

# Member Meetup - NAT Special: Nov 6, 1500 UTC

David Mumford  
31 October, 2024



## Member Meetup November 2024

- November 6, 1500 UTC
- North Atlantic Special
- Release of 2025 NAT Guide and NAT Plotting/Planning Chart
- **Non-members welcome** to attend this one (see below)

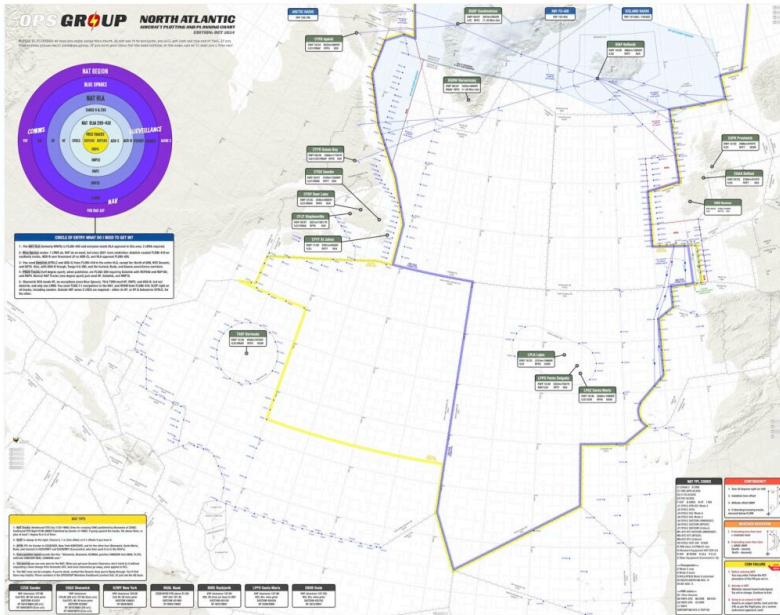


## Member Meetup November 2024

Hi everyone! This months OPSGROUP Member Meetup has a special focus: the North Atlantic (NAT), and upcoming changes. This will be the final monthly meetup for 2024. (□□□)

### Here is the running order of topics - yes, a long list!

- Blue Spruce Routes removal.
- Oceanic Clearance Removal (Shanwick/Gander) coming up on Dec 4th.
- PBCS Half-Track usage.
- Use of RNP4 on the NAT, more than advertised.
- Current "Hot Errors" to avoid.
- FL280 operations.
- New NAT Doc 007 scheduled for March 2025.
- **New OPSGROUP NAT Chart 2025** released today! (download your copy [here](#))



## We'll also look at:

- New ICAO Doc 4444 coming later this month.
- FF-ICE.
- Greenland big changes for ETOPS/Alternate availability.
- OPSGROUP NAT Guide 2025 walk-through.

Join fellow members to say hello, meet some new people, discuss the latest in international ops, and get the latest from the OPSGROUP Team.

## OPSGROUP Members

**Save your spot: Register here!**

**OPSGROUP Member Meetup: November 6th 1500 UTC** (on Zoom)

*In local times: 10am, New York / 3pm, London / 4pm, Amsterdam / 7pm, Dubai*

## Non-Members

For this particular NAT Special, we are inviting non-members to participate. The North Atlantic update portion is open to everyone.

**OPSGROUP NAT Special: November 6th 1500 UTC** (on Zoom)

*In local times: 10am, New York / 3pm, London / 4pm, Amsterdam / 7pm, Dubai*

Use **this link** to register for the call.

---

# GPS Spoofing WorkGroup 2024

OPSGROUP Team  
31 October, 2024



## GPS Spoofing WorkGroup 2024

- A GPS Spoofing WorkGroup is now up and running.
- We will collaborate and discuss all issues, and produce a report for the community
- **The Workgroup is now complete. A final report will be published on September 6, 2024.**



GPS Spoofing is starting to get out of hand. At first, very few aircraft were being affected – now, it’s hundreds every day. Today we learned of a second fake location over the Black Sea. We are starting to get used to ignoring EGPWS warnings, that we once ALWAYS followed. Navigation is degraded, EICAS messages are confusing, clarity on GPS systems and how they actually work is missing. A single, full slice of the Swiss Cheese has been removed. It’s likely we are heading for an accident directly caused by this issue.

