

## REGION REPORT - QUARTER 1 2012

Quarter 1 was a very successful one for the region with 270 upgrades (excluding Administrative Ratings), an improvement of 27.4% on the same quarter last year. 31.5% more people were upgraded to S1 and with recent changes to GRP this has had a positive effect on online time on Aerodrome Control positions and we have also seen a correlation with S2 promotions which are up 15% YoY, largely from VATRUS. S3 promotions were down in VATEUD by 29% which pulled the regional S3 upgrades down by 5.6% but strong performance in VATUK who have been trialling the S2 Solo Approach Validation scheme saw good improvements on last year, as did VATRUS. With The S2/APP scheme helping to improve conversion of S2s into APP controllers we hope that efficient implementation of this policy should help the division to improve performance as the year continues; I hope that this policy will be ready for launch by 1st September 2012 in VATEUD, though hopefully before.

It was a great month for the region's pilot training infrastructure with VATUK being granted Authorised Training Organisation (ATO) status and also vACC France who will be offering P1 training in French, allowing us to extend the scheme further to those French-speakers who might not be confident enough with English to learn to fly online in English. Outside of VATEUR, it is also great to see that Brazil achieved ATO status. We have often found a lot of Portuguese-speaking pilots having problems with the basics of flying online and so an efficient ATO which already exists in Portugal partnered with this new ATO in Brazil could improve the enjoyment of Portuguese-speaking pilots and their controllers of the network.

We have had some very successful events including the European Full Coverage event and the biannual Cross the Pond event. Russia has had strong event activity and is currently planning the Moscow Real World Operations event.

Overall, a promising first quarter but as always, still plenty of work yet to be done!

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#### **Divisions**

##### *Europe*

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|                         |  |     |           |           |            |  |
|-------------------------|--|-----|-----------|-----------|------------|--|
| <b>Member Retention</b> |  |     |           |           |            | Thanks to Alin Fusaru (VATEUD5) who has stepped down from this position for his hard work and dedication while in the role of New Member Coordinator. The role is currently being carried out by VATEUD1 while we review how the process operates to see how it can be improved. |
| <b>ATC Training</b>     |  | QTD | YTD<br>12 | YTD<br>11 | Var<br>(%) | The major event in ATC Training this quarter was the change from the Eurotest 3 Exam system to the new ATSimTest. Designed and coded by Frank Bitterlich, it is a marked step forward  |
| S1                      | 73   | 73  | 70        | +4%       |            |  |
| S2                      | 43   | 43  | 35        | +23%      |            |  |
| S3                      | 20   | 20  | 28        | -40%      |            |  |
| C1                      | 17   | 17  | 17        | =         |            |  |
| C3                      | 0  | 0   | 7         | -100%     |            |  |
| Σ                       | 153  | 153 | 157       | -3%       |            |  |
| <b>Pilot Training</b>   |  |     |           |           |            | The first quarter was a slow one for Pilot Training with only nine people completing the P1 course. However, this number should start to increase as we start to roll out the ATO program to the vACC with a trial vACC currently in the process of designing a program for P1.  |
| <b>Operations</b>       | The largest Operational change to the European Division was the trial to include the Ankara FIR in Euro control South. This trial is ongoing, and from feedback received, apart from one or two initial issues that have been ironed out, so far it has been well received by pilots and ATC alike.  |     |           |           |            |  |
| <b>Events</b>           | A usual busy quarter events with over eighty (80) events happening in the EUD virtual Skies. The highlight of this was the VATEUD Full Coverage Event, which saw all of VATEUD, along with VATUK online for several hours at once.   |     |           |           |            |  |
| <b>Other Comments</b>   | We have just started to roll out a VATEUD Virtual Airline Scheme. This scheme is aimed at closer co-operation between ATC and the VA's. Phase one is to allow vACC's access to the VATEUD events forum, which will allow them to both better advertise their events, and to be more aware of events around Europe they may be of interest to their members. This phase also includes adding the VA's to the WATEUD welcome email for their target countries, in the hope that it will increase membership for them, and in turn increase their activities in Europe. |     |           |           |            |  |

