



VATNZ QUARTERLY REPORT Q1 2024

Executive Summary

Welcome to 2024. This will be my last quarterly report as Division Director. Due to changes in real life, it has become necessary to step away from flightsimming. At the time of writing the process of choosing a new director is still to be completed but given the calibre of the VATNZ membership I am sure the division will be in safe hands.

I would like to thank the VATNZ Board members both past and present who have volunteered their time to make our hobby something special.

The network saw the usual summer increase and probably helped by the associated school holidays. Flying hours continue their upward trend and ATC hours continued a slight downward trend. Compared with Q1 2023 ATC hours were down from 716 to 661 and aircraft movements up from 10585 to 11133. These are based on our four airports used to assess network operations.

There is still high demand for controller training, but it seems many are only able to contribute their time for a short period. The number of people moving through to controller level is quite small compared with the number who receive their initial ATC rating.

Administrative Report

Membership

The introduction of a new API allows for more accurate tracking of membership and the total membership currently stands at 1075.

The number of active members, that is members who have connected to the network in the last 90 days is 306.

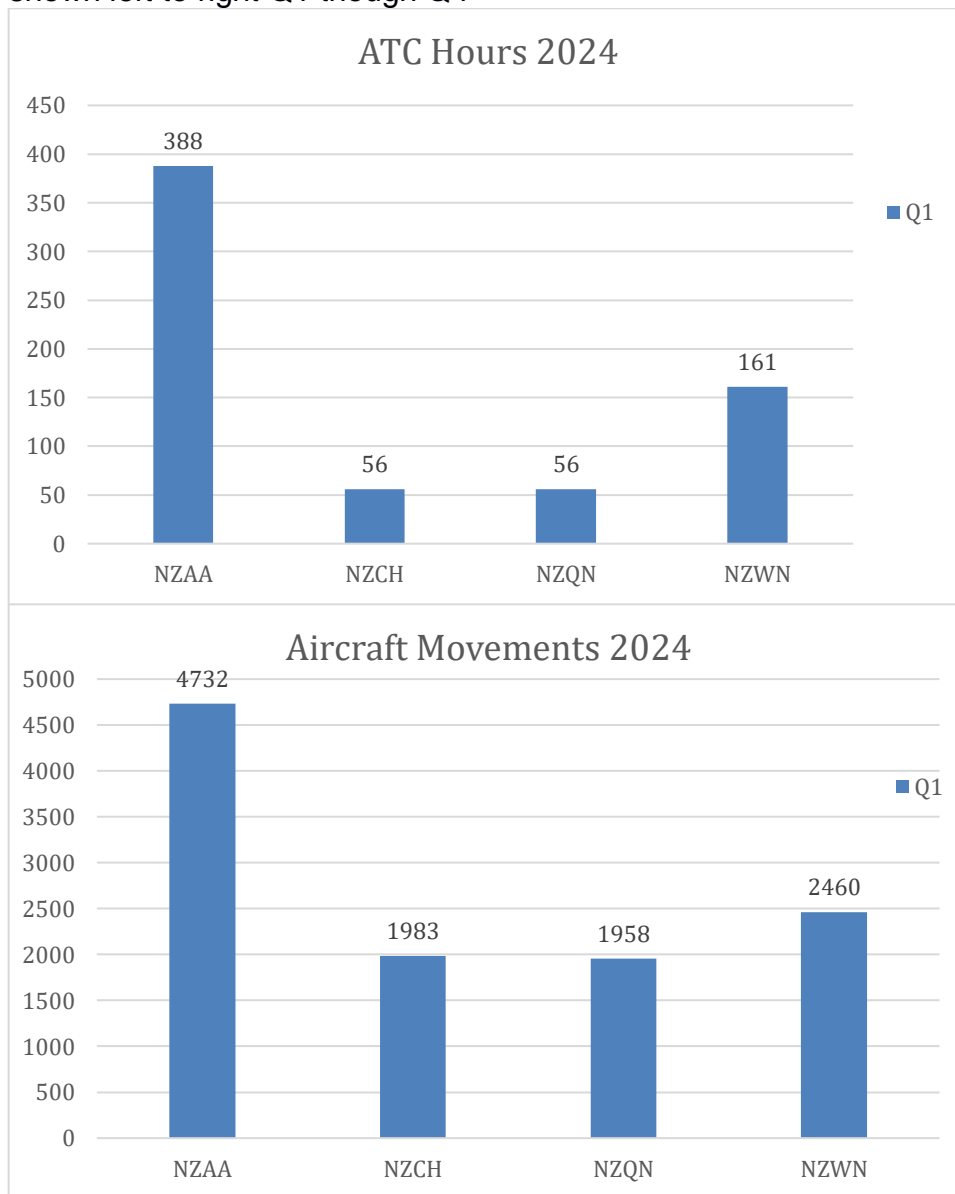


VATNZ QUARTERLY REPORT Q1 2024

Operational Report

Region Activity

Our regions 4 major airports are used as a measure of activity. Each quarter is shown left to right Q1 though Q4





VATNZ QUARTERLY REPORT Q1 2024

Operations Report

1. Department Update

The Operations Department has had a good start to the year, we are working on integrating the VATSIM Global Controller Administration Policy (GCAP) into some of our controlling positions.