This is why we are organizing a **GPS Spoofing WorkGroup**, starting this week. Our aim is to collaborate with as many experts, OEM’s, operators, flight crew, ATC, agencies, and industry organizations as possible to discuss all aspects of this issue, and find solutions.

We will present a community report on impact, safety, security, and our recommendations together with crew guidance.

To contact the organizing team, send a note to [gps.workgroup@ops.group](mailto:gps.workgroup@ops.group).

**The Workgroup is now complete. A final report will be published on September 6, 2024.**

### **Participation - how much of my time do you require?**

Participate as much or as little as your schedule allows. We’ll have several calls and discussions, but if you can’t make them, no worries. The WorkGroup will be kept updated by regular email summaries and updates. There will be a Slack channel to collaborate, and some shared Google Docs.

### **WorkGroup Calendar**



## Volunteers

We're looking for a couple of volunteers to help with organizing things during the WorkGroup. This is turning into quite a big workgroup already (200+ registrations already), and there will be lots of admin tasks to keep the ball rolling. If you're good with Google Sheets, organizing info, writing short summaries, organizing people, and that kind of thing .. we would love your help! This would just be "now and then", when your time allows, during the workgroup which will run for the next few weeks.

---

## Member Meetup: July 3rd - Agenda

OPSGROUP Team  
31 October, 2024



### Member Meetup - July 3rd

- **OPSGROUP Meetup** starts at **1900 UTC today**
- New member intros, Ops Topics, Workshop, OPSGROUP Updates
- **Final Agenda** below: highlights are GPS Spoofing, NAT Chat, Euro Summer Ops

Hi all, here is the final agenda for today's **Member Meetup** at 1900 UTC (Wednesday 3rd July)

### Abbreviated Agenda

- **Welcome!**
- What's all this about then? Quick intro to Member Meetup
- **New members** - 968 new people so far this year, a round of hello's, intro's, where you are and what you fly or operate
- **OPS Topics** - group discussion and action items
  - **GPS Spoofing** - discussion, locations, OEM updates, IRS/Hybrid infection, plan for Workshop on the issue.
  - **NAT Chat** - discussion of changes in 2024, RCL/OCR, Don't Climb problem, NAT jamming.
  - **Euro Summer** - discussion of major pain points in Europe this summer: parking issues, ATC Strikes, CPDLC logon lists, EU LISA.
- **Workshop Projects** - EVS vs LED lights, Stand Guidance, GPS Spoofing, Euro First time ops, and suggestions for new projects
- **OPSGROUP Update** - Report-A-Thing, Daily Brief changes, Below The Line Workshop, GoCrow/Route Check

- **Danger Club** – conversations about cockpit happenings we normally don't talk about. New series, suggestions for incidents.
- **Meetup Notepad**: shared **Google Doc**

### **How do I take part?**

- Meetup starts at **1900 UTC, Wednesday 3rd July** – that's 1500 New York, 2000 London, 2100 Amsterdam, 2300 Dubai.
- **Register** for the call **here**.
- For full Meetup info, visit the **Meetup page** in your Dashboard.
- If you have any issues registering or accessing the link, just email team @ops.group.



**MEMBER MEAT-UP    NEW INTRO'S    WORKSHOP**  
**REPORT-A-THING    BURGERS    INTERNATIONAL OPS**  
**ASK-OPSGROUP-ANYTHING    EURO-SUMMER OPS**  
**JUST STOP VANDALS    NAT CHANGES    BIG IDEAS**  
**DANGER CLUB    CONTRAIL COCKTAILS    GROUP WORK**

---

# OPSGROUP at NBAA2023 - your checklist & QRH

OPSGROUP Team

31 October, 2024



## Key points

- The whole OPSGROUP team will be there. **You better come see us.**
- **Download** the OPSGROUP NBAA23 QRH
- Check off the **Checklist** items below

The show is almost here! OPSGROUP has a **special members stand** for you at NBAA 2023. There's a lot to look forward to, and as always, our focus is on our member pilots and flight dispatchers.

