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## VATSIM Europe Region Report Q4/2015

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### Executive Summary

The 4th quarter of 2015 had a lot of changes affecting the European Region and its Divisions. Firstly, Callum McLoughlin stepped down from the position of the Strategic Development Director of the European Region. We would like to thank Callum for his contribution to the Region and its Divisions. Compared to the 3rd quarter we've had an increase in online traffic as well as an improvement in ratings progression in all Divisions.

We consider 2015 a more than successful year for European Region and its Divisions, making progress especially in rating progression. Furthermore, European Division is in progress of a full restructure regarding the inactive areas and vACC's within the Division that is expected to be completed within the 2nd Quarter of 2016.

### Administrative Report

Summary of administrative report.

#### 1.0 Staffing

##### Russia Division

We have replaced several staff members due to their life commitments.

There are a new VATRUS9 for PR - Sergey Kudryashov, VATRUS 4 – Events Manager – Nikita Assorov

There will be replacement also for VATRUS7 – WEB manager, because Ilya Pyankov, former VATRUS 7 is very busy with his real life work. Meanwhile the team of three persons work together to complete a new web page and support additional services such as teamspeak channel, voice channel for ATC (voice.vatrus.info) etc.

##### United Kingdom Division

Alex Hartshorne appointed as Marketing Director in October. Kris Thomson resigned from his post as Division Director in November, applications are currently being sought for his replacement.

##### Europe Division

##### No changes

#### 2.0 Technical



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## VATSIM Europe Region Report Q4/2015

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### Europe Division

In April 2016, one server reached EOL and EUD was really thankful that Christoph Neukirch moved VATSIM Services to the new box including all network services. Christoph is continuing helping EUD in his role of server administrator for the new box. And we are very happy with that support.

### 3.0 Membership

#### Russia Division

There were several new VAs which offer pilots a good booking system as well as planning software.

Promotion and good advertising of the ongoing events and fly-inns make more pilots to join the network and actively fly online. We advertise our activity through VAs web resources and social networks such as Facebook and it's Russian analogue Vkontakte, as well as Twitter etc.

#### United Kingdom Division

VATSIM UK has begun the automated identification of members who join us and cease to engage beyond the initial steps. In the spring, we will begin to send out a structured set of correspondence to these members offering support. In addition, we aim to engage those members who are close to being marked as network inactive, again offering help, advice and a clear path of communication to avoid this where possible.

#### Europe Division

Membership-wise, there have been a lot of rating upgrade requests, most of them compliant with the procedure in place. However, there have been a few requests, mainly from Germany vACC that do not follow the normal path.

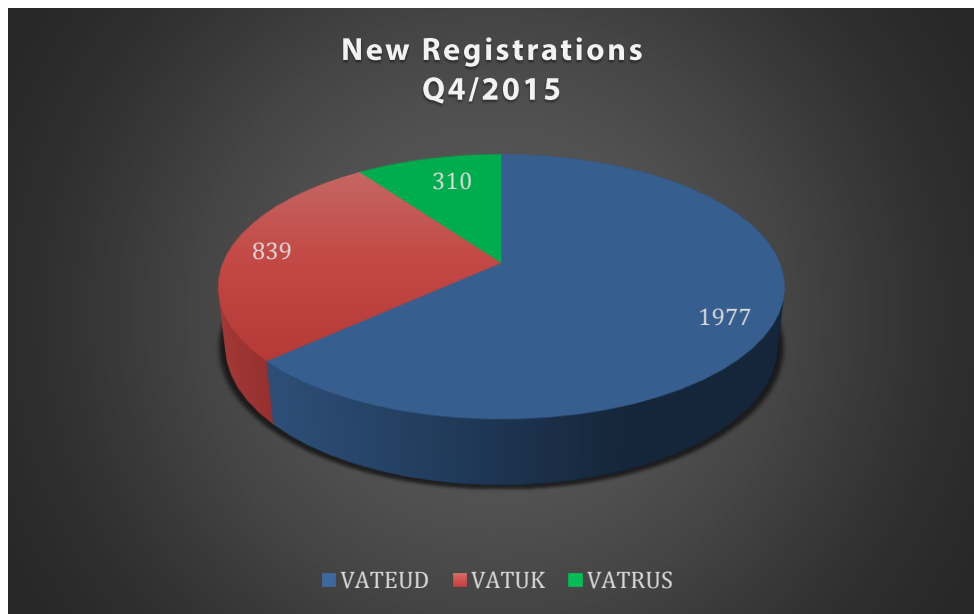
Theory exams have been occurring after the CPT for a number of reasons (some justifiable, others not).

