



VATNZ QUARTERLY REPORT Q4 2023

Executive Summary

Highlight for the quarter was the summer Cross The Ditch event held in December in conjunction with VATPAC. The 25th time this successful event series has taken place and as always, we saw participation from across the world.

Statistically the year had highs and lows. Aircraft movements continued to increase with 38330 seen at our major airports. That is over 3 times the number of movements when compared to 2018.

ATC hours dropped to 2627 hours. This downward trend has been ongoing since we saw a high of over 4600 hours in 2021.

A new staff conduct policy is being finalised and will be introduced in the very near future.

Administrative Report

Membership

Membership increased during the quarter from 771 to 777.

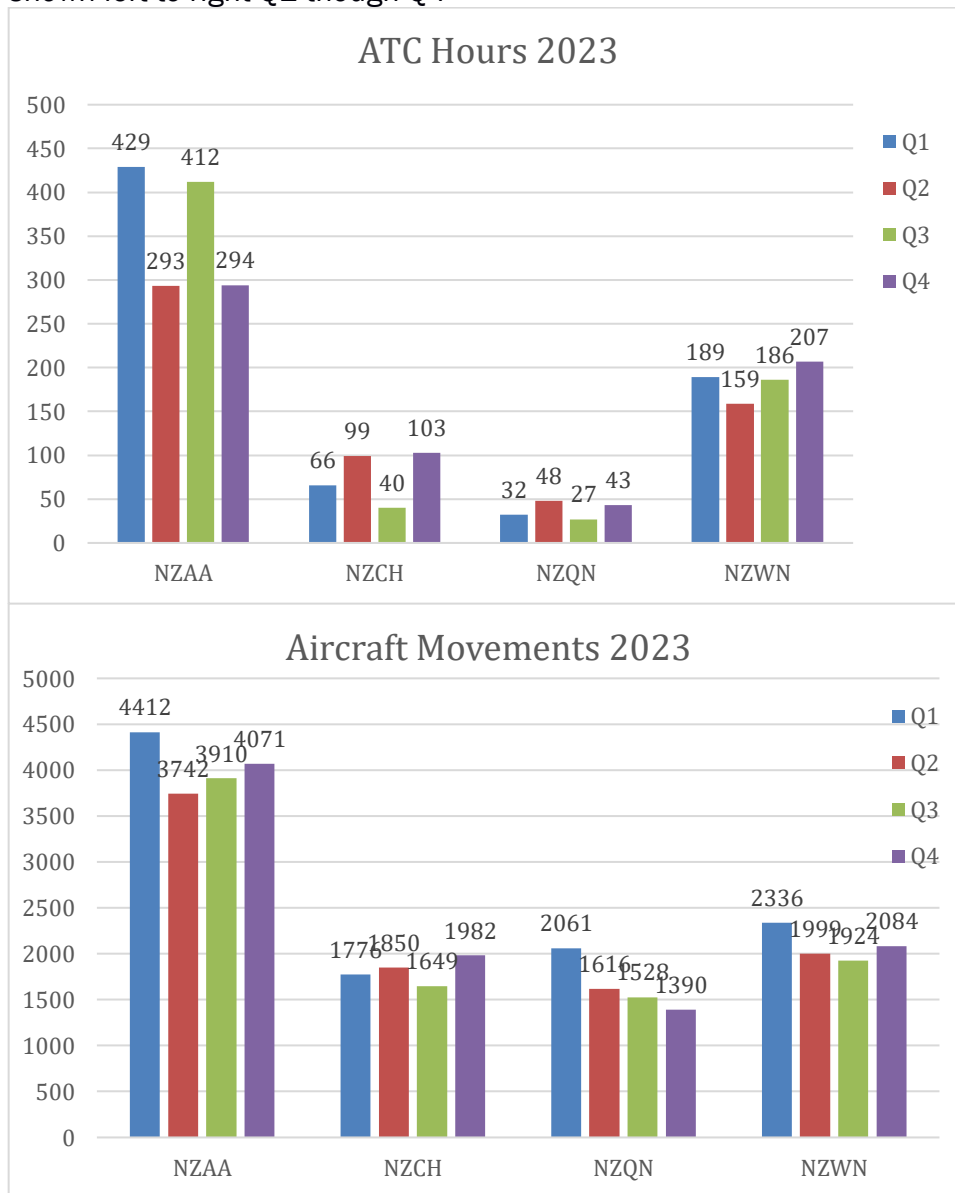
The number of active members, that is members who have connected to the network in the last 90 days decreased to 194

