

Region Report - Quarter 2 2015

During the previous period VATSIM European Region has focused on coordinating with its Divisions as well as with the rest of the Divisions at a VATSIM Level about the Global Rating Policy consultation. A series of productive meetings were held which led to the submission of a paper being created for the Executive Committee, of which many of its recommendations were accepted. VATSIM Europe Region and its Divisions are now playing a leading role within the working group tasked with providing workable solutions to improve the Designated Airspace chapter of the Global Ratings Policy.

VATSIM European Division has continued the redevelopment of their staff roster and have improved the internal and external communication to their Local Facilities something vital for keeping the whole Division in line.

VATSIM UK Division has renewed services provided to members, in this case the community forums that they host. Furthermore, VATUK has hosted numerous events including starting partnerships with the neighboring local facilities.

VATSIM Russia Division has continued expanding their membership roster with a constant development in terms of their events this quarter.

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Region Director, Europe

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VATEUD - Division Director: Florian Harms- 841181

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| <p>Operations (Florian Harms 841181)</p> | <p>VATSIM Europe Division during the Second Quarter of 2015 has continued the redevelopment of the web services, a task that was started at Q4 2014 and we expect to be completed at the end of this year. Furthermore, we have continued the restructure of the Division staff team which will lead to an even closer collaboration both internally and with our local facilities.</p> |
| <p>Member Retention (Miguel Frias - 1107190)</p> | <p>Members Retention within the second quarter of 2015 has been reduced compared to the first quarter of 2015. In detail, during the second quarter of 2015 2400 members registered to the European Division of VATSIM while in the Q1 2561 had registered. Furthermore, there has been a change in the leading of the Members Department. Laurent Laborde has stepped down and Miguel Frias has took over his position.</p> |
| <p>ATC Training (Mike Welten – 971511)</p> | <p>The VATEUD ATC Academy has been very active during this quarter in various ways. Several trainees have been trained in Cyprus as well as in their home countries. One trainee has been temporary placed into VATSIM Germany to achieve a S3 rating before returning to his home country and mentoring there. This method of temporary placement showed many positive aspects. Further the instructor roster was increased during the quarter.</p> <p>Several ways to standardize the controller quality and CPT requirements have been discussed. As a first step, it was decided to introduce standardized CPT log forms, which should be uploaded to ATSIM test as well. This will allow to better monitor CPTs.</p> <p>During the quarter there have been several Fast Track requests from vACCs, most of them from IVAO transfers. They have been processed by VATEUD and referred back to the vACCs for practical testing.</p> <p>Unfortunately the ATSIM Test platform had some outages during the quarter, fortunately usually with limited duration. The upcoming VATEUD forum accessible for all members might help to inform the controllers about the outage and when it is running again.</p> <p>VATEUD ATC Team gave input into the GRP discussion and also tried to get input from vACCs about their ideas about GRP and the proposed changes (as far as publicized in the EC Meeting Minutes). There was only very little feedback from the vACCs.</p> <p>At the end of Q2, the department got calmer as summer season started. There have only been few requests from vACCs during that period.</p> |

Pilot Training

(Tim Wong - 1179662)

Our newly formed Pilots Department has been working towards a solid plan on how to process the big number of trainees that have currently enrolled to the Pilots Training Department. Additionally, we are preparing an e-learning solution for offering our P1 rating at first place. Furthermore, there has been a switch between Belisar Hoxholli and Tim Wong on the Pilots Department Lead position.

Web Services

(Vacant)

We are continuing the complete redevelopment of our web services, including a new website, new forum and evolved web services for our members. Furthermore, we are improving the server infrastructure and we are making sure that all web services are redundant. Those changes are expected to take place within the Q1 2016.

