COR which clearly states that OCEANIA is responsible for the French Polynesian territory and that OCEANIA was responsible for the development of the FIR but that it was important that the local rules are followed for that FIR.

RC – Explained that the ICAO requirement for all RW ATC was English and that both Pilots and Controllers must have an understanding of that language. In Vatsim it is expected that Controllers should at least be able to communicate the basic instructions in English, Cleared to land, Cleared for Takeoff etc.

JS – Said that in his experience with the old FPCG (French Polynesia Controller Group) that most could speak English however it was the pilots that were lacking English.

WW – In Asia most of the ATC will communicate in their local language to local pilots but have a basic English for foreign pilots.

5.OCEANIC PARTNERSHIP VATPAC, VATNZ AND VATUSA

TS – Asked JS to brief the EC on the status of the OCEANIC partnership

JS – Advised that the LOA between the three divisions had been signed and was now in place. The next process was to agree on a common training syllabus. This syllabus was out there for each division to check and comment on but saw no real problem with this being accepted. Following this process there was a need to create a website that would host all the documentation for both pilots and Controllers alike to review. This is still under consideration and no decision taken yet.

BW – was happy that the LOA had been signed and was very keen to see it finalised and in place.

6.OTHER BUSINESS

Matters within Regions

KB – detailed some staff changes in VATRUS. The VATUK Director stepped down and as a result KB is setting up this division from scratch and will be asking all VATUK staff members to resign and will be advertising for all new staff. The old staff members will be invited to reapply along with any other interested members. He detailed the problems facing this division and what is involved in rebuilding it from the ground up.

RC – Raised the issue of the function of RDs in Division's business and to what extent they should be involved. The case that KB finds himself is a typical example and would it be appropriate to document the RDs responsibilities in situations such as VATEUD1 finds himself.

KB – Feels that the COR regarding RDs covers all responsibilities and is not really necessary to document their duties and responsibilities.

WW – Makes DD appointments based on recommendations from the Division.

RC – Pointed out that the RD has the authority to appoint DD but shouldn't necessarily be involved in an appointment but mainly oversee the appointment process.

TS – Explained the methods used in OCEANIA for DD appointments.

WW- Gave a brief report of staff changes in VATIND and also acknowledged the assistance of the VATSIM HIT SQUAD in helping to establish the new Division in Thailand. Refer to the Region Report

RC – Raised the issue of the EC website and suggested that it be updated and possibly restricted and offered to make some suggestions as to how documents are presented.

Discussion followed as to what form of webpage should be made and RC offered to provide a mockup of how it may look.

Meeting closed at 1343Z

OCEANIA REGION REPORT 2ND QTR 2009

The 2nd QTR in OCEANIA has been a busy one with some staff changes in both VATNZ and VATPAC. VATPAC's Director, Rob Hooley resigned at the end of June and was replaced by his deputy , Shannon Wells. VATNZ appointed Wesley St.George as Director of Pilot Services.

The newly formed French Polynesian vACC got off to a shaky start and has subsequently been shut down due to staffing problems. VATPAC who administers this airspace is planning to combine several south pacific FIRs into one large South Pacific VACC and is in consultation with Peter Nielsen, the VATEUD Director with the view of bringing the FRANCE vACC to the table for discussions. It is our desire to see participation of the FRANCE vACC in this new venture.

Discussions with VATUSA, VATPAC and VATNZ on the OCEANIC Controllers LOA have started again and progress has been made with approval given to sign off on the final draft of the LOA. At the time of writing the document has been signed by all parties. A Facility Advisory Board will be established to handle the day to days matters affecting the OCEANIC area and agreement is yet to be reached on the training syllabus. A website will be developed containing all training materials, MOODLE test and Controllers register.

The individual Division Reports are included below:-

VATSIM NEW ZEALAND QUARTERLY REPORT TO THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR – Q2 2009

April-June 2009 has been a steady quarter at VATNZ with increases in both ATC and traffic over the first quarter of the year.

386 VATSIM members are now formally part of VATNZ, up 66 new members from 320 at the end of the last quarter, so we continue to see steady growth in our membership numbers. Many more supporters regularly visit the Website and participate in the forum discussions. Members get an automated email when they join VATNZ welcoming them to the division and highlighting some of what we have on offer.
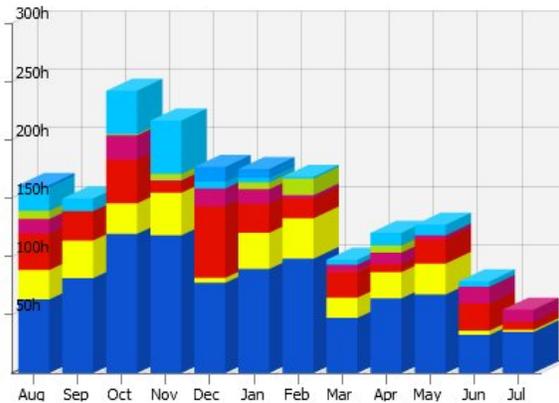

As expected, the Auckland Sector continues to be the busiest by controller sessions as this is the area that usually sees the highest volume of aircraft movements.

