



**AIR  
WALES**

*Eich Porth i Gymru - Your Gateway to Wales*

## **Pilot Handbook**

**v3.0**

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## Contents

<b>Administration.....</b>	<b>3</b>
Introduction.....	3
Application Requirements.....	3
Activity Requirements.....	3
Career Progression.....	3
Rank Structure.....	4
Downloads.....	4
VATSIM Network.....	4
Code of Conduct.....	5
Legal.....	5
<b>Flight Operations.....</b>	<b>5</b>
Fleet Information.....	5
Flight Requirements.....	6
Aircraft Substitution.....	6
Manual PIREPs.....	6
Charter Flights.....	7
<b>Operational Information.....</b>	<b>7</b>
Cardiff Airport Stand Allocation.....	7
Cost Index.....	7



## Administration

### Introduction

Founded in late 2017, Air Wales Virtual commenced operations in February 2018. Seeking to serve a market missing from the flight simulation community, we began operating flights out of Cardiff Airport throughout the U.K, continental Europe and further afar. Over the last few years, we've grown and have had more pilots join the community than we ever expected. The Welsh aviation market is extremely small and niche, so it's fantastic to see the variety of virtual pilots that we have flying with us.

We thank you for choosing Air Wales Virtual as your flight simulation community of choice and look forward to seeing you in the virtual skies. So, thank you for your interest in Air Wales Virtual and Croeso i Gymru!

### Application Requirements

In order to keep our community enjoyable for all and ensure a basic level of realism, we do have certain requirements to be eligible for hire. Applicants must:

- Hold and maintain an active email address;
- Be 16 years of age or older at time of application;
  - No exceptions will be made to this requirement;
- Own a legal copy of Microsoft Flight Simulator, Prepar3D, or X-Plane;
- Have a basic knowledge of proper flight standards and procedures;
- Maintain and uphold the standards set out in this manual;
- Have a clean disciplinary record with VATSIM

*Air Wales Virtual reserves the right to deny any application without written explanation.*

### Activity Requirements

In order to remain active on our roster, pilots must file at least one [1] Pilot Report (PIREP) every 60 days. If unable to meet this requirement, please contact a member of the staff team who will be happy to assist.

### Career Progression

Air Wales Virtual aims to replicate a certain amount of realism, therefore we enforce a rank structure for virtual pilots to progress through during their career with us. As pilots increase their hour count, they work up through our ranking structure. Applicants can request to transfer hours during the application process, boosting their initial rank. Providing we can verify the hours, we



will accept 50% of your hours from VATSIM or a previous virtual airline, up to a maximum of 50. Transfer hours may also be requested by email up to 7 days following registration. Please email [ops@airwalesv.org](mailto:ops@airwalesv.org) with a link to verify the hours.

## Rank Structure

Rank	Hours Required	CAT Qualified
Junior First Officer	0	A
Senior First Officer	25	B
Captain	50	C
Senior Captain	100	C
Chief Pilot	250	C

## Downloads

Air Wales Virtual provides a variety of free liveries for a selection of payware aircraft add-ons. These can be found under the “Downloads” section of the Operations Centre. Over time, we will update these liveries and hopefully bring them to even more add-on aircraft. FlightTrack, our flight tracking and logging client, as well as any additional software that may be required for your simulator can be found here as well. This client runs alongside your simulator and reports your flight information back to our website for your convenience. Any important documents or other materials that are deemed important will also be located here.

## VATSIM Network

We encourage all pilots to participate and fly online within the VATSIM network. The network adds a tremendous amount of realism to the flight simulation experience and is free to use. Air Wales Virtual’s callsign is simply “Wales”. All flights are to use the ‘WLS’ flight numbers, regardless of what our internal prefix is. For cargo operations, simply add a remark to your flight plan stating that it is a cargo flight. When flying online, we kindly ask you add “airwalesv.org” to your flight plan remarks. This helps increase exposure for the virtual airline and will in return increase enjoyability.

For more information and to register free of charge, visit “<http://vatsim.net>”. When flying on the VATSIM network, you must always abide by the VATSIM Code of Conduct. Please always remember to act professionally when representing Air Wales Virtual.



