VATNZ QUARTERLY REPORT Q2 2021

Executive Summary

Q2 was steady as she goes for the division. The quarter saw our major winter event with Cross the Ditch 20 held in June in conjunction with our friends at VATPAC.

Back in 2020 we reviewed our structure and introduced a more integrated Operation / Training Department with the idea of ensuring redundancy should somebody leave a role.
A review of that change highlighted that both roles are very busy, and it has resulted in a move back towards separating the Operations and Training roles and introducing a senior person to assist the Training Director. James Ford-Hathaway has taken up this new role. James has a wealth of real-world training experience and this will ensure that continued good quality training is provided to our students.

Administrative Report

Membership
Membership increased from 667 to 695 during the quarter. The number of active members, that is members who have connected to the network in the last 90 days remained pretty static at 286.

Network Activity
Aircraft movements and ATC hours online were also very much in line with what we saw in the 1st quarter.
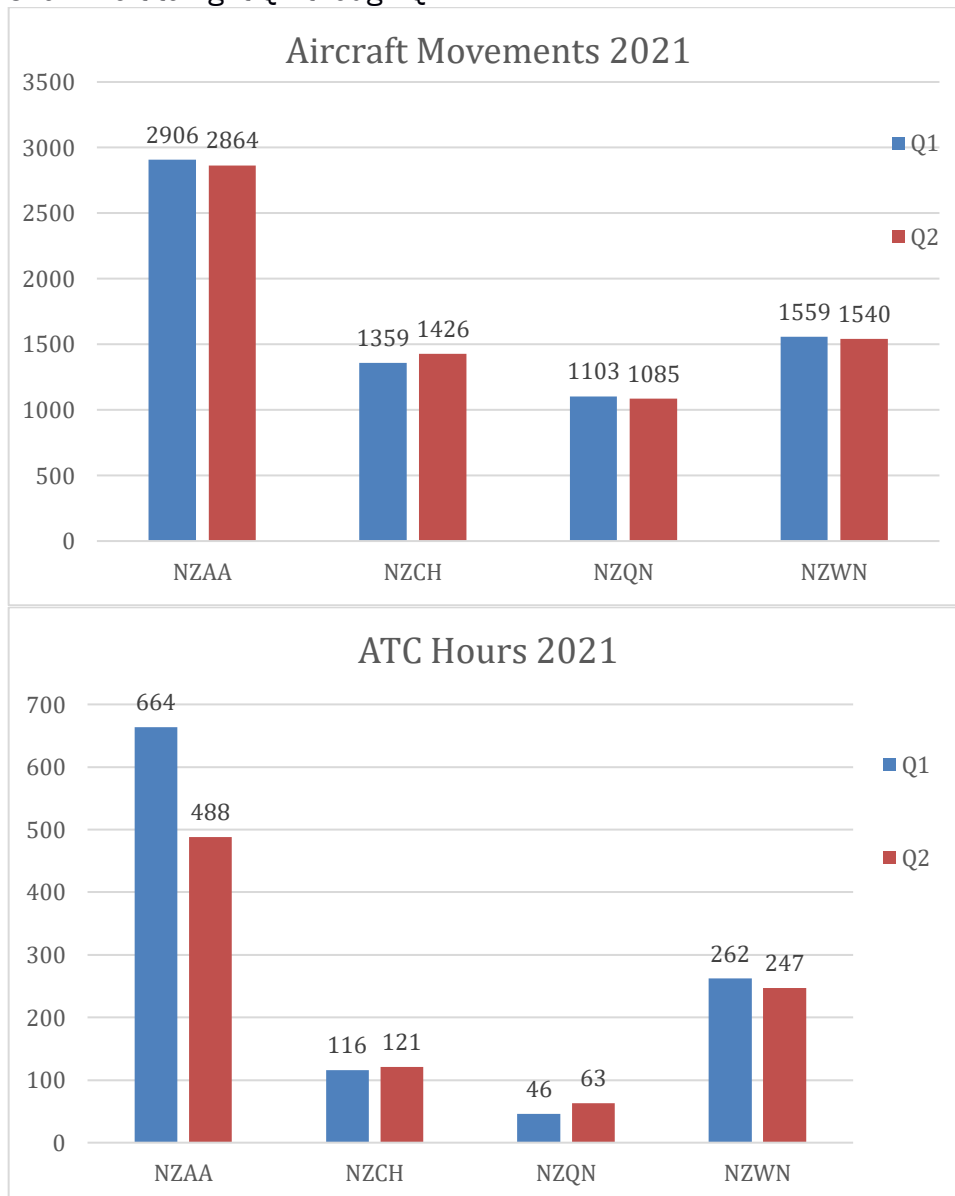
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Operational Report

<u>Region Activity</u>
Our regions 4 major airports are used as a measure of activity. Each quarter is shown left to right Q1 though Q4

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Operations Report

The second quarter of 2021 has remained incredibly busy for the VATNZ Operations Department, with the continuation of core outputs and further development of some projects.

Airspace
The most significant change that has occurred in the last quarter has been the implementation and integration of two Flight Information Service positions within our FIR. Paraparaumu and Milford Sound aerodromes are two major general aviation hotspots in the real-world, and it was decided to implement them on the network to bolster online GA traffic. These positions were established to coincide with bi-weekly VFR fly-ins to aerodromes around the country. These two positions are defined as being eligible for Event use only, due to their significantly different procedures.

In the second quarter we also hosted Cross the Ditch, in close collaboration with VATPAC. This year we flew into Christchurch, Auckland, Palmerston North and Ohakea. Palmerston North and Ohakea had their respective ground positions added to deal with the extra traffic.