Also, as always, **we'll use as few words as possible to tell you what not to miss.** We warmly invite you to visit the members booth - meet the team and other members - and we *reallllly* look forward to seeing you there!

Start by **downloading** the **OPSGROUP QRH** for NBAA 2023.



Now, go through the checklist ... then you'll be up to speed on the happenings at the show.

## Checklist Item #1 - Get Merch



We're paying the excess baggage and hauling suitcases full of merch to NBAA. Dodgy Flight bag stickers, unfunny T-shirts, Crew stickers, Trucker Caps (freight dog style) – all the usual junk plus some actually decent gear.

**Members:** Reserve some OPSGROUP gear for yourself. Lots of fun stuff that will probably go fast: if you'd like to make sure you at least get a *couple of things*, let us know you're coming and we'll put some aside for you. You can also designate someone else to come by and schlep your junk home.

## #2 - Join V-FOG



Join the **Vegas WhatsApp group for Flight Ops**: Pilots and Dispatchers. Just send a **WhatsApp to +1 747 200 1993** and say "V-FOG!" and you'll be added to the group.

**Welcome to V-FOG!** Nobody's "running" this, it's just a super informal group for flight crews at the show, so we can tell each other where the free drinks are. No ads, no "visit our booth! ☐".

Ask a question ('how do I get to the static' will be #1), get directions, share some interesting talks coming up, or a selfie of you on a BBJ, good stuff. Might work out well, might be awful ... let's see how this goes.

### #3 - Cockpit Cocktails: OPSGROUP Member Meetup



**1030** every morning

Come along to the OPSGROUP Member Meetup at **10:30 am** Tues, Weds, and Thurs.

Hang out for a bit with some other members, play Nintendo, name the fish (don't win the fish), play *chart-changer*, inspect some vintage memorabilia, dress up in your favorite outfit (costume closet at the booth), add yourself to the polaroid wall.

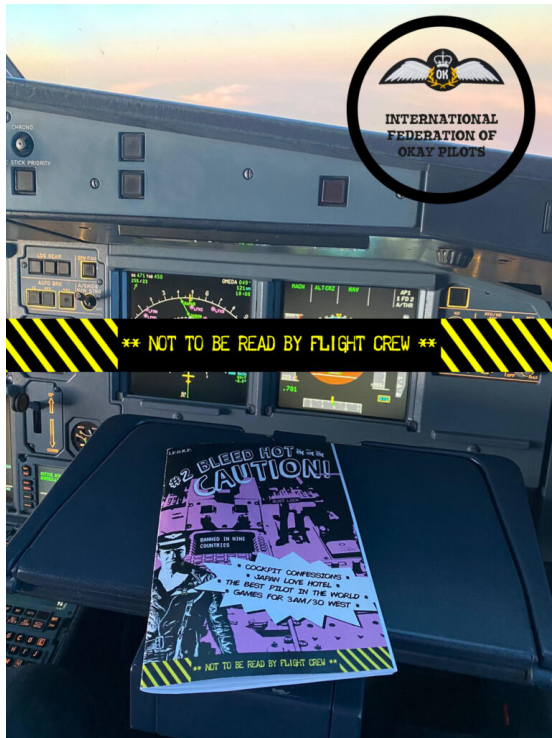
Codeword "*Ramp Check*" for a free dash of "Irish Cream" in your coffee.

#### #4 - Three Games (okay four)

- **Name the Fish, Win the Fish** - star of the show will be the OPSGROUP fish. It needs a name. To enter, just grab any free item of merch, and give him a name. ***There will be a winner*** - and the risk is, *it might be you*. Don't stress, we've checked with TSA and live fish are permitted on board the aircraft. We'll even give you a carry case and plastic bag.
- **Chart Changer** - Make your mark on the new OPSGROUP Pacific Plotting Chart, or the updated NAT chart.
- **SNES champ** - We have an original Nintendo in the members lounge. 2 player games: battle it out for the hotseat. Super Mario, and the original Top Gun!
- **Oh, and a fourth game: Dave's International Ops Quiz.** Every day at 11:30. There are some epic prizes here.