Overall, I'm very happy with 326 hours ATC given the small number of Controllers VATNZ has amongst its membership.
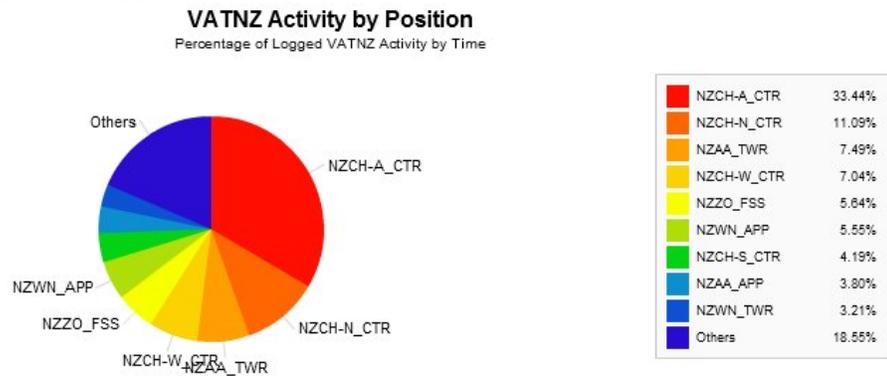
Airspace Summary

A summary of the recorded controller activity in VATNZ airspace broken down by airspace.

VATNZ Activity by Airspace
Percentage of Logged VATNZ Activity by Time
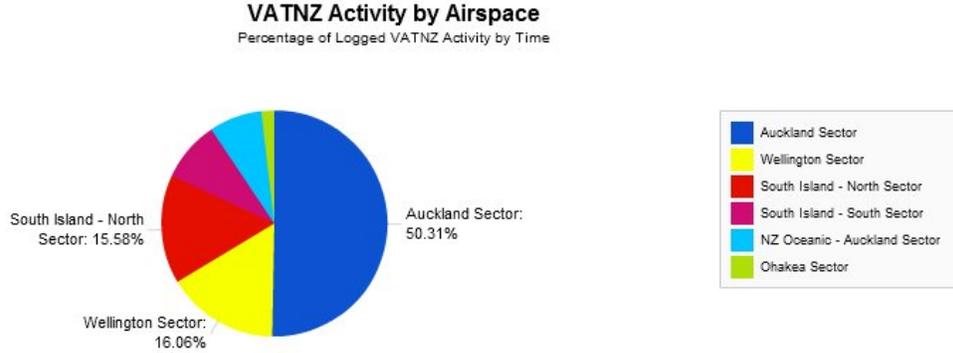
#	Airspace	Name	Sessions	Time Online	%
1	NZCH-A_CTR	Auckland Sector	185	164h 17m	50.31
2	NZCH-W_CTR	Wellington Sector	46	52h 26m	16.06
3	NZCH-N_CTR	South Island - North Sector	51	50h 52m	15.58
4	NZCH-S_CTR	South Island - South Sector	21	28h 14m	8.65
5	NZZO_FSS	NZ Oceanic - Auckland Sector	14	24h 37m	7.54
6	NZOH_CTR	Ohakea Sector	2	6h 03m	1.86
6 airspaces			319	326h 31m	

Position Summary - Q3 2009

A summary of the positions that have recorded activity in VATNZ airspace.

VATNZ Activity by Position
Percentage of Logged VATNZ Activity by Time

NZCH-A_CTR	33.44%
NZCH-N_CTR	11.09%
NZAA_TWR	7.49%
NZCH-W_CTR	7.04%
NZZO_FSS	5.64%
NZWN_APP	5.55%
NZCH-S_CTR	4.19%
NZAA_APP	3.80%
NZWN_TWR	3.21%
Others	18.55%

Enroute continues to be the most popular position in VATNZ airspace accounting for over half of all controlling and shows an increase on the last quarter. This quarter has seen a reduction in Approach controlling following the promotion to Enroute Controller of one of our keenest Controllers.

Position Type Summary - Q3 2009

A summary of the position types that have recorded activity in VATNZ airspace.

VATNZ Activity by Position Type
Percentage of Logged VATNZ Activity by Time

Enroute Control	59.03%	
Tower	21.57%	
Approach	13.76%	
Oceanic Control	5.64%	
Clearance Delivery	0%	
Departure	0%	
Ground	0%	

#	Type	Sessions	Time Online	%
1	Enroute Control (CTR)	164	192h 45m	59.03
2	Tower (TWR)	104	70h 25m	21.57
3	Approach (APP)	42	44h 56m	13.76
4	Oceanic Control (FSS)	9	18h 24m	5.64
7 position types		319	326h 31m	

FLIGHTS

As can be seen, the three main cities of New Zealand are the busiest for flight movements, which is as per expectations. There has been a nice increase to some regional airports in New Zealand which is a direct result of our Sunday Night Operations focus trying to get flights into some regional ports as well

In total, 95 different airports covered by VATNZ saw 4,286 aircraft movements in the quarter, a big increase in the 3,740 in the previous quarter.

173 different aircraft types flew into VATNZ over the quarter with the average flight duration being 2 hours 14 minutes.

Refine Search

| Q2: Apr-Jun ▾ | 2009 ▾ | Go |

- **Note:** Flight Activity is only included if the flight passes through VATNZ airspace.
- **Note:** Flight Time Rankings are based upon flight time that occurs within VATNZ airspace; not total flight time.