Events

(Daniel Conrad- 1091256)

Within the second quarter of 2015 we have started planning of our major events that will take place at the end of the year, including Mediterranean overload, a new event which features routes across the mediterranean as well as VATEUD Online Day, where all our 32 vACC's open their enroute sector and at least one airport fully staffed. A very nice experience for all the pilots interested in -as close to real as it gets- operations

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| Member Retention | Promotion and good advertising of the ongoing events and fly-inns make more pilots to join the network and actively fly online. |
| ATC Training | At present time 22 active students study at the ATC department: 16 instructors and 2 mentors teach at the department. Technical problems of the ATC department: Students acceptance system doesn't work (entrance tests cannot be reached by the instructors); Database decentralization (students can be reached via forums, training materials are no the main webpage, student's marks are in the Google based tables); Students' readiness warning system is absent (in the meantime instructors reach their students through Skype or messengers). |
| Pilot Training | VATRUS "Strigino" (UWGG) Training Centre is actively working. |
| Events | City Shuttle from Chisinau To Bratislava. - http://forum.vatrus.info/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=308 City Shuttle Between Chisinau And Sochi. - http://forum.vatrus.info/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=310 [12.04.15] Kaliningrad - Saint Petersburg - http://forum.vatrus.info/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=317 City shuttle ZBAA-UHWW - http://forum.vatrus.info/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=319 Shuttle between Moldova and Hungary - http://forum.vatrus.info/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=325 GROUP FLIGHT NO VIZA 26TH OF MAY 18:00Z - http://forum.vatrus.info/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=328 |
| Other Comments | Due to upcoming World Flight event, we recommend to organize "Overload Fly-inns" to Tashkent, Samara, Moscow-Domodedovo, Saint Petersburg – Pulkovo airports |

VATUK - Division Director: Kris Thomson 989754

Member Retention

(Barrie Joplin 1002707 & Simon Irvine 858680)

VATSIM UK has upgraded the services we offer to allow for a more interactive forum experience. This allows the membership to vote on and promote answers to posed questions, intrinsically allowing them in helping to provide better support to the community as a whole.

We continue to offer multiple avenues (helpdesk/forum/team speak/e-mail) for the membership to ask the staff team questions and offer their advice on any issues that they are experiencing. Weekly scheduled 'drop in' sessions are available for the membership to speak with the members of the staff team regarding any matters they feel need to be brought up.

ATC Training

(George Wright 920527)

Q2 has been a good season for ATC exams in the UK and we have completed 9 S2 upgrades, 2 S3 upgrades and 1 C1 upgrade since the start of April. We have tackled our previous issue of having too many students training at any one time by reducing intake. This has been successful in improving the training experience of those who are actively training and has helped improve the overall pass rate (12 passes out of 15 attempts). Some progress has been made on developing a new theory training system, for students to learn new concepts in their own time, and this project is ongoing.

Looking towards Q3 the emphasis will be on re-introducing a flow of new students into the training system at an appropriate rate so as to prevent unnecessary queues and holdups.

Pilot Training

(Nayan Mehta 1073673)

The PTD has conducted 29 P1 Sessions with 3 exam passes. There have been 8 P2 sessions.

P1 has seen good demand and there are a good number of mentors for the course. There have also been further students who already have P1 ratings from the Pilot Academy coming to us for further training. We continue to face challenges with recruiting mentors for the P3 course which we continue to address.

Operations

(Kris Thomson 989754)

There were a number of system upgrades during the quarter. This included the introduction of Version 4 of the forum and a new version of our Core system. Any updates are posted on our status page to keep members informed: <http://status.vatsim-uk.co.uk/>

Events

(Simon Irvine 858680)

We started the quarter with our now traditional “ManchEaster” event based at Manchester Airport on Easter Sunday, this was both popular with pilots and the growing contingent of controllers at Manchester. April also saw a partnership with Virtual Ryanair when we had a Stansted real ops event. We used the UK’s event system to allow pilots to book flights and receive flightplans.

We had a very busy month of events in May with something happening each weekend. We kicked off by having a partnership with the Dutch vACC with an event involving Cardiff and Amsterdam. We then teamed up with vACC Ireland for an event between Dublin and East Midlands. The following week Heathrow was involved with the 2 day “stopover” event with Keflavik in Iceland. All of these events showed that pilots enjoy the link ups we have with our European colleagues. Finally in May we had a UK based event involving Gatwick and Glasgow.

We had two events in May. The first was a UK based event between Newcastle and Jersey. This was the busiest weekend event that we have had in a while with up to 20 aircraft on the ground at Jersey waiting for departure, dense fog in Jersey on that evening added to the excitement. Our second event involved Heathrow where we closed one of its two runways. Again this proved very popular and tested the metal of both pilots and controllers.

Other Comments