FlightSimCon 2015: Free T-Shirts!

Tom ('tofutwitch11')
BVA Administration Team

There is just over a month go to until FlightSimCon 2015 and our administrators and members couldn't be more excited about the event! Whether or not you can attend the event in person on June 13-14, it will be an action-packed weekend full of ATC and flying.

Each BVA member who attends FlightSimCon in person will be receiving a free Boston Virtual ATC T-shirt to wear for the duration of the conference. The shirts will help give BVA a recognizable presence at the event, and (we hope) will also be worn by members throughout the year. To receive a T-shirt, members must complete our sign-up form and provide a size.

Members who will be attending the conference must complete the form by May 15, 2015 to receive a T-shirt.

Additionally, if you are in town on Friday, June 12, please join us for a BVA member dinner at Wood'N'Tap in Hartford. Visit our forums for more information and complete that sign-up form.

BVA Hosts Cross-Community Flight 6

Zac ('zploch')
BVA Administration Team

On Saturday, April 11 Boston Virtual ATC hosted the 6th Cross-Community Flight. Once again, our members stole the show! Many will remember that in December 2013, BVA hosted the 3rd Cross-Community Flight and hit a record that has never been attempted before. The BVA FSX server had reached its limit of 100 connected users and couldn't handle any more! This time, with over 80 participants in total, BVA would like to thank all who participated and helped with the event. Feedback collected showed that the Cross-Community Flight was a true success and that all would attend the next one.

The Cross-Community Flight is an event designed for communication, collaboration, and networking for the multiplayer communities based around FSX. It is always a great time to share ideas, express opinions, and chat with some of the finest virtual pilots and air traffic controllers on the planet.

During the last leg of the event, participants were given the opportunity to fly into KSMF with BVA providing air traffic control. Given the nature of the event and the many different experience levels of pilots, we appreciate the understanding of our members as this was a slightly different style of ATC and event than we would usually have. Nonetheless, even though our controllers were a bit short-staffed, they did a fantastic job. Boston Virtual ATC would like to thank the following air traffic controllers for helping out with the event: Andrew ('PG158'), Brandon ('brainstorm1'), Cody ('Bluewarrior4185'), Daniel ('kofmandanny'), Evan ('Evanet'), Jason ('Warhead2113'), Nate ('Unred'), and Nathan ('undercoverbros22').

All Cross-Community Flights are a wonderful opportunity to understand and get to know all other online aviation communities such as EasternHops, msFlights, FsFlyBoys, FSX-MP, and many more. During every event there are always multiple opportunities for discussion between members of all communities that gives us a chance to relate and get to know one another better than before. While it is undetermined which community will host the next Cross-Community Flight, BVA is definitely looking forward to participating in the next one!

Regional Circuit

Rc

Thursday, May 7
(8-11pm ET)

KBGM (Binghamton) &
KEWR (Newark)

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

Pack the Pattern

Pp

Sunday, May 3
(2-4pm ET)

KEZM (Heart of Georgia)

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!)

Challenge

Ch

Sunday, May 24
(2-5pm ET)

IFR Procedures
(ZBW ARTCC)

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.

Domestic Journey

Dj

Thursday, May 28
(8-11pm ET)

KATL (Atlanta) &
KSAV (Savannah)

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.

Fly-In

Fi

Saturday, May 16
(3-6pm ET)

Pacific Northwest
(CYXX, KBLI, and KPAE)

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.

Getaway

Ga

May 9-17

Seattle
(KBLI, KGEG, KPDX, KSEA)

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.

In April, our ATC Instructors wish to recognize **Bostjan ('bostjanlaba')** as Controller of the Month. Despite living in

Slovenia (6 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time), Bostjan has committed to controlling during peak hours. Recently, he achieved his Class B Ground certification at KBOS at 11pm ET, or 5am for him!

In addition to asking great questions and working hard to read and learn our procedures, Bostjan has also taken the time to provide us with feedback. He recently sent our Instructors detailed feedback on our training materials that will be used to improve the training program for new controllers.

Help is Available: BVA's Virtual FBO

Zac ('zploch')
BVA Administration Team

Have you been trying to complete that one difficult PRP rating? Do you need assistance in learning the basics of IFR, VFR, or any specific procedures? Would you like help in getting acquainted with the community?

If the answer is yes to any of these questions, check out Boston Virtual ATC's Virtual FBO! The Virtual FBO is a portal for orientation services, coaching for our self-guided pilot training programs, and getting started with the community. Our seven Virtual FBO coaches are ready and willing to help any member with any PRP flight, orientation service, or any flight training topic or procedure.

To request the assistance of a coach, navigate to the Virtual FBO webpage and fill out the request form at the bottom (note that you must be logged in to the website to see the form). From there you will be paired up with one of BVA's Virtual FBO Coaches who will provide the necessary training and/or materials you will need to achieve your goal.

Screenshot of the Month

Max ('Ameri767300')
BVA Administration Team

Congratulations to Gary ('Skyhawk') for winning BVA's March Screenshot of the Month Contest! Displayed below, his shot shows a military C-130E being loaded up with Humvees.

If you missed this month's competition and are interested in submitting a screenshot, stay tuned to BVA's forums for an announcement regarding our next Screenshot of the Month Contest, which will take place in May.

ZBW IFR Procedures Challenge

Evan ('Evanet')
BVA Administration Team

On Sunday, May 24, we'll feature one of the most difficult Challenge events hosted on our server. During the flight from KBED or KBOS over to KBDL, pilots will need to handle a re-route, hold, approach, missed approach, and finally a circling approach back to a full-stop landing. The event effectively covers almost all of the maneuvers that must be demonstrated on an IFR flight test.

During the event, ATC will be online for departures from either KBOS or KBED. On departure, pilots can expect to be assigned a route to fly. Next, a hold will be assigned. After the hold, pilots will be vectored to KBDL for the ILS, missed approach, and circling approach procedures.

The Challenge page of our website provides detailed briefing material on each of the maneuvers expected during the flight. Additionally, IFR flights in BVA's Pilot Ratings Program cover everything pilots need to know to fly the event.

Start reviewing and preparing now, and we'll see you for the IFR Procedures Challenge at KBED, KBOS, and KBDL on Sunday, May 24 at 2-5pm ET.

New York Climb Procedures

When flying from the "New York Three" (KEWR, KLGA, and KJFK), pilots can expect departure procedures that include climb procedures (e.g., Liberty Two at KEWR, LaGuardia Four, and Kennedy One). Although all aircraft may be assigned one Standard Instrument Departure (SID), climb procedures are used to route aircraft to different initial headings.

Let's use the LaGuardia Four departure as an example. It's important to look at both pages, as the description is included on Page 2. As you can see, departures from Runways 4, 22, and 31 are simply assigned headings; just like any other procedure. However, departures from Runway 13 can expect one of four climb procedures: Flushing, Whitestone, Coney, or Maspeth. Each contains specific heading instructions and are used in different circumstances.

A climb procedure will be assigned as part of the initial clearance, and re-stated in the takeoff clearance. When assigned a climb, read that back as part of the clearance. Then, review the SID to confirm you are able to accept and comply with the procedure. As always, if you aren't sure, just ask ATC for simplified instructions like a heading to fly after takeoff.

Cape Air Virtual >>
Pilot of the Month

This month, Cape Air Virtual recognizes the pilot who had the most flights. For March, that pilot is Claude ('treking1'), who had over 19 flights! Congratulations, Claude!