#	Airport	Flights	% of All Flights	Average Duration	Arrivals	Arr/Dep Ratio	Departures	Internal	Int/Ext Ratio	External
1	NZAA	1109	25.87	3h 31m	596		513	545		564
2	NZCH	747	17.43	2h 50m	364		383	493		254
3	NZWN	528	12.32	1h 23m	262		266	469		59
4	NZQN	153	3.57	1h 44m	61		92	130		23
5	NZDN	116	2.71	1h 34m	50		66	105		11
6	NZNV	106	2.47	1h 59m	56		50	100		6
7	NZHN	87	2.03	55m	45		42	86		1
8	NZNS	84	1.96	1h 07m	42		42	84		
9	NZWP	80	1.87	1h 36m	37		43	66		14
10	NZPM	76	1.77	1h 11m	36		40	73		3

TRAINING

Training is coming along slowly with a number of Controllers undergoing training. 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.

VATNZ has actively participated in the VATSIM discussions on the Global Ratings Policy review and awaits the final review with interest.

EVENTS

We have seen a steady increase in traffic supporting the Sunday night events each week. We continue to advertise the SNOs far and wide and this has also seen a number of international pilots supporting the event each week. Of most note here have been the numbers who have seen the SNOs announced each week in vroute.

Our regular weekly VFR Flyin on a Thursday evening, coined "VATNZ Flight Club" continues to prove to be extremely popular. The flights are well thought out and cover different parts of New Zealand each week, leaving from the previous week's location. These flights are proving popular with members with more and more joining in the flight each week.

REPLACEMENT BOARD MEMBER

VATNZ appointed a new Pilot Operations Director, Wesley St. George to the role this quarter. Wesley is one of our younger members and is doing a great job. He has been responsible for

planning all of the VATNZ Flight Club events for the past 12 months and is doing well to get more people flying online.

Overall, VATNZ is progressing well and continues to support the needs of its members.

Mark Richards

DIVISION DIRECTOR

15th July 2009

VATPAC Division Report: April – June 2009

For the last quarter, VATPAC has continued to grow in traffic and controller numbers.

Membership numbers increased steadily, with this resulting in increases in membership to our forums.

Division Director

This quarter the Division Director, Rob Hooley, announce his resignation, effective from the 1st of July. At the time of this report being generated, Shannon Wells, the Deputy Director of Division was announced as his replacement. The Deputy Director role is currently in the process

of being finalised, with the role expected to be modified to include a greater involvement of the development of the pacific/oceanic areas of the division.

Training

Training has not had any major concerns this quarter, with promotions being approved within expected timeframes.

Events

Some major events included the "KFC" event in late June, expansion of events in the pacific islands and greater involvement of Virtual Airlines in our events program.

Airspace

The half-yearly sector files were released without any concerns.

VATPAC is also working on a beta release of Euroscope, which has being modified to replicate the Australian real life ATC system TAAATS. This is in a closed beta testing group and by all reports, is progressing well.

During the quarter, a vACC, French Polynesia was established. Its development is still focus and it is hoped that a formalized agreement will be established in the next 3 months.

Shannon Wells

Division Director

16th July 2009

Quarterly Report to the VATSIM Executive Committee
July 18, 2009

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VATSIM North America is alive and well! There have been some exciting changes this quarter in North America and plenty more to come, all of which will hopefully result in a more prosperous Region. The most important changes are those in staffing. VATUSA has undergone a major "changing of the guard" with a new VATUSA1, VATUSA2, VATUSA3, VATUSA6, VATUSA7, and VATUSA9 all being appointed, along with other changes at the ARTCC levels. From day one of their appointment, the new staff members have shown their commitment and dedication to improving the network, and have been working hard ever since, revising major policies, implementing positive changes throughout the division, and creating a very open atmosphere in which the business of the division does not take place behind closed doors. They are a goal-oriented staff who believes in the power of teamwork and involvement to accomplish their objectives through open communication amongst all members, and just plain hard work.

Of notable interest, following the malicious attack of the server where the VATUSA website was hosted, an entirely-redesigned VATUSA website was implemented within a day or two of the event; which also happened to be the day after Andrew Podner was appointed as the new VATUSA6.   Not even having time to get his feet wet and familiarize himself with the website and systems, Andrew worked tirelessly to completely redesign not only the entire public website, but the entire backend/staff-access systems, and instruction and test certification systems as well. This is an ongoing process that is currently around 70% complete. The entire system is expected to be implemented in its entirety by September, with testing taking place throughout August. This is a monumental endeavor that Andrew has handled flawlessly. Great job!

There have also been many positive changes in VATCAN. They have filled their staff positions and can now boast a fully-staffed Board of Directors in their division. As well, every FIR in VATCAN is fully-staffed. This has been a long time in the making, and the VATCAN members are proud to finally have their FIRs staffed with highly-dedicated individuals. Of other interest is

that the VATCAN website is, for the first time, fully integrated with the VATSIM data servers. This will especially improve the promotion procedures, shortening the time it takes for a controller's promotion to be processed while automatically sending the promotion to CERT, and help with data gathering for statistical purposes.

The National Training Unit for Canada is also operational, and is successfully processing new students every day. Since the mid-June completion date, there have been 91 brand new students enrolled in the NTU! Go Canada! That is a very healthy amount of new students and will hopefully further increase the staffing levels in VATCAN.

VATCAN also has two staff members appointed to working on the VATSIM pilot certifications. They are hoping this will also draw more pilot activity to the Canadian Division.

Statistical Membership Data

VATUSA

New sign-ups this quarter: 743
      New sign-ups are down slightly compared to the previous quarter.

