

VATSIM NORTH AMERICA

POLICY NUMBER: 04/05

DATE ISSUED: 10/10/2005

SUBJECT: VATSIM NORTH AMERICA (VATNA) REGION VOICE POLICY

PURPOSE: To establish regional policy regarding the use of voice within VATSIM North America

STATEMENT: The use of voice within VATSIM is a tool to enhance a person's overall online experience. Unfortunately, abuses can, and do exist regarding the use of voice. It is the intent of this policy to allow voice usage in a manner that is properly managed and supervised, thereby increasing the benefit for all.

POLICY:

1. Each VATNA division is delegated the authority to establish voice polices that support the accomplishment of overall division objectives.
2. In the creation of voice polices, the following shall be included:
 - a. A statement regarding the lowest rating authorized to use voice. This very basic statement can also be generic in its content.
 - b. A statement regarding the management of rating restrictions, if any.
 - c. A statement defining testing procedures required to achieve voice ratings.
 - d. A statement defining voice policy abuses and associated penalties.
3. Division Directors may allow voice rating restrictions at a particular facility if it is determined that lowering the voice rating requirement may result in a detrimental effect to a particular ARTCC/FIR.
4. Division Directors shall ensure that local voice policies and procedures are in keeping with the above standards. No policy shall exist that is unfair, divisive, and/or violates established executive/regional/divisional policies.
5. Not all pilots are capable of using voice to communicate with ATC. Per VATSIM Code of Regulations, **no division or subdivision** within the North American Region shall implement a policy that requires voice air traffic control services, or develops a policy favoring the provision of voice air traffic control services over text air traffic control services.