



29 July 2021

Flight Simulation Australia

A support base for Australian virtual pilots



In January this year, a new Australian flight simulation community group emerged. **Aus Virtual Pilots** is aimed at reaching all Australian flight simmers. Nick Mayson, President of AVP says, "I am proud to see AVP become an emerging Australian Flight Sim and aviation enthusiast group. As we move forward in a new direction looking to build a stronger community, organise new events whether that be online or in-person, and establish ourselves on YouTube and live streams, I would like to encourage all members to get involved in all the socials".

In addition to their Facebook Group page (application for membership required) they have already established a public Facebook page, a Discord link and a YouTube channel. A website is in the making. Three videos of streamed events have been posted so far. To date they have 263 members in their Facebook group. Not bad in a short space of time.

AVP is run by three flight simmers, Nick, Nathan and Brad, who are clearly passionate about aviation in general and flight sim in



FlightSimExpo 2021 is North America's community-driven flight simulation conference. The event brings together some of the biggest names in the industry with a full series of seminars throughout the three-day event, plus more.

[SEE MORE](#)

US Dates: September 24-26, 2021
Australian Dates: 25-27 September, 2021
Location: San Diego, CA, USA

Attend online
 There is a unique opportunity for Aussies to attend the conference online, as seminars and other events are being streamed via Fetch or YouTube.

Click on the button below to see the current schedule of streamed events and how you can register

[PROGRAM SCHEDULE](#)

FlightSimExpo Press Release
 29 July, 2021

X-Plane shares next generation previews, more to come at FlightSimExpo



The **Oz Flight Sim Expo** is the only flight simulation exhibition event in Australia. It offers flight sim enthusiasts of all ages the perfect opportunity to get up close with some of the most impressive displays and product demonstrations.

The Expo is part of the [Wings Over Illawarra Airshow](#), the largest airshow in Australia.



Date: 13 & 14 November 2021
Location: Hangar 1, Shellharbour Regional Airport, Albion Park Rail, NSW.

[READ MORE](#)

Are you a developer or contributor to the flight simulation community? Why not exhibit what you have to offer at the Oz Flight Sim Expo!

[MORE INFO](#)

particular. Initially, the group was established as VATSIM flyers. But recently they saw the benefit in reaching out to *all* Australian simmers, thus potentially embracing a wider audience in the Aussie flight sim community.

I made contact with them this week via Discord and was lucky enough to chat with all three admins of AVP. Not unexpectedly, they did not know of Flight Simulation Australia (FSAu) as I had not known of their existence until recently. This highlights the issue I have written about in the past regarding the insular nature of individual and group flight simulation activity and the call to [re-imagine](#) the Australian flight simulation community.

We chatted about our respective objectives and found common ground. We agreed on how difficult it is to get such a group up and running and remain viable, particularly if acting solo, as Nick initially did. Now he is supported by Nathan and Brad who have taken on differing aspects of group management, and share the load. I remain a solo operator and don't have the benefit of others to bounce off ideas or tap into their skills and knowledge. It is perhaps this reason that FSAu has not gained the traction that I would have liked over the years.

Both AVP and FSAu have differing services to offer. Rather than being competitive, we agreed work to support each other for the benefit of the Aussie flight sim community. So, just as I have thrown my support behind the North American-based Flight Simulation Association (FSA), I also see opportunities for a cooperative outreach to the Australian demographic of the

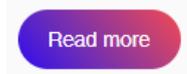
At the broadcast hosted by Flight Simulation Association today, Laminar Research, makers of X-Plane, shared preview [video](#) and [screen shots](#) of a next-generation X-Plane simulator. Laminar Research will be heavily featured at FlightSimExpo 2021, in September, alongside more than 30 other sponsors and exhibitors.



A replay of today's presentation is available with a free Flight Simulation Association account at: <https://flightsimassociation.com/webinars/recorded>



Last month, leading gaming accessory maker [Turtle Beach](#) unveiled its *VelocityOne Universal Control System* for Xbox and PC, marking the company's entrance into the flight simulation world. Turtle Beach will be showing off their new product at the FlightSimExpo in September.



Article of the Week



Resource of the Week

[Avia Maps](#) is a reliable and straightforward application for pilots and flight sim enthusiasts for 42 countries on all continents (except Antarctica). Countries with Airspace data include the United States, Canada, most of Europe, Australia and New Zealand. You simply choose and 5 by 5 degree area on earth and download the relevant data for offline use. The map features over 50,000 airports and 11,000 nav aids around the globe.

The app is suitable for pre-flight route planning with wind and fuel calculations, as well as flight navigation. You also get the latest weather for more than 9500 airports. Initial downloading of the app gives full access for a trial period. After the evaluation period of 30 days, you will have to do an in-app purchase of currently USD \$10.99. There are no recurring charges.

flight simulation ecosystem.

Absent

Please note there will be no update for the next two weeks as I will be away on holiday.

Greg Whiley (CaptAus)

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[Cloud Types in Flight Simulator](#)

With Microsoft Flight Simulator 2020 (MSFS) now using real-time weather data to product meteorological conditions around the world, the relevance of weather and cloud types becomes even more important to flight simmers.

[Read on](#)