We have been in contact with the Membership department to sort out a few issues with names in CERT, after running a few periodic scans to recent users.

The VEEG system sometimes shows a lot of CPTs, other times almost none. It would be nice to try to enforce this tool as more mandatory so that we can get more pilots to fly during CPTs.

VATSIM Europe Region Report Q4/2015

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4.0 Conflict Resolution Trends

5.0 VA/SOA Matters

6.0 Additional Matters

**Europe Division**

During the last quarter of 2015, we had very few frequency update requests, not so usual. I had, for the first time, a squawk range request for FYRoM airspace.



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## VATSIM Europe Region Report Q4/2015

### Operational Report

Summary of operational report.

#### 1.0 Pilot Training

##### Russia Division

Nowadays we are preparing the program for P4 and several instructors for pilot school. VATRUS "Strigino" (UWGG) Training Centre resource is active now. A new web resource for it.

##### United Kingdom Division

In Q4 the department completed 34 P1 sessions, with 6 exam passes, 19 P2 sessions with 3 exam passes. There was also 1 P3 exam pass from a direct entry student.

We were especially impressed with the large increase in P2 mentoring sessions, our P2 FTI James Mack has been working hard to recruit new mentors and we now have a small pool of enthusiastic mentors. There has been no work done to P3 mentoring, this is our main area of improvement for Q1 2016.

Our circuit evening event was successful and attracted many members from our VFR community and the CIX VFR club attended in reasonable numbers. The department will continue to work closely with Marketing to improve our VFR focussed events.

Many of our documents within the department are outdated and are being upgraded presently, these will all be released before the end of Q1 2016.

We have a few more ideas for the next quarter and more will be revealed after further research and planning.

##### Europe Division

We are reforming the Pilots Training Department. Currently, we don't have the active members to continue there. On the other hand, we were able to acquire new members into the Division Team especially on the communicating positions.

#### 2.0 Air Traffic Control Training

##### Russia Division

Rostov-URRR branch of the VATRUS training school has opened its doors for the newcomers.



## VATSIM Europe Region Report Q4/2015

### United Kingdom Division

In Q4 we had 19 practical exams. There were 14 S1-S2 upgrades, 4 S2-S3 upgrades and 1 S3-C1 upgrade. We only had 1 exam fail in this quarter which was a marked improvement on Q3.

We rolled out our Military Tower course. This is a written course which we have designed in Moodle. We have seen 17 endorsements achieved by members in Q4. This has seen a slight increase in military controlling, especially Gibraltar.

We have recruited 3 new Instructors, Mike Pike, Andy Ford and Harry Sugden who will concentrate on Tower and Approach training. They have started to update documents and write new courses in Moodle.

### Europe Division

In the previous quarter we had observed minor delays in the local training departments of the busier vACC's, a trend that is now fading out. Additionally our Divisional ATC Department is continuously trying to evolve, trying to find a suitable training platform for the ATC Requests and progress monitoring.

## 3.0 Operational Projects

### Europe Division

With the enrollment of the VATEUD strategy in 2015, we are coming now to the project of setting up the policies accordingly. The need for the policies is real high since the current in place don't incorporate the changed setup and even more keep space for interpretations. Due to the complexity of the setup incorporating more than 40% of our members at VATSIM, this is a major project.