VATNZ QUARTERLY REPORT Q4 2023

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 Q4 2023

Operations Report

Department Update

The Operations Department has had a quiet quarter, with most of it being spent on a break during Christmas/New Years, that being said, some of our projects have still made progress, with the SOPs seeing new content added and 1 AIRAC cycle released.

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

Since last quarter we have released 1 new page for the SOPs which was Auckland Terminal Area, we are also working with the training department to move some of their training material to a platform similar to the SOPs site.

Controller Datasets

In Q4 we released only 1 dataset update to our controller clients, AIRAC 2312 which was released on 30th November 2023

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.

Other Projects

We are happy to announce that on the 30th November 2023 we also released our profile for VATGlasses, this is an airspace map of sorts, similar to vatSpy. We will continue to improve on this profile as our airspace evolves.

Staff Members

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

Summary

A quiet quarter for the Operations Department, with most of the time spent on Christmas break, we look forward to what 2024 will bring us.

Mikey Robinson

Operations Director



VATNZ QUARTERLY REPORT Q4 2023

Training Report

Staff Members

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

Students

Theory courses: 12 internal and visiting controller students are enrolled in theory courses across the syllabus. A further student has completed theory requirements and is awaiting mentor assignments.

Practical courses: 40 internal and visiting controller students are undertaking practical training across the syllabus.

The following ratings were achieved during the period:

S1 - 1

S2 - 1

S3 - 2

General

GCAP - update

Except for the S1 Tower Trainee policy and the ATC Policy update, all departmental materials have been amended to reflect the new VATSIM GCAP.

The cumbersome S1 policy, particularly cl 6.2.2, remains under review. Confidence in the VATNZ S1 process has increased, so S1s will shortly be able to connect solo to any DEL or GND position without prior approval (except during major events). This aligns with the GCAP provisions for local Divisions, much like it is now under the GRP.

Activities

Sweatbox training files are being updated and married to specific training and assessment exercises concurrent with the training refresh project—a 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 March 2024. Re-codifying the methodology to comply with the new GCAP is included.



VATNZ QUARTERLY REPORT Q4 2023

The courseware refreshment project is now complete.

After VATNZ goes live with GCAP, the next big project will begin – 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.

Closing

As always, there remains a lot to do, but we continue to work hard on improvements. It's an exciting, fertile, and exhausting time behind the scenes in the department, so we are planning an extended Christmas break – from December 22 until January 8.

Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year from all of us here in the Training Department!

Gary Parata

TRAINING DIRECTOR

Events

The Events department has had a busy quarter with one major event. Generally, these have run well, with 954 aircraft flying from VATNZ fields during an event. The issue of controllers failing to arrive for their rostered shifts has reduced in the last year.

Night Shift

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

Cross the Ditch

Cross the Ditch Summer 2023 was a well-received event between VATNZ and VATPAC. While it did not reach the traffic levels of the previous winter event, it was still one of our busiest events of the year, with nearly 100 aircraft leaving Christchurch on the last leg.

Staff Members

Currently, the Events Department has four members, including the Events Director. One of these members has other significant commitments. A request for applicants to join the Events Department was fielded to the division with a couple of results. These applicants will be joining the team early in the new year.



VATNZ QUARTERLY REPORT Q4 2023

Finishing Statement

The Events department has had a busy Q4 for 2023. We are looking to create some more fun events for 2024; 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: 13/01/2024