We are working with the Training Department to tie up some loose ends and expect our proposal to be submitted to the Region Vice President by the middle of April.

Division members will be informed of changes before they are introduced and can seek clarification about any changes by contacting the Operations Department or Training Department.

1.1 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

Since last quarter we have released 1 new page for the SOPs which was Wellington Terminal Area. Alongside this we pushed several smaller updates to the site, mainly quality of life improvements and library updates. Since Q3 2023 we have moved the changelogs for our AIRAC updates from discord to our SOPs site.

We are working with the training department to move some of their training material to a platform similar to the SOPs site, there is no deadline for this integration, however we will look to make it a priority for Q2/Q3.

1.2 Controller Datasets

In Q1 we released 1 dataset update to our controller clients, AIRAC 2402 which was released on 22nd February 2024.

The changelogs for our AIRAC updates are now hosted on our Standard Operating Procedures site, see above for more details.

We are still awaiting a date for the testing phase of vatSys server, as we have not received any version of the new client for testing at the time this report was published, we will advise the community of any changes with the availability of our current controller clients, vatSys and EuroScope – No further update since Q4 '23

1.3 Other Projects

No other projects currently.



VATNZ QUARTERLY REPORT Q1 2024

2. Staff Members

In Q4 there has been no changes to the staff within the department.

Name	Position
Mikey Robinson	Operations Director
Tom Kilpatrick	Operations Team (Airspace Manager)
Connor Sumner	Operations Team/Training Team
Richard Bywater	Operations Team

3. Finishing Statement

A busier than usual Quarter for the department with work being carried out on policy and training documents for upcoming GCAP integration.

Air Traffic Control Training

Staff Members

Currently, the Training Department consists of eight active mentors. Five are VATSIM instructors (I1) or senior instructors (I3).

Students

Theory courses: 13 internal and visiting controller students are enrolled in theory courses across the syllabus. A further five students have completed theory requirements and are awaiting mentor assignments.

Practical courses: 47 internal and visiting controller students are undertaking practical training across the syllabus.



VATNZ QUARTERLY REPORT Q1 2024

The following ratings were achieved during the period:

S1 2

S2 3

S2 (Procedural Approach) 0

S3 0

C1 1

C1 (Oceanic) 1

General

VATSIM GCAP – Went live for VATNZ on 1st March 2024. There are few front-of-house changes; the main differences are behind the scenes. The cumbersome S1 policy, particularly cl 6.2.2, remains under review but fits within the GCAP.

Visiting and Transferring Controllers: VATSIM has issued a new proposal similar to how GCAP was introduced, and the training department is currently examining it.

Activities

Sweatbox training files continue to be updated and married to specific training and assessment exercises concurrent with the training refresh project and continued thanks to Fenton Loveday, Deputy Training Director, who is managing this process.

A review of all ATC training policies is underway. The driver for this is that too many separate policy statements are scattered across multiple documents. Some, such as the Mentor/Instructor policy, contain outdated material, while others are buried on the website. One policy covering all material will be presented to the Board before June 2024. Re-codifying the methodology to comply with the new GCAP is included (see below).

The next big project is scheduled to begin in July 2024 – migrating the courseware to a .xml platform using Python, similar to the SOP migration project. The administrative functions of the department are not part of this upgrade.



VATNZ QUARTERLY REPORT Q1 2024

Closing

As always, there remains a lot to do, but we continue to work hard on improvements.

Gary Parata

TRAINING DIRECTOR

Events Report

The Events department has had a busy quarter with one major event. Generally, these have run well.

Night Shift

Night Shift has been running well, with several event formats providing pilots with variation on where they fly.

Hours of VATSIM Leg 10

VATNZ hosted the tenth leg of 24 Hours of VATSIM this quarter, with flights between Christchurch and Auckland. It was a busy event, but everything worked well.

Staff Members

Currently, the Events Department has five members, including the Events Director. One of these members has other significant commitments. Two new members have joined the team, and another departed.

Finishing Statement

The Events department has had a busy Q1 for 2024. We are looking to create more fun events through 2024, with two events with VATPAC planned for this coming quarter; however, we will need the support of the controllers and pilots to make this happen.

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.

Andrew Moseley Division Director Date: 8 April 2024