



## The New and Improved Cape Air Virtual

Tom ('tofutwitch11')

Cape Air Virtual Administration Team

Three and a half years ago, when Cape Air Virtual ('CAV') was first launched, the original team of administrators had high aspirations for the airline's success. Today's Cape Air Virtual Administration is dedicated to honor those aspirations by continuing to ensure that the airline is operated under the same ideals with which it was created.

As many CAV pilots know, CAV has been in the process of restructuring the airline over the past few months. Cape Air Administrators have been working hard to ensure CAV is better and more realistic than ever! The improvements to Cape Air Virtual's operations are outlined in this article.

The first change for pilots is the rank structure. BVA's Pilot Ratings Program has been extremely successful since its release and CAV plans to take advantage of its offerings by requiring pilots to complete PRP flights in order to advance and maintain their rank within CAV. A detailed breakdown of pilot ranks and their respective training requirements can be found on the [Cape Air Virtual](#) website.

The second major change within the airline is the creation of Cape Air Elite, our upper-tier class of pilots. Cape Air Elite's creation was necessary because of the adjustment of the CAV fleet. Cape Air Elite pilots will be able to fly any of the turboprop aircraft on the 'Approved Aircraft' list available on our website. To fly for Cape Air

Elite, you must achieve the rank of Senior Captain. Pilots Senior Captain and above will be considered Cape Air Elite pilots and are welcome to fly Cape Air Elite routes and aircraft.

With Cape Air Elite's creation comes a large downsizing of the CAV subsidiary, Turbines Limited. While Turbines Ltd. will still exist, its role within the airline will be considerably smaller than in the past couple of years. One factor of the CAV Administration's decision to downsize Turbines Ltd. was the lack of an acceptable De Havilland Dash-8 aircraft for FSX. In the future if a suitable model should become available, the role of Turbines Ltd. within Cape Air Virtual may be revisited.

The last notable change for CAV is the condensation of our route structure. Routes for the Beechcraft Baron 58 and Cessna 414 will cease to exist and will be replaced with routes for the Cessna 402, the aircraft the real-world Cape Air flies. Although these routes are found in VAFS under the Cessna 402, pilots may fly them with any of the aircraft on the 'Approved Aircraft' list. Most routes will be available for all pilots; however some will be restricted to Cape Air Virtual Elite pilots, and a few to Turbines Ltd.

We invite all members of the BVA community to review our updated [Regulations](#) on our Cape Air Virtual website and see specific changes to the structure of Cape Air Virtual. Feel free to contact the CAV Administration Team with any questions, comments, or concerns at [kap@bostonvirtualatc.com](mailto:kap@bostonvirtualatc.com). MoCHA HaGoTDi!

### Pilot Tip of the Month

## Communicating on a CTAF

Although it is common to hear real-world pilots use the phrase "Traffic in the area, please advise" when approaching an untowered airport, it is actually incorrect to do so. The following is an excerpt from the FAA's Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM), Section 4-1-9:

*"Self-announce is a procedure whereby pilots broadcast their position or intended flight activity or ground operation on the designated CTAF. This procedure is used primarily at airports which do not have an FSS on the airport. The self-announce procedure should also be used if a pilot is unable to communicate with the FSS on the designated CTAF. Pilots stating, "Traffic in the area, please advise" is not a recognized Self-Announce Position and/or Intention phrase and should not be used under any condition."*

Instead of requesting others to advise you of their positions, it is your own responsibility to remain alert and listen for other traffic advisories on frequency as well as a maintain a visual lookout for those who may be flying in the pattern, but not communicating on the radio.

When entering the pattern at an untowered airport, simply state your position and intentions and then wait for others to respond. Normally, if other aircraft are in the vicinity, they will promptly respond to your initial traffic call and begin communicating their own positions and intentions. From there, you can begin coordinating as necessary with these aircraft to ensure a safe pattern entry and subsequent landing.



## Regional Circuit



Tuesday, March 5  
(8-11pm ET)

KHEF (Manassas) &  
KRIC (Richmond)

Our controllers fully staff two airports and provide complete ATC coverage for flights between the two; pilots are encouraged to file preferred routes and can expect multiple handoffs and busy frequencies throughout the event

## Domestic Journey



Thursday, April 18  
(8-11pm ET)

KSLC (Salt Lake City) &  
KLAS (Las Vegas)

The Domestic Journey provides BVA pilots with the opportunity to enjoy medium-haul flights across North America with air traffic control coverage from gate-to-gate.

## Pack the Pattern



Sunday, April 7  
(3-5pm ET)

KSTL (St. Louis)

Pilots are encouraged to fly into the event or fly IFR or VFR circuits of a busy Class Bravo airport, with full ATC coverage for the entire evening (including Clearance, Ground, multiple Tower and Approach controllers, and maybe even a Center!)

## Fly-In



Sunday, April 21  
(3-6pm ET)

San Diego  
(KCRQ, KRNM, KSNA)

Tower (Local) Controllers will feature several small airports designed for General Aviation aircraft. Fly IFR or VFR within controlled airspace; general aviation aircraft (anything from a Cessna to a LearJet) are preferred.

## Challenge



Sunday, April 14  
(5-8pm ET)

ZBW VFR Challenge

BVA's Challenge event will test your piloting skills in the realistic atmosphere of BVA. This event is about exercising your multi-tasking ability in challenging and unfamiliar situations—something pilots have to do all the time.

## Getaway



March 8-17

Southeast  
(KATL, KBHM, KCLT, KGSP)

BVA's Getaway Event takes pilots and controllers for a change of scenery, and features various airports across North America. Join BVA as we 'Getaway' to explore new airports and destinations

## Controller of the Month

### Evan ('evanet')

BVA Administration Team

Each month, one member of our controller community is selected by ATC Instructors for special recognition for outstanding performance and ongoing dedication. As essential frontline service providers, controllers play the most important role in ensuring the satisfaction and enjoyment of our membership.