#### #5 - Join the International Federation of Okay Pilots



We'll have a representative from **I.F.O.K.P.** at the OPSGROUP

members stand.

You can join (for free) at the show, and get your **welcome pack**, sticker, and the flight crew Zine, #2 *Bleed Hot Caution*.

Since first being published, #2 *Bleed Hot Caution* has been banned in nine countries. I.F.O.K.P. have therefore affixed a warning label to this edition.

There is a limited number of zines available, so once again for **OPSGROUP members: Reserve one for yourself**. Let us know you're coming and we'll make sure to put one aside for you.

**#6 - We are here. Where are you?**

HIALS-II	3500'	FOY
PAPI	↑	395

**NBAA Stand**

**Main stage**

**OPSGROUP Members area**

**Hall entry**

**YE OLDE NORTH HALL**

**WE ARE HERE**

**WHERE ARE YOU?**

**OPSGROUP**  
P 113.3 OPS  
N52 43.3 W008 53.1

The **OPSGROUP Member Stand** is in the **North Hall**, close to the **NBAA Stand** and the **main stage**. The **Stand Number** is **N2127**. Look out for a tacky **OPSGROUP** sign, a **confused goldfish**, or confused pilots. We'll all be there.

We're at **N2127**. Find us in the show directory here, which will help you navigate your way to the member stand.

- **NBAA 2023** main show page
- Add OPSGROUP to your **show planner**
- Download the **show app** for your phone.

## #7 - Volunteers please!

We have a handful of member volunteers already, but could really do with a few more! If anyone wants to help out at the members stand for an hour during the show, please let us know! This is an easy & fun hour – you'll take care of saying "hi" to members dropping in, show them around, give out some fun merch, and help coordinate some of the Quiz'zes and games at the booth. Just email **vegas@ops.group**.

See you all soon! Any questions, ping us at **vegas@ops.group**. We'll also be in the **V-FOG** group (join that here – just WhatsApp "V-FOG") .

Cheers – the OPSGROUP Team

# Flight Ops at NBAA23

OPSGROUP Team

31 October, 2024



Hi everyone!

The latest QRH and Checklist for Vegas is now here.

**DOWNLOAD THE  
FLIGHT OPS  
QRH  
AND  
CHECKLIST  
FOR  
NBAA 2023**

**NBAA 2023  
FLIGHT OPS**

**QRH**

Welcome to Las Vegas! Use this handy OPSGROUP Members Quick Reference Handsheet to navigate all the joy and horrors of NBAA 2023. The theme this year: **good old-fashioned FUN!**

**CREW SKED**  
**TUESDAY OCT 17**  
1000 OPSGROUP Member Stand OPENS!  
1030 Cockpit Cocktails - OG Member Meetup  
1130 Dave's Ops Quiz (with surprise-ingly good prizes)  
**WEDS OCT 18**  
1030 Cockpit Cocktails - OG Member Meetup  
1130 Dave's Ops Quiz  
1315 Airpit - Static Ops

**MEMBERS STAND**  
A dedicated OPSGROUP Members Stand will run for all three days at NBAA. Hang out here as long as you like! We'll have **daily member meetings**, Nintendo contests, Dave's Famous International Ops Quiz, a lot of free pilot gear, games, dress-ups, a polaroid wall, vintage charts, a fish, and some weird stuff. **Drop by!**

**MEET THE TEAM!**  
The OPSGROUP Team will be at the stand. (Photos, Dave will answer them all!)

**DAILY**  
There will be an **ops** at the stand, with once for a shot of inspection team\*.

**GET YOUR MERCH**  
Show this Checklist to pick up your OPSGROUP member merch for free! Flight bag stickers, cheap t-shirts, hats, the usual junk ...