Total Membership

Pilot/OBS: 16,073
S1: 3,673
S3: 845
C1: 355
C3: 523
I1/I3: 107
Other: 50

Total Controller Force: 5,553

VATCAN

Total Membership

Pilot/OBS: 2395
S1: 210
S3: 85
C1: 40
C3: 21
I1/I3: 47 (20 of which are not currently active)
Other: 3

Total controller force: 406

Training

Both divisions are awaiting the completion of the GRP review. Pertinent information has been passed to the divisions, and both VATCAN and VATUSA have begun adjusting their training programs and procedures in anticipation of the changes.

Training continues to progress in both divisions, however with the destruction of the VATUSA website and systems, and the new implementation of the VATCAN National Training Unit, detailed statistics are not currently available. Next quarter should yield comprehensive results and valuable evaluations of the training taking place within the Region.

Both VATCAN and VATUSA have begun the process of upgrading students to the new S2 rating, with minimal complications. Over half of VATCAN has been upgraded, and the majority of VATUSA upgrades have been complete. The process will easily be finished ahead of schedule, in both Divisions.

Concerns

VATUSA is currently lacking complete staffing in 3 of the 22 current ARTCCs. These positions will be filled as soon as possible.

The lack of new VATSIM Supervisors continued to be an issue, particularly with VATCAN. The latest processing of new Supervisors was definitely a welcome event.

The VATNA website has been down for over a month, and continues to remain inaccessible. This is due to problems at the domain registrar, and is currently being resolved by both me and Craig Merriman, the former VATNA1. I hope to have the website available and completely updated by August. Unfortunately, the current issues are out of our control.

Airspace and Procedures

Interest has been expressed in forming and staffing the Guam ARTCC within the VATUSA division. This is a welcome addition, and will hopefully yield an increase in both controllers and pilots in the Pacific Ocean. Long-term, this could have a beneficial effect on overall traffic in the Pacific, increasing levels of traffic in Hawaii, Oakland Oceanic Control, VATPAC and VATNZ, and the west coast of the United States and Canada.

There is currently a joint effort taking place between several major Regions and Divisions, to create and enact an oceanic partnership, that will in turn increase controller staffing and pilot traffic in the lonely Pacific Ocean. VATOCE, VATNA, VATPAC, VATNZ, and VATUSA have been trying to revive and enact this policy, which has gone stagnant for over 3 years. The hard-working staff members of the above-mentioned facilities are now very close to finalizing and executing this agreement. The policy will serve as an excellent example of how to further the truly-global

community of VATSIM, and will illustrate the importance of extending our previously-limited borders to include members from around the VATSIM world. A big thank you to everyone who has worked on this agreement

VATSIM Europe Region Report

For the period April 2009 – July 2009

www.vateur.org

Kyprianos Biris VATEUR1

director@vateur.org

VATSIM Europe Division Report

VATSIM Europe Division Report
(Statistics as of July 26th since 21st April 2009,)

VATEUD Division Staff changes
I am very happy to say that the new team structure remains firmly in place with
no changes of staff or positions. Thomas George (VATEUD2) has been on an
extended leave of absence since end of May and his duties temporarily taken
over by VATEUD4 and VATEUD12.

Membership and Training
New members signed up for the period stands at 833.
Welcome emails are being expanded to new members in their local language
who will also receive follow up mails 14 and again 30 days from signup enquiring

if they need assistance.

The total number of Passed Eurotest applications for this period stand at 448, of which 70% are Student tests.

The new Student 1 Test set that was introduced early this year has a consistent pass ratio on excess of 85% and the new S2 Test set has been developed and is awaiting GRP2 implementation in order to be activated.

Instructor Courses are continuing with a new 7 session course having started on June 16th. Marc Riedel will soon be able to devote 100% time on further developing these courses following his resignation as the Director of the German vACC.

Pilot Training is at present at a cross road with Kyle Ramsey having taken a very active but also extremely un-compromising stance. In VATEUD we have been developing a very comprehensive approach to Pilot Training only to have a watered down version, focused on FAA rules and a central data base thrown at us with an attitude of "this is it guys learn to live with it as it ain't changing" clearly this approach is not conductive to a harmonious atmosphere and at present my two PTD staff members are thinking about throwing in the towel.

GRP Europe Division is ready for the implementation in middle of August and we do not foresee any major problems, with exception of our deep concerns about the future of the Senior Controller Rating, especially in areas such as Euro Center. For the time being we will monitor the situation, in any event Euro Center will continue to require a C3 rated person for the time being.

Events & PR Department

Fred Navarro has been busy arranging and expanding events across the Division, including an all encompassing total cover for VATUED in June which saw every single FIR manned for a period in excess of 4 hours.

We are using the VATEUD event calendar and data base more and more to advertise CPT's.

Fred will next be tasked with producing regular "news bulletins" to all EUD members.

EUD vACCs notable changes

SAG officially ceases to exist on September 4th after which it will be solely focused on vACC Germany. The transformation has been slow and at time painful. A total new staff has been agreed upon with Andreas Fuchs taking on the role of vACC Director.

Swiss vACC became a stand alone vACC earlier this year and is progressing as expected.

France seem to have fallen a bit behind this period, in comparison with the good results they had in 2008. there have been a few changes to their internal staff structure and we are monitoring the situation.

Scandinavia has jumped in membership and now has close to 2200 members and are providing continued good quality service**.**

Poland has transformed it self over the last 6 to 9 months and we are seeing great on line presence and above all good stream of upgrades under the direction of the new vACC director.

Turkey which as reported earlier was of concern to us has also seen a total reorganization having taken place locally with a new Staff Structure and above all a change in mentality and we are seeing a good on line presence and finally an increase in upgrades.