## Code of Conduct

Air Wales Virtual requires that all pilots and staff conduct themselves professionally in and outside our community. When flying on the VATSIM network, you must abide by the network's COC. We also ask that when using social network platforms, you represent our organisation professionally. Should a member violate the policies set forth in this handbook or VATSIM's COC, Air Wales Virtual staff reserve the right to suspend or terminate pilots from the organisation.

## Legal

Air Wales Virtual is a flight simulation community simulating a fictional airline. We are not affiliated in any way nor sponsored by any real-world airline. Air Wales Virtual is not a representation of the historic "Air Wales" and is completely fictional. All content on our website and Operations Centre is the property of its respective owners. No copying of any content is permitted without the prior consent of Air Wales Virtual. Please contact [info@airwalesv.org](mailto:info@airwalesv.org) with any questions.

## Flight Operations

### Fleet Information

Air Wales Virtual has gradually expanded since we launched operations back in early 2018 and now proudly offer our pilots both a passenger and cargo division with a variety of aircraft to choose from.

#### Passenger Fleet

Aircraft Type	Operator	CAT	Number in Fleet	Notes
Saab 340A	Connect	A	3	To be reduced to 1
De Havilland Dash 8-400	Connect	A	5	
Boeing 737-800 NG	Mainline	A	5	2 on order
Boeing 757-200	Mainline	B	1	To be phased out and replaced by A321. Conversion to freighter model
Airbus A321neo LR	Mainline	B	1	2 (1x neoLR, 1 x neo) on order
Boeing 787-9	Mainline	C	3	



## Cargo Fleet

Aircraft Type	CAT	Number in Fleet	Notes
Airbus A300-600F	B	2	
Boeing 757-200PCF	B	2	1 remains to be converted from Mainline fleet

## Flight Requirements

For a flight to be accepted as 'valid', the following criteria must be met:

- Flight must be conducted in a safe manner at all times;
- Landing rate should not exceed -750fpm;
- Time acceleration should not exceed 4x normal speed. PIREP time will track actual flight time, not simulated time;
- Direct routings should be avoided when possible. Follow published SIDs and STARs where possible.

## Aircraft Substitution

We pride ourselves on pilot enjoyment and we understand that the flight simulation community offers a variety of aircraft add-ons with varying costs and in-depth accuracy. Therefore, we are open to pilots substituting aircraft as they please, as long as the chosen aircraft falls within a category appropriate for your current rank. For inter-fleet substitution, you must be ranked to operate the chosen aircraft. For external substitutions, the chosen aircraft must be appropriate for your current rank. For example, a Junior First Officer should not substitute a Saab 340 for an Airbus A330. Please choose the 'Non-Fleet Aircraft' choice of aircraft within FlightTrack if using an aircraft that isn't in the official fleet. Through community effort, we host a variety of unofficial liveries for many different add-on aircraft. The link to the Dropbox folder can be found in the Downloads section of your Operations Centre.

## Manual PIREPs

Manual PIREPs will be allowed under the following circumstances:

- FlightTrack failure or downtime;
- Network or server issues with the Operations Centre;
- Under direction of Air Wales Virtual staff;
- PC or simulator difficulties



Please be prepared to provide evidence as proof of flight. Acceptable alternatives are a VATSIM, ProjectFly or STKP log. Please contact a staff member with any queries or concerns.

## Charter Flights

Any flight that is not listed within the Air Wales schedules is categorised as a charter flight. We understand that from time to time it may be desirable to break from the schedules and operate ad-hoc to destinations that are not covered by the schedule. To do this, the flight must be created within FlightTrack. On the flight search tab, use the 'Create' button and fill out the details accordingly. Flight numbers 7001-9999 are to be used for charter flights, unless otherwise directed. Please note, the following restrictions apply to charter flights:

- Scheduled routes must account for at least 50% of your total logged flights per month (i.e. number of charter flights flown must not exceed scheduled flights flown)
- At least 50% of charter flights operated must depart or arrive from the U.K

## Operational Information

### Cardiff Airport Stand Allocation

Domestic	European	Long-Haul	Cargo
Stands 1, 2, 3	Stands 9, 10, 11	Stands 7, 8/8R	Stands 4, 5

### Cost Index

The below table indicates our preferred cost index figures for normal operations.

Aircraft	Cost Index
Boeing 737 NG	15
Boeing 757-200 PAX	40
Boeing 757-200 Cargo	30
Airbus A321neo LR	20 (5 in CLB)
Boeing 787-9	70
Airbus A300-600F	20