**THREE GAMES**  
**#1 NAME THE FISH WIN THE FISH**  
The big contest of NBAA2023! The OPSGROUP Goldfish is nameless. **Gander Gobbler! Frank the Fed!** You pick - best name wins the fish! No stress, TSA Approved for travel and a plastic bag and carry case is ready.  
**#2 CHART CHANGER**  
Make your mark on the new OPSGROUP Pacific Plotting Chart, or the updated NAT chart.  
**#3 NINTENDO NINJA**  
Battle it out with other members to become the 2023 Super Mario Champ on the original SNES.

**WE ARE HERE  
WHERE ARE YOU?**

The OPSGROUP Member Stand is in the North Hall, close to the NBAA Stand and the main stage. The Stand Number is **N2127**. Look out for a tacky OPSGROUP sign, a **confused goldfish**, or confused pilots. We'll all be there.

# Call for volunteers from OPSGROUP: We need flight ops people

Chris Shieff

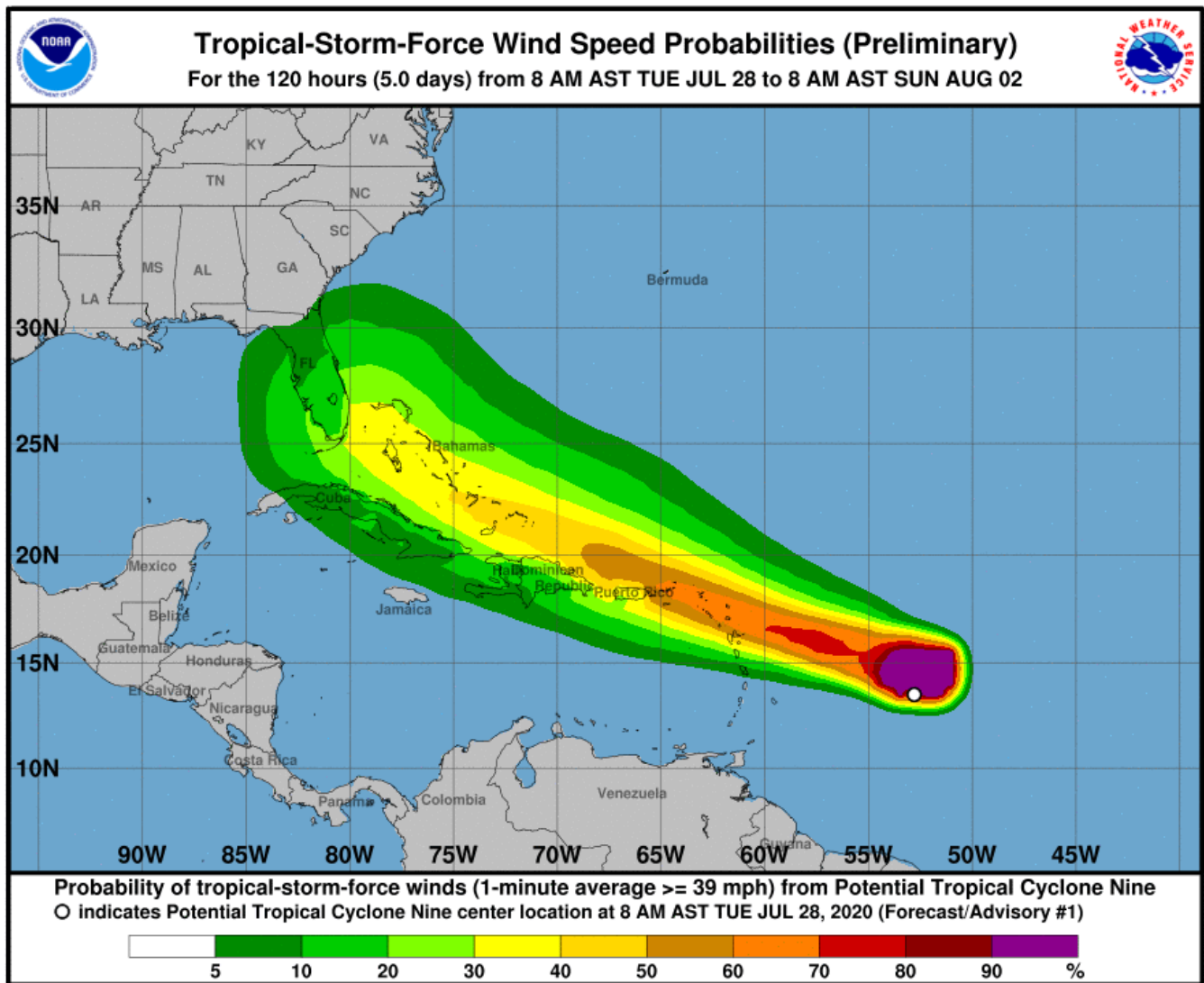
31 October, 2024



We're tracking this developing storm in the eastern Atlantic, which is forecast to become a tropical storm (named Isaias) in the next 24 hours – and quite possibly develop into **Hurricane Isaias**.

There is a huge problem this year in relief efforts: Covid. It will mean that as little as 20% of the normal relief resources are available. We want to help, and we have a request...

If you are willing to **share your expertise as a volunteer**, we're looking for flight planners, dispatchers, schedulers, pilots, ops specialists, and anyone that can offer a small amount of time to help out. Very simply, **there's stuff you are good at, and it can be extremely useful in a hurricane relief situation.**



## Relief Air Wing: OPSGROUP helping in disaster relief

We're making a very specific plea for help today. OPSGROUP is capable of great things, and we are focusing on how we can assist families and individuals affected by major hurricanes in the Caribbean and the Atlantic seaboard this season.

It might be next week, it might be in a month, or two - but this is already an extremely active season. Sea temperatures are extremely high - and this is the fuel for hurricanes. **2020 is already setting records**, but the worst is yet to come.

The depth of knowledge, experience, wisdom, and compassion in this group is huge. I think we all want to help, if only we knew how. So that's what we're working on.

This year more than ever, the Caribbean and the Atlantic seaboard will need real help. Covid is changing the relief landscape. **Relief workers will have a tough time getting in to affected countries.** Many may simply not be able to travel. Priorities have shifted. For families and individuals hit by a hurricane, help will not come as easily and quickly as normal.