For the rest its business as normal and as expected this time of the year it is relatively quiet with many members away on vacation and absent from their homes/offices etc.
As usual, my thanks to the entire team for their enthusiasm and for supporting the Division and making it the success that it is.

Peter Nielsen
VATEUD1

VATUK United Kingdom Division.
www.vatsim-uk.org

I start this report by stating it is with deep regret that I am standing down as VATUK1 at a date to be confirmed with Kyp.

I have enjoyed my tenure albeit short as UK1 and had hoped to complete a longer term however certain aspects have forced my hand and as such Kyp accepted my resignation in June 2008.

I continue to manage the division until a successor is appointed.

The U.K is clearly in a state of transition with no Director or Training department at a key time in the GRP2 implementation.

We are however ready to implement S2 and further changes as they are announced.

Web Issues

There have been a number of issues around servers and web hosting which have now been resolved with each part of the UK site hosted on different servers around the world ensuring we have some functions working if one area decides to go offline.

The server host for FSD is still in place however as we no longer use it for UK web services we are unaware how long that will remain as a service to Vatsim.

I am very grateful for all the work Anthony Lawrence has put into ensuring we are now back online and available to members.

Regional Training Schemes

Essex

The website (like everyone) has taken the action in Essex to a fierce full stop in terms of mentoring and student progression, something which had really picked up in recent weeks. However, staffing appears to be holding up and we hope to be back in business when the site is 100% stable again.

As always, the main issue training-wise we are having to tackle is the OBS>STU progression, a problem I have voiced my opinion about over the past 18 months. Obviously, this is not a short-term thing that can be "fixed", but we definitely need to look at how we can improve the training model for this part of ATC Training

Northern

Membership

The overall number of members has remained relatively steady. A notable intake of members having previously left to finish exams and other academic commitments has seen the trend slightly raise towards the beginning of the quarter. This gain however, has been cancelled by transfers and leavers during the same period. I am looking into retention and have identified a number of casual factors for the most part beyond our control and a few that are due to perceived lack of progress that are being addressed.

The Region is closed while the backlog of s1 twr trainees (66) are processed through to their twr exams.

Position Staffing/Training

Generally the Manchester and Liverpool aerodromes have enjoyed high staffing levels fairly constantly. Leeds has begun to slip and active controllers have elected to re-train at GP/CC.

I'm extremely keen to re-generate the interest in the regional aerodromes and have already begun to start selection of mentors for Newcastle and Durham.

Mentoring at GP/CC has been consistent and we have had a number of students progress through to take their practical exams. NM has seen a decline in mentoring due to the mentor's r/w commitments.

Some members on the older s3 rating who have not yet completed their s3 APP exam have been actively engaged in acquiring this to bring them in-line with the current system.

Events

We have hosted 1 event this being the new format fast4ward (at GP) where entire day's flights are condensed into a 4hr period. It was hoped that this format would allow us to hold events at the regional fields and provide a high level of traffic where there would normally not be that exposure. The feedback from both pilots and controllers has been encouraging and we will be holding future fast4wards throughout the region.

These events would not be possible without the co-operation of TT RTS for which we are extremely grateful to have received constantly excellent staffing at sometimes less than ideal notice.

We had an Easter Event at Manchester planned - however this did not go ahead due to a number of factors of which NRTS position staffing and the unforeseen server downtime played a major part.

I'm particularly keen on having more collaborative events between regions - Northern has been in discussion with Midlands over hosting a joint VFR event between Barton and Wolverhampton. This would cater for both VFR pilots and allow Radar controllers much needed practice with non-IFR traffic, which has been identified as a particularly weak area of NRTS S1 app trainee's knowledge.

In conclusion the Region is currently has a high number of members and a relatively healthy level of active members participating in both training and staffing.

The Region's main focus is addressing the weighting of the number of S1(66)/S3(15 of which 8 are still on the old rating) controllers, re-starting interest in the regional aerodromes, hosting regular events to keep the interest going and arranging collaborative events with the other regions (V/IFR) to keep everything varied for pilots.

I look forward to working with the Northern membership, mentors and the VATUK Team to continue to provide services to the community

Scottish

2nd Quarter April – July 2009 Review
Controlling
Controlling levels within the RTS over the last 3 months have seen a dramatic fall. The number of "active" controllers within the region now stands in single figures with 6 out of the entire membership manning positions on a regular basis. This gives me a massive cause for concern, and a remedy for this problem is yet to be found.
Training
Training within the RTS has almost come to a standstill over the last 3 months. A severe lack of mentors and a large number of students and observers requiring mentoring have put us into a somewhat difficult position. Currently the number of "active" mentors within the RTS stands at about 3. Mentors within the RTS find themselves doing nothing but mentoring with no time to do anything else on the network so we get this problem where no one mentors and no one progresses. Whenever mentoring does take place, the sessions are usually so far apart, especially on Radar and Control positions that students are gaining nothing from it because they must refresh on what has been previously learned.
Despite the problems however, we have recently had a successful C1 exam on Scottish Control and a successful Pre-Exam on Edinburgh Tower with many more nearing exam standard.
Membership
The membership within SCONI has always been very small but it is of great concern to me that there are fewer new comers than ever to the RTS. It is

foreseen that in the future manning at both airfields and on area control within SCONI will be a big issue.

Events

SCONI have not held any RTS events within the Second quarter, but have taken part in numerous VA and other events arranged out with the RTS. All events have been a great success. It was planned to host a Belfast TMA realops event on June 14th, this fell through however due to a lack of controllers.

