



VATPAC Quarterly Report

Q1 2016

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1 Staffing

1.1 Director Division

Mr Greg Barber was appointed the role of VATPAC1 – Director Division, vacating the role of VATPAC3 – Director ATC Training.

1.2 Director Operations

Mr David Zhong resigned from the role of VATPAC2 Director of Operations. VATPAC would like to thank David for his hard work in the position over the past 2 years.

Mr Joel Richters was appointed to the role of VATPAC2 – Director Operations.

1.3 Director ATC Training

Mr Peter Adamos was appointed to the role of VATPAC3 – Director ATC Training.

2 Operations

Personnel

No changes to internal personnel.

See Division Director's report on change of Director overseeing portfolio.

Virtual Airlines

Nothing to report for this quarter.

Documentation

Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney Local Instructions have been updated to incorporate TMA internal boundaries.

AIS

Sector file updates for AIRAC 1603 were published on time.

These included the addition of TMA internal boundaries and a review of minimum vectoring altitudes based on radar terrain clearance charts obtained from Airservices.

Other

Following a trial in 2015 and community consultation in early 2016, VATPAC commenced operations with Departures positions at Sydney and Melbourne on Monday evenings. The Operations team will continue to monitor the implementation of these positions and make any adjustments necessary.

3 ATC Training

Personnel

The training team welcomes aboard two new Mentors - Ryan Steffe and Hayden McClure - who will be a vital asset in supporting the added workload of providing compulsory mentoring to our ATC candidates.

Although recent ATC request numbers have eased slightly, the potential recruitment and reshuffle of the training team is under review to ensure we can cope over peak periods of demand.

The search for a new Deputy Director has been advertised, and is expected to be finalised by 1st April.

Website/Moodle

Issues with Moodle links are being pursued, however we are relying on reports from users where there are issues. Overall the new Tower course has seen increased uptake and a good spread of exam results.

Projects and Initiatives

A potential refresh of the TMA Moodle content is a long-term option, to bring it into line with the new and improved tower course - however this would be a large undertaking, and need to be properly evaluated and planned.

After feedback from Milk Run Monday controllers, we will be putting together a 'special positions guide', to help alleviate the confusion regarding positions, airspace splits and coordination.

Statistics

Rating	Completed	Terminated	In Progress
Tower	3	2	3
Proc Tower	0	0	0
TMA	1	2	1
Enroute	2	0	0
Oceanic	1	0	0

4 IT

The IT department has spent the first quarter of this year fixing bugs and issues associated with the new website systems. We would like to thank Greg (Director of VATPAC) for his assistance as other IT staff members have been busy with real world commitments.

IT has been liaising regularly with the events team with the endeavour to develop new systems for panic stations, slot mania and other event styles to ensure that pilots can get the information they need, when they need it and with ease.

The IT department has also been working on numerous projects for the ATC training department and operations department with the upgrading of ATC/pilot assist systems.

We will be anticipating an IT team recruitment in the near future (a number of members expressed their interest in assisting at the town hall meeting). IT thanks the members for the patience and assistance with issues on the website during the past few months and we look forward to continuing to provide you with great new tools for your online flying.

5 Events & Communications

Personnel

Whilst it was anticipated that the Events Team would expand during Q1, 2016, the expected addition to the team was instead added to the IT team with a brief of assisting the Events Team with Events related website issues. The effects of this addition have begun to be realized.

The resignation of Deputy Director of Events was accepted. There are no plans at this stage to appoint a new person to this role and the role has been

absorbed by the Director of Events and Communications.

Events

Spilled Milk Run Sunday in NZ was particularly well attended and coincided nicely with VATNZ's Sunday Night Ops.

After some initial confusion regarding opening CB_TWR after 6pm local, Australia Day's event was also well attended.

Q1 Quarterly Longhaul was less well attended and we are hoping for a better turnout for the Q2 event.

February's Saturday Shuttle event also had very low participation. After some questioning of members by the Director of Events, it became evident that people aren't checking the forum or events calendar. The same was true of the Suggest-a-Flight event held on March 12.

VFR Operations events continue to be successful with a good mix of OCTA and Class D flying. VFR operations continue to be a good training ground for new members and these events take place weekly on Friday and Sunday local VATPAC time.

World Discovery Flights have enjoyed regular attendance for a core group of pilots with a number of new pilot joining the group. In Q2 the team plans to conduct flights into the "10 Most Dangerous Airports in the World." World Discovery flights are held weekly on Wednesday evenings local VATPAC time.

Communications

After a Town Hall meeting dedicated to Communications, it became acutely clear that the membership have more or less ceased to proactively look for Event information whether it be via our Forums, the Events calendar, or our FB page. A very small number of participants in the meeting indicated that they check any of these sources on a regular basis.

Signup to the new mailing list database has been poor with only 30 members registered at the time of writing this report.

The role that future Communications will play is currently under urgent consideration by the VATPAC Board.

Other Events Reports

Departmental Events reports will be added as they come through.

6 Traffic Analysis

In the January-March quarter 2016 VATPAC saw an average of 106 flights and 12 ATC connections per day for a total of 21,966 hours and 1,839 hours respectively.