So, we have set up a dedicated relief organization called Relief Air Wing. Why?

Because in Hurricane Dorian, as you might remember, OPSGROUP got involved in a big way. We were able to help, but we also saw a lot of big problems how aviation worked. **It was a dangerous, chaotic mess.** Airspace became saturated, and there was little ATC (pilots called it the "Wild West"). Rogue pilots flew

dark. Little information was known about airports. Permits were hard to get. There were streams of small aircraft, individually helpful, but overall contributing to bottlenecks and preventing larger aircraft and the USCG from doing their work. Few knew how best to help, and many just flew in based on their own assessment. There was little communication between different agencies.

**The simple net result:** Relief flows far more slowly than it needs to. Supplies are wasted. People devastated by the hurricane suffer longer than they need to. Pilots and aircraft are put at risk.

### **So, how can I help?**

Please **sign up with Relief Air Wing** and volunteer your time and expertise.

We thought of some basic ways that OPSGROUP members can help, and these are below, but you may have ideas too, and we would love to hear them. Here's what we've got so far:

#### **Overflight and Landing Permits**

Make a list of the most overflown countries and FIR's inbound to the hurricane area. For example, if it's Dominica, relief operators from the US might need to overfly Cuba, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico. What are the rules? What are the current contacts? What documents are needed? Aim: create a briefing sheet for overflight and landing permits to get in.

#### **Operating permission**

The local CAA will set up rules around what's required for a permit to operate in the affected area. Get this information, prepare a briefing, so that crews know how to get a permit.

#### **Security risks**

Assess the situation on the ground. What risks – new or existing – exist for relief operators. Are airports secure? What is happening locally? Aim: A set of notes highlighting risks for relief operators.

#### **Flight Planning routes**

Build flight-plannable routes to and from affected countries and airports. Look at airway restrictions, talk to ATC create routes that can be used by relief aircraft to get in and out. From this we can publish clear lists of how to flight plan in and out. This saves time and effort, and means relief can come faster.

