

## Region Report - Quarter 2 2013

The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2013 has seen a lot of activity. This has been a period where members that were promoted in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter have found their feet. VATEUD in particular has made great strides in getting systems in place in order to achieve transparency between vACCs and EUD.

Pilot Training continues to enjoy attention in all divisions with a good number of P rating upgrades being reported.

ATC instruction is in hand although we are seeing a decline in rating progression.

A good number of events are taking place in all regions, and the planning of the first ever Regional Event is underway.

In conclusion, the ground work has been done in VATEUR and I expect to see the great successes that have been achieved in this Quarter to be repeated if not exceeded during the rest of 2013.

**Apostolos Damkalis**  
*Region Director, Europe*  
*VATSIM.net*

**Region Director:** Apostolos Damkalis

**Deputy Region Director:** Stephan Reitingner

**Membership Director:** Christopher Marakis

### **Divisions**

#### *Europe*

**Director:** George Condes

**Website:** [www.vateud.net](http://www.vateud.net)

#### *Russia*

**Director:** Evgeny Vygornitsky

**Website:** [www.vatrus.info](http://www.vatrus.info)

#### *United Kingdom*

**Director:** Kris Thomson

**Website:** [www.vatsim-uk.co.uk](http://www.vatsim-uk.co.uk)

**Member Retention  
(Cathy Mariani -  
1081759)**

Ivan Kovacevic has decided to take a leave of absence for 60 days due to work commitments. This leave of absence will last until 15 July 2013 at which time Ivan's situation will be reviewed. Cathy Mariani has taken care of Ivan's Membership duties and Svilen has assumed responsibility for all IT related tasks.

A Newbie Flight Training program has been instituted. Each new member that registers is sent a welcome letter with contact details of the Newbie Flight Group. This initiative was launched 3 weeks ago and we have already responses from new members. Steve Amsden is the lead instructor and a drive is underway to recruit instructors that are able to instruct in the major European languages.

**ATC Training  
(Kay Wesche - 991619)**

	QTD	YTD 13	YTD 12	Var (%)
S1	50	87	53	64.1
S2	42	96	85	12.9
S3	19	45	71	-36.6
C1	17	32	48	-33.3
C3	0	1	2	-50
Σ	128	261	259	0.77

George Lauenstein has been appointed as VATEUD12. Georg comes to us from Austria where his well known as a controller and mentor. Georg has also studied Air Traffic Management and university and is about to complete his final studies. His first task is the re-write of the EUD ATC manual which he has already started and this will include the latest Eurocontrol facilities.

The hotly contested C3 policy has been completed and will appear on the VATEUD website within days of writing this report. This was a contentious topic and received a lot of criticism for all over Europe. The final version of this policy is a good compromise and will be well accepted.

vACC Malta and Albania have been granted unofficial status, Slovenia is still pending their official stamp of approval and Finland has exited the Open Sky program to become an official vACC under the Scandinavian umbrella once again.

**Pilot Training  
(Burak Bugday - 983451)**

Burak Bugday has been appointed as VATEUD3. Burak joins us from the Turkish vACC where he is Deputy Director. Burak has in turn appointed Duarte Folgado as VATEUD11 and together they are turning the VATEUD PTD around.

The EUD PTD was audited and granted permission to train and examine students up to the P2 rating. To ensure that audit criteria for the P2 rating certification were met, a new Pilot Training Department application was written. This application was written in house by Svilen Vassilev and is probably one of the best applications of its kind in VATSIM. The application can be viewed at: <http://ptd.vateud.net>. The PTD has had 110 candidates enroll of which 73 have been trained, examined and upgraded.

VATEUD currently has 11 Examiners and 9 instructors and is looking for more instructors within Europe because of the Newbie Flight Training Program as well as for P4 instruction and examination which will be launched within the coming quarter.

**Web Services  
(Svilen Vassilev -  
1175035)**

VATEUD has seen a huge change in service offering that has been developed. Besides the on-going development on the new EUD website, the highlights of this Quarter's offerings have been the development of the PTD Application, and the EUD Workflow Application. The Workflow Application not only streamlines EUD resources but it also add transparency to EUD in that it allows vACCs a view into what EUD is doing as well as allowing vACC the opportunity to participate in the growth of the Division.