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| <b>Member Retention</b> |   |            |               |               |                | The interview of Vatrus1 on the “Russian Sky Team Radio” gave a great push to the listeners to join VATSIM. This radio unites the Russian-speaking simmers’ community. We saw a great growth of interest to our activity. |
| <b>ATC Training</b>     |   | <b>QTD</b> | <b>YTD 12</b> | <b>YTD 11</b> | <b>Var (%)</b> | A new program for ATC training was adopted. A new automated system for theoretical examination is being tested now and will be filled with more than 400 questions for all the ratings.                                   |
|                         | S1  | 37         | 37            | 14            | +164%          |   |
|                         | S2  | 10         | 10            | 10            | =              |   |
|                         | S3  | 7          | 7             | 5             | +40%           |   |
|                         | C1  | 12         | 12            | 1             | +1100%         |   |
|                         | C3  | 1          | 1             | 1             | =              |   |
|                         | <b>Σ</b>  | <b>67</b>  | <b>67</b>     | <b>31</b>     | <b>+116%</b>   |   |
| <b>Pilot Training</b>   |   |            |               |               |                | We are in the progress of renewal of the famous “Dobrolyot” pilots training school. It will help unite the scattered instructors and lead to common understanding of the training process.                                |
| <b>Operations</b>       | Roman Savel appointed as Operations Director.   |            |               |               |                |   |
| <b>Events</b>           | VATRUS Christmas Party 07.01.12 1100-1600Z<br>"2x2. Samara"- Online again ! 09.01.12 12-14Z<br>"2x2. Самара" – Your flights – our service”<br>The Inauguration of VATRUS1 25.02.12 0900-1300Z<br>“Khabarovsk. The opening. 01.04.12 09-12Z” |            |               |               |                |   |
| <b>Other Comments</b>   | VATRUS3 position is vacant now. Until we find a reliable person, the duties of the Training Dept Director will be passed to VATRUS2.  |            |               |               |                |   |

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| <b>Member Retention</b> |          |            |               |               |                | We are continuing in our drive to make the joining process more user-friendly and streamlined; this has included a complete re-write of our welcome emails which now contain a comprehensive guide on the services that VATSIM-UK provide, and where one can seek help. We are also working on streamlining the joining and retention system for visiting controllers.   |
| <b>ATC Training</b>     |          | <b>QTD</b> | <b>YTD 12</b> | <b>YTD 11</b> | <b>Var (%)</b> | We continue to use Solo Tower Validations (STVs) as well as Solo Approach Validations (SAV) to complement our training package; to date these initiatives have been well received by the membership. We have recently completed and released the online learning course for the S2 rating and are now working on the S3 and C1 ratings.  |
|                         | S1       | 32         | 32            | 24            | +33%           |  |
|                         | S2       | 9          | 9             | 9             | =              |  |
|                         | S3       | 7          | 7             | 3             | +133%          |  |
|                         | C1       | 1          | 1             | 0             | +              |  |
|                         | C3       | 1          | 1             | 2             | -50%           |  |
|                         | <b>Σ</b> | 52         | 52            | 38            | +37%           |  |
| <b>Pilot Training</b>   |          |            |               |               |                | See report at <a href="http://www.vatsim-uk.co.uk/website/download/fetch/?downloadID=00215">http://www.vatsim-uk.co.uk/website/download/fetch/?downloadID=00215</a>  |
| <b>Operations</b>       |          |            |               |               |                | Focus Fields have been used to revitalize the Military RTS; discussions on new initiatives are continuing to further strengthen ties between the Military RTS and the military pilot community.  |
| <b>Events</b>           |          |            |               |               |                | Once again, a number of successful events have been held this quarter, including a heavy UK involvement in the Cross The Pond event at the end of March.   |
| <b>Other Comments</b>   |          |            |               |               |                | This quarter has seen a remarkable improvement year-on-year in comparison to Q1 2011 in terms of ATC upgrades, and we continue to see improvements in training efficiency across the division. At the same time, a huge debt of gratitude must be made to Callum McLoughlin and his team for their huge amount of work into the Pilot Training scheme – the initiative has seen huge interest and continues to develop the product it provides to users. |