June



THE PACIFIC JOURNAL

June 2024 Pacific Airways Virtual Airline

Welcome pilots to the June edition of the Pacific Journal. As always, anybody can contribute to the newsletter. Send anything you have that is newsworthy, "Clean" aviation related cartoons, jokes, screenshots, stories to

CEO@pacificairways.net

NEWS: Over the last few issues, we have had a lot to report with the building of the new site, rules and regulations. Because everything is running so well and we are back to regular day-to-day operations, we have less to report in this issue. There are a few new things:

From the IT department: Our developer has been hard at work making the site better as we find little bugs to fix. I have been told that there have been over 200 upgrades and patches to fix and improve stuff over the last couple of months. We have added two new items since the last issue that are specifically for Pacific Airways. No other airline in vaBase has these on their websites. The first is a new Screenshot Gallery. From your dashboard on the left side navigation page under "Company", you will find the link to the gallery. Pilots can submit images for display both on the pilot and public side of the website. The images must be aviation or VA related and approved by a staff member. These images are visible to the public and serve to advertise our airline. Please only submit images appropriate for Pacific Airways and the public.

The other upgrade is a random flight generator. From your dashboard navigation pane in the Dispatch Center, there are now three choices for dispatching flights. You can search / dispatch scheduled flights from our company routes, dispatch a Charter flight to anywhere you want if you depart from the last airport you landed. The new one is the Random Flight Generator. The system will search by default the last airport you landed at (your virtual location) and give you choices for places to go. Remember, if you want to start from somewhere other than your Virtual Location, you will first need to jumpseat. On the flight generator, you enter the minimum and maximum range in nautical miles you wish to fly. By default, the generator gives 5 results or choices. You can request up to 10 results on the search. If you enter your speed (indicated airspeed not a mach number) it will give you an estimate of the time the flight will take. You can leave this blank if you do not want the time estimate. How many times have you wanted to fly but can't decide where to go. The flight generator uses a much larger world database than our scheduled or charter flights use. It is possible the generator will find an airport that Simbrief or other route generators do not recognize. If you generate your flight to Simbrief from our site with one of these airports, Simbrief may error telling you airport not found. In this case, you may have to choose another airport or manually generate your flight. That won't happen often, but it is possible. We figure it's better to have more choices than less.

Pacific Airways has passed our first audit with Vatsim. In order to maintain our partnership with Vatsim, we must pass a yearly audit. Vatsim requires a minimum of 15 pilots who have flown a combined total of 50 flights on Vatsim within the previous 90 days. We passed, but not by much. If you have considered learning to fly online, we sure could use the help. The airline thanks Norm and Serenity for doing the research and putting us over the finish line this time. The hope is that we will have more online pilots for next year.



We had another successful "bring your kids to work" day

VATUSA/VATSIM Online Events – Get Involved with the Virtual Community

By Norm Tipton / President and Director of Events

Every Month we participate in VATUSA's Friday Night Ops, an online flight experience hosted on the VATSIM Network by the USA division of VATSIM. In addition, we also occasionally participate in other VATUSA and some VATSIM events as Pacific Airways Endorsed Special Events, events that allow you to fly and log these as a pilot. A good example is the one coming up on June 1st, a tribute to Matthew Chicoine, a long-time Air Traffic Controller at Oakland who recently passed away. Many of you have encountered Matthew, I'm sure, while flying through Oakland airspace. He will be missed, both in the Oakland ARTCC and across the VATSIM network.

For those of you who fly online with the pilots of Pacific Airways every Sunday, some may not be aware of the vast number of online events that occur almost on a daily basis on VATUSA and the VATSIM network. Almost every day you can find an event to be part of with multitudes of other pilots from numerous virtual airlines and also non-VA pilots. You just have to look. ARTCCs, FIRs and airspaces as well as airports, some small and large, are manned to provide you with a real-life flying experience, all under the control and guidance of some extremely professional Air Traffic Controllers who also are involved in this hobby. Many are actually real-world controllers as are many of the pilots who fly also real-world pilots. And just like Pacific Airways, free for you.