Conclusion

Overall this has been a poor quarter for the RTS with a bleak outlook for the future. At the moment I am continuing optimistically in the hope that things will change. We are focusing currently on providing our members with high quality resources and training to help them in their virtual controlling careers.

All members agree that the resources provided to them are of a high quality and all find them to be very useful. For the first time in almost 3 years the Scottish sector file has also been updating to bring it right up to date, with continuous revision.

The focus at the moment is on the low activity and I hope this will improve over the next quarter.

GRP2

The UK is ready to move with GRP2 and fully supports the work Roland and Kyle have put into pulling it all together. We still have concerns over the C3 rating however I am sure that will be resolved at a later stage.

Conclusion

There is no doubt that the past 5 weeks have been difficult for the UK and I wish that matters could have worked out differently to the results we have seen as I know I and the Uk staff team have a great passion for this hobby.

As this will be my last report as UK Director I would like to thank Kyprianos Biris, Peter Nielsen and Thomas George and Roland Collins for all their support during my tenure as UK Director a position I had always wanted to hold and of course I am sad to be leaving but I wish Vatsim a successful future and will continue to support the network until the new UK Divisional Director is appointed.

Sean Reedman

Director

Vatsim-UK

VATRUS Russia Division

www.vatrus.net.ru

STAFF:
VATRUS Staff has been re-organized. Some new positions, some positions removed, some brand new people, some people has returned to Staff. The current complete list can be found here:
http://www.vatrus.net.ru/en/contacts.html
We hope, that this team will be able to considerable improve the Russian section of VATSIM in all directions.
I should specially note our DCRM. Unfortunatelly, Sergey Karach, who had been recently appointed refused to to the job, due to personal real-life reasons, so Andrew Sheybak got that wheel now.
Actually, we have only just began to work with the new team, so the major results will appear in some time.
Also now we have VATRUS Staff email-server, and all the e-mail addresses will belong not to a person, but to a certain VATRUS Staff member as long as the server is running, hopefully forever :) Everyone from now can consider those e-mails as official for VATRUS.

TRAINING/MEMBERSHIP:
The requirements of the updated GRP ad been fulfilled, all of STU1's approved for TWR ATC operations are now STU2.
Local rating requirements, training programs and online tests had been updated according to GRP.

AIR TRAFFIC / EVENTS:
We had 4 major fly-ins within the period. More than 200 pilots and controllers took part in them. Not too much, yes, but, summertime...
We continue the work with VA's for them to be properly registered in VATSIM VA Partners an VATRUS.

WEBSITE
The brand new one is under development by the corresponding team. I hope soon we'll be able to see many interesting things at www.vatrus.net.ru ...

So, that's it by now. I'm sure, that the next report will be much better :)

_____

Sincerely,

Sergey Butovichev
VATRUS1

VATSIM Africa & Middle East Region

Region report for Vatsim Africa/Middle East July 2009

General

- VATAME has over 4587 total members. This again shows a more than satisfactory growth in the region, of around 100 new members/month.
- VATAME continue to show excellent level of discipline, with very few disciplinary actions taken against members.
- It became common practice in VATAME to make connections with real world aviation world. Started with the ongoing El Al – Vatil cooperation, continued in VATSAF and now new initiatives in VATME (see below) and new plans in VATIL.
- Senior Staff changes - Vatil director Mr. Tomer Haim has retired by his request and replaced by Mr. Mickey Lip. Mickey is a veteran member, well appreciated in the local community and we wish him good luck. Many thanks to Tomer for his time and great job done!

A word from the divisions

VATSAF Division Overview
Members: 376

We are proud to announce that our division has grow the past 12 months rapidly,
We have a very active and motivated Events department, keep up with the demands from the members. Three events weekly and also a full weekend Scaduled. This also means we working on a weekly training program for controllers. We are almost every evening online covering the SA Fir's to make
sure visiting pilots receive first class ACT services.

We also planning big VATSIM online events in the next 2 months and our Events department is busy working on a project to enhance traffic to other
parts of Africa. We will make contact with al the other African divisions and planed together a BIG AFRICA Event. Working together will certainly
draw more traffic to the North ,Mid,Southern parts of our continent.

Thank You and Best Regards -
André de Waal
VATSAF-Director - South Africa

27 June 2009 (Revision-A)

- Director's Quarter 2-2009 report for VATSIM Central Africa Division

Overview and announcements:

VATCAF is currently preparing for the upcoming GRP changes. Our new website is up and running, although it needs a lot of work and updates which are ongoing.

To further improve training and development, VATCAF has appointed Daniel Green as Division Training Director and added a new instructor to the ranks. We are taking huge steps to improve our controller training resources to attract new controllers on a daily basis.

Significant FIR and VA development is also underway behind the scenes and we expect huge progress over the next few quarters as we appoint people to help us in every aspect of development.

Our goals for improvements are huge and will take some time to complete. VATAME can expect very good progress in Q3-4 as we gather a great group of people who are dedicated to VATCAF's success!

VATCAF had adopted the following major improvements to our current ATC services affective June 21st:

1. Adoption and implementation of radar service for AFRC_FSS above FL130 in all overland airspace within VATCAF boundaries. Procedural control will prevail over oceanic sectors.
2. Adoption of ICAO document 4444 as a Division minimum standard of ATC service.
3. Adoption and preparation for the new GRP and training and assessment standards.