The new rules and regs became necessary because of the huge changes the division and all its member organization have seen the last years. On one side functions are running differently nowadays, on the other side we didn't define the rules enough to give local communities a skeleton they are able to setup their area. As an outcome, the division is not informing and supporting the local communities enough. This needs to change.

Slowly but surely, the new policies for all members of VATEUD are getting ready to be discussed with both, VATSIM and the VACC's.

As normal in EUD, we have had a couple of changes:

1. On request by VACC Cyprus, we have embedded the setup into VACC Greece.



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## VATSIM Europe Region Report Q4/2015

2. The tries to get VACC Malta were unsuccessful. Therefore, we have closed the VACC. VACC Italy took the airspace as FIR into its setup.
3. Still on development is the VACC West Balkans (working title), as combination of the VACC's Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Serbia and ...
4. VACC Romania is quite successful after the revitalization. A couple of events and CPT's increases the service for our pilots in some new destinations.

We are still monitoring a higher amount of VACC and Division changes to get a faster training (rating hopping). This surely will continue for the next months.

A couple of VACC's are facing lower online times. EUD is thinking of setting up a division wide ATC setup to support those areas especially on the CTR positions to enable the chances for a training on the lower positions.

### 4.0 Events & Meetings

#### **Russia Division**

[4.10.15] Volga Aero Fest - <http://forum.vatrus.info/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=361>

[17.10.15] Pulkovo One room control 3 -

<http://forum.vatrus.info/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=365>

[24.10.15] Autumn Marathon - <http://forum.vatrus.info/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=363>

Winter series of traditional Online Tuesdays

<http://forum.vatrus.info/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=384>

[1-4.11.15] – WorldFlight 2015

[08.11.15] Vladivostok Fly & Play Party -

<http://forum.vatrus.info/viewtopic.php?f=9&t=368>

#### **United Kingdom Division**

In October, Manchester (EGCC) was selected as one of the arrival airports for Cross the Pond Eastbound 2015. The event was well received, with positive feedback from pilots and controllers alike. This was testament to the effort which the RTS staff and organisers put in. Outside Cross the Pond, one of our most popular events was the Gatwick (EGKK) to Nice (LFMN) city pair. This quarter also saw VATSIM UK trial out a new concept involving the Pilot Training Department. This consisted of a circuit training evening at Shoreham (EGKA).

The Malta (LMML) to Stansted (EGSS) city pair was held in November. Whilst Stansted received higher than normal traffic levels, after member feedback we are endeavouring to provide much closer aerodrome pairings for our events to enable pilots to fly more sectors. Additional city pair events included Gatwick (EGKK) to Copenhagen (EKCH) and Manchester (EGCC) to Aldergrove (EGAA).



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## VATSIM Europe Region Report Q4/2015

During the festive period, we had 3 Christmas themed events including the Pre-Christmas shopping between Heathrow (EGLL) and Prague (LKPR), Channel Island Christmas Shopper (EGJJ, EGJB and EGJA) and the Hogmanay Fly-In at Edinburgh (EGPH) which was combined with the Winter Wonderland TMA Ops which led to greater traffic density.

In the New Year, we have had a very busy Heathrow Overload (EGLL) and have begun planning for the annual TAS show held at Manchester Airport in the summer. This event allows VATSIM-UK to showcase VATSIM to members of the public and all it has to offer.

We are in the process of creating a membership questionnaire to explore other potential event ideas, in addition to gathering feedback on all events from a pilot and ATC perspective.

### Europe Division

#### 5.0 Additional Matters

### SIGNATURES & ENDORSEMENTS

By digitally signing below, the Region Staff Member authorizing this report hereby testifies to its truthfulness to the best of their knowledge and ability.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Damkalis". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Apostolos Damkalis

VATSIM Europe  
Regional Director

02/11/2016