A summary of activity is as follows:

## Task Completed

- Developed, documented and launched the VATEUD PTD application: [ptd.vateud.net](http://ptd.vateud.net); the app is fully documented at [ptd.vateud.net/help](http://ptd.vateud.net/help)
- Developed and launched the VATEUD tasks & workflow application: [tasks.vateud.net](http://tasks.vateud.net); a number of presentations/trainings were given to VATEUD & vACC staff, documentation in progress can be found at [tasks.vateud.net/help](http://tasks.vateud.net/help)
- Developed and launched vACC Albania website and email system, as part of the vACC launch effort: [albanivacc.eu](http://albanivacc.eu)
- Developed and launched the official website of the annual VATEUD Balkans United event: [balkans.vateud.net](http://balkans.vateud.net)
- Put together a simple temporary webpage in lieu of the defunct vACC Croatia official website: [crovacc.vateud.net](http://crovacc.vateud.net)
- Completed over 100 development, maintenance and support related tasks, as assigned by vACC or fellow EUD staff members. Full list available at [tasks.vateud.net/users/1?archived=true](http://tasks.vateud.net/users/1?archived=true)

## Recurring Tasks

- On-going processing of website changes as requested by VATEUD and VACC staff
- On-going moderation and administration of EUD forums, new account approvals, rank adjustments
- On-going maintenance and administration of EUD email system

## Tasks in progress

- Development of the new VATEUD website
- Further development and improvement of the PTD and Tasks applications based on user feedback and demands
- Deployment and configuration of the new EUD servers; written regulations and documentation of the server setup, access credentials and maintenance policies
- Full list of tasks in progress available at [tasks.vateud.net/users/1](http://tasks.vateud.net/users/1)

## Events (Daniel Conrad - 1096418)

Daniel has enlisted the help of Pedro de Esteban to assist with Events, Marketing and Communication.

The beginning of the Quarter saw EUD assisting VATSAF the planning and execution of the 'Cross Africa event. This event wasn't the overwhelming success that it was hoped it will be, but it must be stressed that EUD pulled out all the stops on the day and delivered as promised.

June saw the first United Balkan event come to fruition. This event that had been shelved for more than a year was a huge success in that it achieved the primary goal, and that was uniting the Balkan countries into a cohesive unit for 4 hours. The intention is that event will be repeated on an annual basis.

Pedro and Daniel have been meeting frequently and we can expect to see a schedule of exciting and unique events being planned in EUD for the rest of the year.



**Member Retention**

Most of the cases when Member Support is needed are wrong registrations or registrations with the Cyrillic letters.

We still ask for a possibility to deny registrations with letters other than English ones.

**ATC Training**

	QTD	YTD 13	YTD 12	Var (%)
S1	10	20	35	-42.8
S2	9	22	16	37.5
S3	10	9	33	-72.7
C1	3	15	28	-46.4
C3	1	2	3	-33.3
Σ	33	68	115	-40.8

We started helping Georgian controllers to settle their own VACC.

Several controllers are being taught in VATRUS division and started providing ATS at UGGG, Tbilisi, Georgia

**Pilot Training**

VATRUS "Strigino" (UWGG) Training Centre is actively working. A lot of new exercises have been published. Pilot Training seems to be very attractive to our new pilots.

Rostov URRR has become a second large center for pilot training.

4 new pilot instructors for Vatrus are actively involved into the process.

**Events**

Open air: Eastern spring 14.04.13 9-13Z. - <http://forum.vatrus.info/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=106>

April 28 10-14Z "Irkutsk UIII - long-awaited" - <http://forum.vatrus.info/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=109>

Cross Vatrus - 4th of May, 2013 - <http://forum.vatrus.info/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=112>

19th of May 14-18UTC Stockholm - St.Petersburg Shuttle - <http://forum.vatrus.info/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=114>

Chisinau- Moscow(Domodedovo)-Chisinau - <http://forum.vatrus.info/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=117>

"A day together" - <http://forum.vatrus.info/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=120>

**Other Comments**

We urgently need to set up a good and stable connection with Vataware programmers in order to effectively update data on Russian

**Member Retention**  
(Simon Irvine 858680)

The VATSIM-UK Live! event that is in planning will be different to events we usually hold. By bringing members together in the same room this event provides a different way for members to interact and keeps members interested.