Current Staff as of 21 June 2009:

Thomas Mathieu, Division Director

Alex Cohrs, Deputy Director

Daniel Green, ATC Training Director

Marco Balzarotti, Pilot Training Director

Fabio Oliveira, Events Director

Current FIR Directors:

Kinshasa FIR: Marco Balzarotti

Accra FIR: John Koranteng

Kano FIR: Daniel Green

Nairobi FIR: Thomas Mathieu

Luanda FIR: Fabio Oliveira

Development FIR Directors:

Seychelles FIR: Johnathon Neilsen

Mogadishu FIR: Thomas Johnson

Current Supervisors:

VACANT

Current Instructors:

Daniel Green, I3 (Regional Instructor)
Mimmo Muraglia, I1 (Divisional Instructor)
Thomas Mathieu, I1 (Divisional Instructor)

Outlook and Events for Q3 2009:

VATCAF continues to look for ways to improve service, events and staffing frequency. Our controller recruitment remains below our goals but we expect Q3 to improve.

Member feedback for Q2 2009:

No feedback received for this report.

VATCAF Staff Meeting Summary For Q2:

Meeting Date: Sunday June 21, 2009

Meeting Attendees:
Thomas Mathieu (TM)
Alex Cohrs (AC)
Daniel Green (DG)

Meeting Opened 1823z

TM gave overview of current Division status, GRP review Updates and status of Nairobi FIR. In addition, TM briefed all on the website development including a pilot booking system that was proposed in Q1
TM Discussed updates from VATAME regarding cert access and the progress there.
TM announced a huge FIR project in Kenya and the development of Central African Airways VA which will fly all of Central Africa and compete with every VA in Central Africa!

AC agreed that though things around VATCAF seem quiet, much work is ongoing.

TM expressed his concern that all his Division, FIR and VA projects are way behind schedule due to real world issues.

TM updated all on the GRP review and its progress to date. Discussed GRP discussions and issues.

All discussed concerns over the lower participation of controllers and flights within the CAF airspace.
TM suggested appointing deputy FIR Director for Kano FIR.

(Executive Session)
(end exec session)
AC and DG expressed concerns that traffic and controller interest is lacking

TM suggested having weekly events to boost traffic and controller participation.

DG suggested that our non radar procedures are preventing higher traffic levels and suggested adopting Division wide radar service.

DG suggested AFRC_FSS and Centers provide full radar service above the TMA level to attract pilots.

AC agreed with DG's assessment. He also suggested wider area coverage for CTR's.

TM agreed that AFRC_FSS could provide radar service on VATSIM.

AC,TM, and DG voted in favor of radar service for AFRC_FSS and the motion was adopted. TM will update the website by July 1, 2009, 5001 to 5477 squawk codes shall be used per the agreement.

AC gave an update on AFRC_FSS update on the different tracking tools and which programs properly display FSS.

DG: Suggested that TM expand to a more Regional role.

TM updated all on the NAF and SAF activities as he saw it.

AC discussed our events activity moving forward and all agreed that events need to be increased to weekly verses just one monthly event.

AC expressed concerns that the events director was unavailable and we will look into.

AC and DG commented on the great progress of the meeting as one of the most productive in recent times.

TM opened the T&A (Training and assessment) discussion.

TM discussed goals for new training programs and standards at a Divisional level and set minimum standards.

TM discussed S1 And S2 options for the new GRP. Also discussed rating transportability minimums.

TM expressed concerns of the lack of updated information available info for us to model real world operations in VATCAF.

AC and DG suggests ICAO standards for ATC service in VATCAF. TM agreed.

DG expressed concerns over the lack of Training Director role and training material available.

TM agreed that the direction of our training programs need major improvement. Staffing changes were discussed.

DG expressed concerns that TM has taken on too many tasks and is overwhelmed...TM agreed.

AC,DG and TM agree that a staffing change is needed in regards to training.

(Entered Exec, Session)
(exit exec session)
TM and AC agreed on appointment of new Training Director in exec. session. DG is selected based on commitment and experience. TM and AC agreed on the candidate and adopted the decision effective 21 June 2009.

All discussed current projects and VA activities and closed the meeting.

Action Items:

Update website to reflect staffing changes (Done)
Brief new TD on goals and projects for training (Scheduled TS meeting)
Update website with new AFRC_FSS info (Scheduled)
Update rosters (Done)
Update DD and TD on the GRP and add them to the discussion group (Done)
Cert Access for Director (on-going)
Nomination of Sups (VATAME on-going)
Update Kano FIR page (not started)
Update Nairobi FIR page (delayed)
Update VATCAF pages (On-going)

Current registered VATCAF Division Members:

Unknown: access to data not available to VATCAF.