Data
Development has continued on our Controller datasets, further enabling our Controllers to provide efficient and effective service.
The VATNZ Sector File Generation Tool and associated databases have continued to be developed, providing the Operations Department with a plethora of data to work with. Dataset production timeframes have drastically improved thanks to this tool, now only taking a matter of hours to implement any changes.
There hasn't been any significant changes to our airspace data this past quarter; with minor procedure changes and airways amendments. We do expect this to pick up this coming quarter, with significant changes to the ground-based navigation aids occurring.

Projects
Unfortunately there has been minimal movement on Operations Department projects this quarter, as they are currently awaiting technical development by our IT Department. The Department continues to receive feedback from the community in relation to the quality of VATNZ services, and strives to investigate all suggestions and implement where feasible.

Conclusion
Overall, it has been a steady second quarter for the department, with the tempo still high. We will continue to work with the rest of the VATNZ Board, our Members and the rest of

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the VATSIM community to further enable and enhance our region; making New Zealand a great place to fly.

Tom Kilpatrick
Controller Operations Director

Air Traffic Control Training

Staff Changes

- Tom Kilpatrick – Changed portfolio to Operations Director
- James Ford-Hathaway – Appointed Assistant to the Training Director
- Mikey Robinson – Resigned Mentor (TWR, TMA, ENR)

Commentary

Q2 of 2021 has been just as busy as previous quarters for the ATC Training Team. However, during this quarter, a stronger focus on creating and developing ATC Training content for the community. In saying this, however, the demand for ATC Training remains high although it was observed to not be as in high demand as previous quarters.

Q2 saw the VATNZ Board restructure again and therefore, saw Tom Kilpatrick step down from his duties in the ATC Training Team to focus more on the role of Operations Director. Furthermore, with the restructuring that has occurred, the Training Director welcomed James Ford-Hathaway to the role of Assistant to the Training Director. The Assistant to the Training Director is a Senior Staff position that reports directly to the Training Director to maintain ATC standards over the ATC Training Team and help with the day-to-day operations of the team. More information about the Assistant to the Training Director role can be found here: https://www.vatnz.net/vatnz/contacts/assistant-training-director/. I am very excited to work with James at growing and further developing the VATNZ ATC Training Team.

Please join the VATNZ ATC Training Department in congratulating the following controller's trainee graduates who have completed a new rating or endorsement through Q2 2021.

- Ben Marling – C1
- William Chiu – C1 + /O
- Richard Bywater – S2
- Hunter Clarkson – S2
- Connor Sumner – C1

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Updates

Q2 2021, saw the ideas, creation, and implementations of lesson plans, new courses, new controller assessments, added content in existing courses such as RVSM in the C1 course, getting started guides for Euroscope and vatSys, and Controller Training Tutorials. Furthermore, it has been extremely promising to see the community provide feedback and look through the new content that has been developed by the Department.

It was announced in Q1 that the creation of a Euroscope – vatSys Conversion Course would be developed. Due to other courses and real-life commitments, this course is still in the development phase but, the aim is to have this course completed by the end of Q3. On Euroscope, the ATC Training Department has been successfully training all students on Euroscope and then seeing a high number of controllers switching to vatSys once their training is complete. This is promising to see, and I would like to take this time to remind everyone that the ATC Training Department and the Operations Director is here to help everyone get set up with either Euroscope or vatSys if they require it. However, you can still get set up by reading https://www.vatnz.net/training/getting-started-vatsys/ .

As stated above, the ATC Training Department over Q2 has created more content (and fixing it) for the enjoyment of the community. The 'extra for experts' section of the training site is a good way to hone and enhance the skills you've learnt during training. Items in this section include Use of DCL within the NZZC, CPDLC, Aviation Weather Products – TAF, and Radio Waves, Frequency, Amplitude, and Modulation. Everyone can check this out here https://www.vatnz.net/training/controller-training-tutorial/ .

The new controller course continues to be a success and has been developed due to a review of the old controller course being no longer fit for use. The new aerodrome course has been developed in a way that allows for trainees with no aviation experience to be able to pick it up and run. New items within this course include helicopter procedures, planning, VATSIM Code of Conduct, and ATIS's. This course is open to everyone wanting to go for an S2 rating or anyone already with a rating of S2 or higher. Check this course out here https://www.vatnz.net/training/courses/tower-controller-course/. Furthermore, the ATC Training Department wishes to have videos developed for this course to aid the written material in the future. Moreover, the TMA and Enroute courses will also be redesigned and developed in the future, however, there is currently no timeline for the completion of this project.

The Oceanic Course continues to have small uptake and has been revised to include both exams within the one course. Please get in touch if you wish to do this course (it's lots of fun). Lastly, lessons plans are available under https://www.vatnz.net/training/vatnz-training-program/ and will give hints at what trainees can expect during each session from their mentor.

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Conclusion

The ATC Training continues to thank the VATNZ community for their continued support and feedback. If you have any suggestions for the ATC Training Department please head over to www.vatnz.net/feedback and notify the Training Director with any feedback you might have. Furthermore, you can use 'Controller Feedback' to file any controller feedback you might have. On behalf of the entire Training Team, have fun with your new ratings and remember our door is always open - **WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK**!.

Rating	Completed	Terminated	In Progress	In Theory
Student 2	2	0	5	2
Student 3	0	0	5	1
Controller 1	3	1	3	0
Procedural Tower	0	0	0	1
Oceanic Endorsement	1	0	0	2
Visiting Controller	0	1	3	3
In Total	6	2	16	9

Cam Tyson

Training Director

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: 17 July 2021