



RADIO TELEPHONY ON VATSIM

EXPLAINING THE BASICS

This tutorial has been created for free by

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It is to be used for simulation purposes only and is linked to the VATSIM Tutorial Series on the channel to compliment the information demonstrated there

Introduction

VATSIM is a free network which allows you to log in as a Pilot or Controller, and communicate with one another as if in real life.

It's a global network and hosts regular busy events worldwide but it does require some preparation before jumping in for the first time!

If you want to check out my VATSIM Basics Tutorials then click the link below to work through the mini series to help you get started:

[British Avgeek's VATSIM Mini-Series Tutorials](#)

This document relates to Radio Telephony – that is – what you will need to say on the radio when using the VATSIM Network. Dependant on country, it will differ slightly but this pdf will use UK RT as a base for you.

As a reminder – this is only to cover the basics. You can read the CAP 413 Document written by the Civil Aviation Authority in the UK. That covers everything you need in great detail. I hope you find it useful

[CAA Publication CAP 413](#)

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Always remember – don't interrupt in the middle of messages between controllers and other aircraft. Wait for a natural gap to transmit.

Keywords

Word	Meaning
LINE UP AND WAIT	Taxi onto the Runway, Line up and then Stop – Apply Parking Brake – and wait for further instruction
IMMEDIATE TAKEOFF	Means exactly that – no delay or hesitation, take off immediately
IN SEQUENCE	You're in a queue
INTERSECTION	Another entry onto the runway resulting in a SHORTER Take Off distance available for you to use
AFFIRM <i>AFFIRMATIVE</i>	Means "YES"
VARIABLE	Usually used in reference to wind. It means the wind direction is constantly changing
UNICOM	On VATSIM – freq. 122.800 General Freq. for all traffic not under any control
COMPANY TRAFFIC	Another aircraft of the same airline that you are operating as

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Departure

Below is an example of what you would say and hear:

For the purposes of the document, our callsign is British 458 and we are at Manchester Airport.

You will have been handed over to the Tower Frequency at this point so will have changed to Tower.



Manchester Tower, good morning, British 458 holding at M1 ready for Departure



British 548, Manchester Tower, Roger after the landing Airbus A330, via M1 Line up and Wait Runway 23R **behind**



After the landing A330, via Mike 1, Line up and Wait Runway 23R **behind**

The other aircraft lands – line up on the runway, and hold position

British 458, Cleared for Take Off Runway 23R



Cleared for Take Off Runway 23
Right, British 458

Departure Continued

What about other instructions? Here's some examples



Manchester Tower, British 458,
Holding at Mike 1 in Sequence

British 458, Manchester Tower,
Roger



British 458, can you take a H1 intersection?



*Ideally you have already used a calculator to have a secondary
intersection departure planned and calculated*

If ABLE to:

If UNABLE to:

Affirm, British 458

Negative, British 458



Roger, via Hotel 1, cleared for
Take Off Runway 23R wind 230 at 12



via H1, Cleared for Takeoff 23R, British 458

Continue for some other Examples

Departure Continued

Immediate Take Off Clearance

British 458, are you able for
an Immediate Takeoff?



Important:

If you cannot – say **“Negative, British 458”** as this is usually done to fit in a departure if able with **VERY** tight spacing with an aircraft on **Final Approach. Absolutely no hesitation.**

If Able:

Affirm, British 458



Roger, British 458 Runway 23R
Cleared **immediate take-off**
wind 250 at 4kts



Cleared **Immediate Take Off** 23R, British 458

Depart Immediately. Delay or Hesitation will result in another aircraft being instructed to Go-Around

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After Take Off

You will be handed off to the next controller – whether that is
“Director” “Departures” “Approach”, “Centre”, or Unicom

I hope you find both the video tutorials and the accompanying documents useful and informative.

Be sure to subscribe to my YouTube channel for all of the latest tutorials and as always, if there is anything you wish to see covered just let me know!



If you found this guide helpful and wish to donate, you can do so here:

<https://paypal.me/britishavgeek>