Current Registered Member Roster as of 27 June 2009:

Member Name	PID	FIR	Rating	Status
Mamadou Kebe	959611	DGAC	Student	ACTIVE
John Koranteng	1011061	DGAC	Senior Student	ACTIVE
Alexander Cohrs	899395	DGAC	Controller	ACTIVE
Bernhard Harb	933889	DGAC	Controller	VISITOR
Patrick Werner	974248	DGAC	Senior Student	VISITOR
Stephane Hodonou	1027284	DGAC	Senior Student	ACTIVE
Aggrey Ellis	964561	DGAC	Student	ACTIVE
Razak Iddrisu	1031776	DGAC	Pilot/OBS	ACTIVE
Loma Victorien	1043752	DGAC	Student	ACTIVE
Frederik Palmer	1022541	DGAC	Student	VISITOR
Robin van den Honert	1037309	DNKK	Controller	ACTIVE
Chinedu Ekweozoh	1034040	DNKK	Pilot/OBS	VISITOR
Daniel Green	996057	DNKK	**Senior Instructor**	ACTIVE
Zachary Beard	995625	DNKK	Senior Student	ACTIVE
Keghtor Jika	1103539	DNKK	Pilot/OBS	VISITOR
Robert Swievel	935799	DNKK	Senior Student	VISITOR
Alain BILONG	992105	FCCC	Student	ACTIVE
DAVID Caceres	1076070	FCCC	Pilot/OBS	VISITOR
Ian Mann	973713	FCCC	Senior Student	VISITOR
Anthony Katongo Musaluke	1090091	FLFI	Pilot/OBS	ACTIVE
Fabio Oliveira	965424	FNAN	Controller	ACTIVE
Eder Pina	1097217	FNAN	Pilot/OBS	ACTIVE
Bruno Garrocho	1066232	FNAN	Pilot/OBS	ACTIVE
Marco Balzarotti	1004607	FZZA	Controller	ACTIVE
Mugur Ion	1031557	FZZA	Pilot/OBS	ACTIVE
Jody Turner	1018734	FZZA	Controller	VISITOR
Jose M Pereira	832297	FZZA	Senior Controller	VISITOR
Ahmed FTILLOU	1016067	FZZA	Senior Student	VISITOR
Marc Guetre	986422	FZZA	Controller	VISITOR
Jeff Smith	900591	FZZA	Senior Controller	VISITOR
Tomasz Macher	960792	FZZA	Student	ACTIVE
Graeme Herbert	1013547	FZZA	Student	ACTIVE
Bryan Young	1094222	FZZA	Pilot/OBS	VISITOR
Freek Stegmann	1019306	FZZA	Pilot/OBS	VISITOR
Ray Lang	899884	FZZA	Senior Controller	VISITOR
Mimmo Muraglia	959952	FZZA	**Instructor**	ACTIVE
Raymond Taylor	1100174	FZZA	Pilot/OBS	ACTIVE

Thomas Johnson	928465	HCSM	Senior Student	ACTIVE
Johnathon Neilsen	955672	HCSM	Senior Student	ACTIVE
Bob Bodner	940061	HCSM	Pilot/OBS	VISITOR
Thomas Mathieu	998318	HKNA	**Instructor**	ACTIVE
Dieter Ebeling	816843	HKNA	Senior Student	VISITOR
Chris LaSalle	835050	HKNA	Student	VISITOR
NJOROGE MUNGAI	1095819	HKNA	Pilot/OBS	ACTIVE
Ermias Zemichael	956237	HTDC	Pilot/OBS	VISITOR
howard luka	1114292	HTDC	Pilot/OBS	ACTIVE
Malleck Ismael	1048441	PENDING	Pilot/OBS	VISITOR
ravinder dhiman	1045937	PENDING	Pilot/OBS	VISITOR

Report Drafted by:
Thomas Mathieu

Director-DCRM

VATSIM Central Africa Division

director@vatcaf.org

Report Approved on 08 March 2009

VATNAF – Vatsim North Africa Division

Seeing activity getting lower and lower. Solutions to be discussed at the regional level.

VATME - VATSIM Middle East Division

VATSIM Middle East is happy to report that we are seeing positive signs of growth. New members are joining, some brand new and other transfers from other networks – interest is strong, and we are continuing to develop the division.

We are happy to report that we have begun development on the VATSIM Kuwaiti FIR and the VATSIM

Syrian FIR, with interest being shown in the VATSIM Saudi FIR. We have no expected date as to when these FIRs will be open – but we hope soon.

VATSIM Middle East and VATSIM Egypt FIR have partnered up with a small NGO (kind of like the boyscouts of the Middle East) to open a Divisional FIR Office in Cairo, Egypt, which has about five to ten computers with flight simulator that we will be using to help train new pilots and get people interested in the Division. We are also very excited to Report that we are now official partners to the Royal Jordanian Gliding Club, and are allowed to use their facilities for VATME and VATJO meetings at the OJAM Airport in Amman.

We are also happy to report that we are almost done with development of our ATC Academy, located at http://academy.vatme.net. It is lead and operated by our Deputy Director Captain Ahmad Hassan.

We do have some small issue – there are a lot of instances where new members are Suspended for not having a proper name. Names like Hassan Hassan have been banned, despite the fact that they are perfectly normal and common names in the Middle East. We are asking that if there's ever any suspicious names of new members to our Division that we be notified – many of these members have a hard time knowing what to do on the VATSIM Network due to their limited English skills. Our Division staff is perfectly well trained and ready to help see these potential issues – the last thing we want is to have new members banned because of their name. While it may sound like a little problem (as they can just email and say that yes this is their real name), we must keep in mind that VATME is competing with another network Division for members, with members of the other division doing what they can to ensure members do not join us. It's only a small suggestion – having the same first and last name is very common, and abbreviations like "IB" or "MD" in someone's name is also common.

Just our two cents on the matter.

Respectfully,
Mahmoud A. Fadli
Division Director
VATSIM Middle East
director@vatme.net
www.vatme.net

VATIL – Vatsim Israel division

As mentioned, vatil changed its division director and most of the staff.

The new director has some new plans to further develop the division, and a detailed report will be made next quarter, after the new staff gets into business.