**ATC Training**  
(Jamie Fox 811029)

	QTD	YTD 13	YTD 12	Var (%)
S1	18	48	48	0
S2	6	11	21	-47.6
S3	4	5	14	-64.2
C1	0	1	2	-50
C3	0	1	2	-50
Σ	28	66	87	-24.1

The updates to our web system (RTS system) reacting to the GRP change on 1st March relating to solo endorsements for approach have now been fully implemented, which will help to ensure that these endorsements are compliant with the GRP conditions, in particular the 30-day and 90-day restrictions. The system also allows more flexibility about when a renewal can be made, significantly reducing the chance of any endorsement expiring unintentionally.

For practical exams, examiners are now assigned directly to exam requests, replacing the previous system of examiners booking on an ad hoc basis. The objectives are: to ensure an even distribution of exams amongst examiners so that each examiner conducts enough exams to remain active and current, to allocate appropriate independent examiners and to minimise the delay between exam request and booking. In addition to the assignment system, inactive examiners were removed at this time.

Since the new assignment system was introduced there have been 12 exams, of which 11 were fully organised within 24 hours of being assigned and all were booked to take place no more than 7 days after the assignment being made, which for the student provides better continuity between the end of practical training and the practical exam itself. It is anticipated that the new system will prevent any repeat of the exam delay problems that were identified last year.

Work continues to standardise the way that the training system is managed. The processing of requests for membership of RTSs has been centralised, which is expected to improve efficiency and ensure that requests are handled promptly, removing any unnecessary delay particularly for new OBS members. The system of opening/closing RTSs to new members is under review to ensure that it is working effectively in matching demand to available capacity.

**Pilot Training**  
(Nayan Mehta 1073673)

Since Q1 of 2013 there has been a steady growth in the number of mentoring sessions accepted and carried out. There were a total of 64 mentoring sessions accepted, an increase of 30% from 49 last quarter. Of these, 43 were P1, an increase of 23% from last quarter. Furthermore there were 21 accepted P2 sessions, an increase of 31% from last quarter.

There were 18 P1 exam passes, only a small increase from 16 in Q1. However we have had 3 P2 exam passes, an increase from Q1. We expect to see our P2 figure rise as we enter the summer holiday season and as we continue with our development of P3 and domestic events.

66 members joined the department over the quarter.

## Operations

Callum McLoughlin left the Division Staff and has been replaced by Nayan Mehta as Pilot Training Director.

A website content overhaul started for airfield information in the division which is intended as a reference for pilots and controllers for frequencies, controllers, navigation aids, SIDs/STARs and text information. Parsing of the network feed was re-written to display flights and controllers by airport.

A web interface for the management of squawk allocation through the 'Virtual Controller Assistant' plugin has been released. This allows approved members to update and manage the squawk allocation for flightplans on the network.

Training system updates:

- ◆ Solo validation system as discussed in the ATC Training section
- ◆ Controller booking system updated to reflect policy on bookings and restrictions of solo validation validity
- ◆ Administrative updates for member management, examiner permissions and distinction of training staff roles
- ◆ New testing environment implemented

## Events

(Simon Irvine 858680 )

There have been a wide range of events this quarter. We paired up with VATEUD in the Netherlands, France and Ireland and organised City Hops/Euroshuttles between: Glasgow and Rotterdam, Gatwick/Birmingham and Paris and finally Edinburgh and Cork. These were received well and were very busy. The short distance involved meant the pilots could fly return legs.

Our UK based events included a shuttle between Heathrow and Manchester and another between Liverpool and Belfast. These events were particularly popular with the controllers as they contained a high amount of traffic in a relatively small piece of airspace.

There was a VFR event between the UK and France to commemorate the anniversary of D-Day.

Also we had a "Staffed by Staff" event where members of staff from all departments manned as many UK positions as possible. The theme of the evening was for the membership to test our controlling skills. There was a good turnout of pilots and had the fun element of testing the staff included.

We have also supported various VAs this quarter by ensuring that they had ATC online for their organised events.

Following last year's successful event we announced VATSIM-UK Live! 2013. This will take place on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August and 1<sup>st</sup> of September at Conference Aston in Birmingham. VATSIM-UK Live! is a real-world social event which allows members to meet and work alongside each other, be that controlling or flying. Members will be working together in close proximity, which adds a new element to the experience!