This month, our Instructors are proud to recognize **Skylar ('skylar')** for his above-and-beyond efforts in the community

as well as his perseverance and dedication to our ATC program. Skylar is an incredibly patient controller always happy to help and welcome members of any skill level to the community. In addition to controlling regularly (he is 5th on this month's Active Controllers Report), Skylar is a member of United Regional and works regularly to train new controllers as an ATC Mentor.

Skylar has also been working hard at his own training and recently achieved a Class C Approach certification. Mentors were proud of Skylar's persistent efforts towards training and impressed by his ability to learn from mistakes and continue to get better every session.



## Screenshot of the Month

Max ('ameri767300')

Screenshot of the Month Coordinator

landing at Tampa International Airport (KTPA). Click [HERE](#) to see the forum thread containing all of the competition's entrants.

Congratulations to **Tim ('jumpstartation')** for winning BVA's February Screenshot of the Month contest! Displayed below, his shot is an American Eagle regional jet taxiing in after

If you missed this month's competition and are interested in submitting a screenshot next month, stay tuned to BVA's forums for the March Screenshot Contest announcement.





# Flight SimCon 2013

Chuck ('chuck')  
Flight SimCon 2013

The article below has been published on behalf of Chuck at Flight SimCon 2013. Boston Virtual ATC is a sponsor of Flight SimCon 2013.

Flight SimCon 2013 is a convention for Flight Simulator enthusiasts featuring speakers, exhibitors, and great opportunities to meet folks you now recognize only by voice. The conference is being held in Hartford, Connecticut on March 23-24, 2013. Planning and development for the conference is well underway and we are excited to see many enthusiastic responses from exhibitors, sponsors, and attendees. With less than four weeks to go until the conference, now is the time to start making plans to attend! Visit [www.flightsimcon.com](http://www.flightsimcon.com) for more information. Registration is now open, and admission is just \$20. The mission of Flight SimCon is to take what may have been a solitary experience of gaming and turn it into a social opportunity for networking and growth.

Boston Virtual ATC will be represented heavily at the conference via attendance from BVA members and the BVA LAN Team. Approximately 10-15 BVA pilots and controllers will

be at the event with their FSX workstations and will be flying on the BVA server. The purpose of LAN Team is to provide a public demonstration of what FSX and multiplayer communities are capable of, to showcase Boston Virtual ATC as a premiere multiplayer community, and to replicate a high traffic environment in the ZBW and ZNY ARTCCs. We expect the general public and media to be surprised by what is possible in a multiplayer community and how professional and competent our pilots and controllers are.

Recent studies have indicated a massive hiring and training gap for future pilots and controllers. As you know, FSX can be an excellent teaching and training tool for future aviation professionals. Flight SimCon believes that multiplayer community members can be the pilots and controllers of tomorrow and we seek to connect those dots. The conference will support this theme with many opportunities to crossover from the gaming world to the real world. Our belief is that professionals from the world of aviation will be impressed with the capabilities of the multiplayer gaming communities and will hopefully see them as a viable conduit for attracting new talent.

While the lists are changing daily, current exhibitors at the event include **Voltaire Sim, Connecticut Flight Academy, Fly G-Force**, and more. Additionally, breakout sessions and speakers include a **real world 737 captain from United Airlines, Jeff Chartier from Sim Samari, representatives from Angle of Attack / FlyAOAMedia, and BVA's own Evan Reiter.**

While the conference is educational and will certainly lead to networking and professional development opportunities, it will also be fun! Think of it as one giant party with some of your very best friends—all of whom share a common love of simulation, aviation and flight. On Saturday evening, the SkyLounge social event will feature down-tempo trance music and IntelliBeam lighting from Correlation Productions as well as food and beverages. A buffet lunch is available on both days at the conference.

Currently, the registration roster shows attendees coming from as far north as Canada and as far south as Texas. Participants are arriving by car, bus, train, and some are even renting general aviation aircraft and flying themselves in. If you would like to attend the event but aren't close enough to make the trip on your own, then check out the Flight SimCon threads on BVA's forums for help. Some members who will be traveling longer distances to the convention have already offered rides to anyone who might be along their route of travel. If you need a ride, speak up! There's a good chance that one of your fellow members might be able to give you a lift to Hartford.



FS Break is planning to run a live video stream with on-site interviews from the conference. Additionally, the conference will be video broadcast on JustinTV and discussions are ongoing

with Sky Blue Radio to have audio broadcasting from the event. Chat discussions for all three services will likely be active as well as the opportunity for traditional phone call-in chat as well! In addition to web-based media attention, we are also anticipating local and possibly national television and radio coverage.

There's no question that Flight SimCon 2013 is going to be a blast! BVA will be at the conference in force, and you should too! So, if you haven't done so already, visit [www.flightsimcon.com](http://www.flightsimcon.com) today and register for the event! We hope to see you at Hartford on March 23-24!

## A Note From BVA's Administration...

If you are not attending Flight SimCon 2013 in person, you still have a very important role to play in ensuring BVA is well-represented at the event! During the convention hours (10am-5pm ET on Saturday, 10am-3pm ET on Sunday), we need our members to be out in full force flying and controlling so anyone checking our BVA's Live Map and Listen Live at the convention applications can see what a great place BVA is to learn about and enjoy aviation. Additional information about featured airports and ATC availability will be available on the ATC Timetable the week prior to Flight SimCon 2013.

Additionally, on Tuesday, March 19, we'll be featuring a special fly-in event to KBDL, staffing ZNY and ZBW for departures from anywhere in either ARTCC.