So where do you find the information on the events? Both VATSIM and VATUSA provide websites to help you. VATSIM lists their events at https://vatsim.net/events and VATUSA has a calendar you can access at https://forums.vatusa.net/?action=calendar. Here you will find information on about every event you can imagine. From local events to multi-area events. There are so many choices, it boggles the mind



But there's more …

Not interested in an event but you'd like to fly with ATC in a more relaxed environment. Great, but how do I find out where ATC is operating? Well, that's simple too. There are several links and programs that will show you where ATC is operating around the world at any given time. A list of the available programs that highlight ATC can be found at https://vatsim.net/docs/pilots/pilots under Who's Online. It will also show you the pilots online as well. You'd be amazed, even on a weekday afternoon, by the number of ATC areas that are manned around the world. If you're a little nervous about flying with ATC then when you connect, connect in Observer Mode and you can watch, listen and even fly around the area and you know what? You can see and hear other traffic and controllers, but they can't see you, you're invisible to them. Pretty cool, huh? It's a great way to get started and learn from the experienced pilots and controllers.

If you have advanced to the levels of X-Plane (as I recently did) or Microsoft Flight Simulator and can fly one of the more advanced aircraft, then you are ready to take the next step and fly online. After all, you joined a Virtual Airline for the opportunities that are so much more rewarding than just flying around by yourself. Take full advantage of it. There are so many pilots here who would be happy to help you get more involved with the Virtual Community. You just have to take that first simple step … ASK!

Aerospace ATR72 added to the fleet



We were recently asked why we didn't have the ATR in the fleet. It's like the Dash-8 in CAT II. So I asked Scott about it and was told,": Yea, I already painted that". Somehow, it didn't get added, it's there now. Go to "Fleet" from your dashboard to download the livery. It's available for FS2020 only

From the Paintshop: Other than the ATR, nothing else has been added to the fleet, but we do have a couple of things on the to-do list. We found a freeware MD-90 for you McDonnel Douglas fans. This plane is good. I use the Rotate md80 which is better in my opinion, but this freeware one is definitely better than the X-plane default md80. I was thinking of throwing some paint on it for another option without paying for the payware plane.



You can find the MD-90 here if you want to give it a look

McDonnell Douglas MD-90 - Airliners XP12 - X-Plane.Org Forum

The other aircraft we are looking at is the x-Trident AW-109 SP helicopter. Our first company helicopter was the A109-e that is only for FSX. This would give the Xplane pilots an Agusta to fly without adding another aircraft to the fleet, since we already have the A109-e.



AW-109 SP-XTrident-AW109 (x-plane.org)

My test flight of the Trident A109 SP went as expected.





From the CEO

For the second month, Pacific Airways has held the #4 spot in vaBase out of 103 active airlines. Great Job pilots. We are back to our regular operations thanks to all the work the IT department, staff and pilots have done over the last year. If anybody wishes to contribute to the cause, our donation page is up and running. Thank you in advance for your help. Pacific is one of the oldest VA's out there and going strong.

ACARS: The IT department has figured out exactly why our ACARS seems to have different readings when compared to other ACARS and landing rate programs. Our developer has contacted the programmer who programmed our ACARS, analyzed all the code. Our ACARS considers multiple variables to calculate the landing rate. In addition to the actual landing rate, It calculates your G-Forces, Speed, Weight and Center of Gravity in the result. Smart Acars, phpVMS and others just report a single landing rate which is often lower than our ACARS including all the extra variables. Is ours more accurate? We don't know, but its nothing we can change or edit. Anyway, that's the reason for the different readings.

STATS

30 Day Statistics	All-Time Statistics
Active Pilots: 34	Active Pilots: 50
Hours: 1,467h	Hours: 8,191h
FLights: 532	FLights: 2,900
Miles: 513,619	Miles: 2,839,190
Fuel Used: 11,650,432 lb	Fuel Used: 62,290,875 lb
Passengers: 70,260	Passengers: 409,364
Cargo: 17,237,654 lb	Cargo: 68,200,400 lb



Best Landing goes to Mitch Clason PAY1992 who scored a -5 at KBUF in the ToLiss A320. Contrats Mitch

Total Flights – Tom Bayard PAY6256

61 flights

Total Distance – Michael Klein PAY3236

72,146 nm

Most Hours – Mitch Clason PAY1992

92.33 hours for May



Mitch Clason PAY1992



Screenshot Gallery Fav's











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