#### **Travel restrictions**

Once it becomes clear what country is affected, we need to act quickly to create a clear briefing on how to get in. The more we can do before the storm, the better. What are the Covid entry rules? Are there exceptions for relief workers? Can you make contact with the Ministry of Health, Foreign Affairs? The CAA?

#### **Listen in on Hurricane Telcons**

The FAA and other agencies often have hurricane telcons a few times a day when big storms are approaching, and we need someone to join those calls and make notes of pertinent info to share.

#### **Hunt down airport situation updates**

Call the airport, email them, fax them, AFTN them. Try ATC. Find the airport manager on LinkedIn. Look through twitter hashtags. Ask a friend. Ask a friend to ask a friend. Whatever it takes.

#### **Analyse situation PIREPS**

Best info comes from those that have flown in. Use your network to ask crews for PIREPs, so we can tell other relief agencies what the picture at the airport is. We have a standard PIREP form for relief operations, you can help by analysing those pireps, fact check as much as possible, and add the report to the list.

#### **Weather analysis**

Track potential hurricanes, monitor their progress, alert the group when you think it might be a big one that will hit land. Monitor for further bad weather post-hurricane.

### **Use Tech**

Maybe you know places we don't. Secret satellite feeds. Apps, tools ... wherever you think tech can help, suggest it and work on it.

### **Offer an Aircraft**

Your owner, company, or operation may have an aircraft that you wish to offer for relief operations. Especially useful are freighters, large capacity aircraft, helicopters, and floatplanes.

### **Coordinate**

Help to manage the relief efforts in Relief Air Wing. Take charge of specific items, and direct and guide volunteers.

### **Contactors**

Reach out to people on our list of relief organizations. Find out who is responding. What flights are planned. What they know. What their needs are.

### **Local Networks**

Lead a WhatsApp group of local people. We're setting up small local networks, connecting ATC, Airports, FBO's, Fuellers. The aim: Get the information on the local situation out ... . Help them to report on critical info: is the airport open, what are the runways like, is there fuel, is there ATC, what are traffic levels like, what frequencies are working. More about Local Networks here.

### **Administration**

Keep the info documents, maps, spreadsheets up to date. Add new information as it comes in. Filter and remove information that is not useful. Keep things simple.

### **What else?**

You might have ideas of other ways that our OPSGROUP community can help. There are 7,000 of us. 75% are pilots. Even with a low average of 2,000 flying hours TT, that means **we have a minimum of 10.5 million flight hours of experience in the group**. How do we leverage that? We also have dispatchers, flight planners, ATCO's, tech gurus, agencies, organizations. How else can we provide support? Ideas please!

### **How will it work?**

1. We have a dedicated **Slack group** for Relief Air Wing. Here, we can all talk to each other, discuss, share information. This is the hub of our work. Specific channels for flight planning, permits, weather, airport status.
2. We set up **international groups** to coordinate with relief agencies responding (WhatsApp)
3. We set up **local networks** to bring aviation contacts together on the ground (WhatsApp)
4. We will prepare **simple briefings** for relief operators flying in.
5. We will **coordinate** between relief organizations, host nation government, CAA, and the relief operators to determine where help is needed.
6. We will help to **match** empty seats, capacity, and offers of aircraft with relief organizations that need it.

### **How do I sign up and get involved?**

1. Start by reading Lessons from Dorian: aviation problems in relief, and read the story of Relief Air Wing
2. Sign up to volunteer here, and your details will be added to our list of volunteers.
3. You'll get an invite to join the Relief Air Wing slack group. Post a quick intro.

4. **When a storm looks like it will hit, we'll contact you.**

5. If you're free and available, jump in and take part. Choose the area you can help in best, and get stuck in. We'll guide you on how to best help.

In advance, **thank you for your kindness, help, and generosity.** There's no obligation to take part when the time comes if you're not able to, but if you are able to help at all in any way, we will be very grateful to get your volunteer registration.

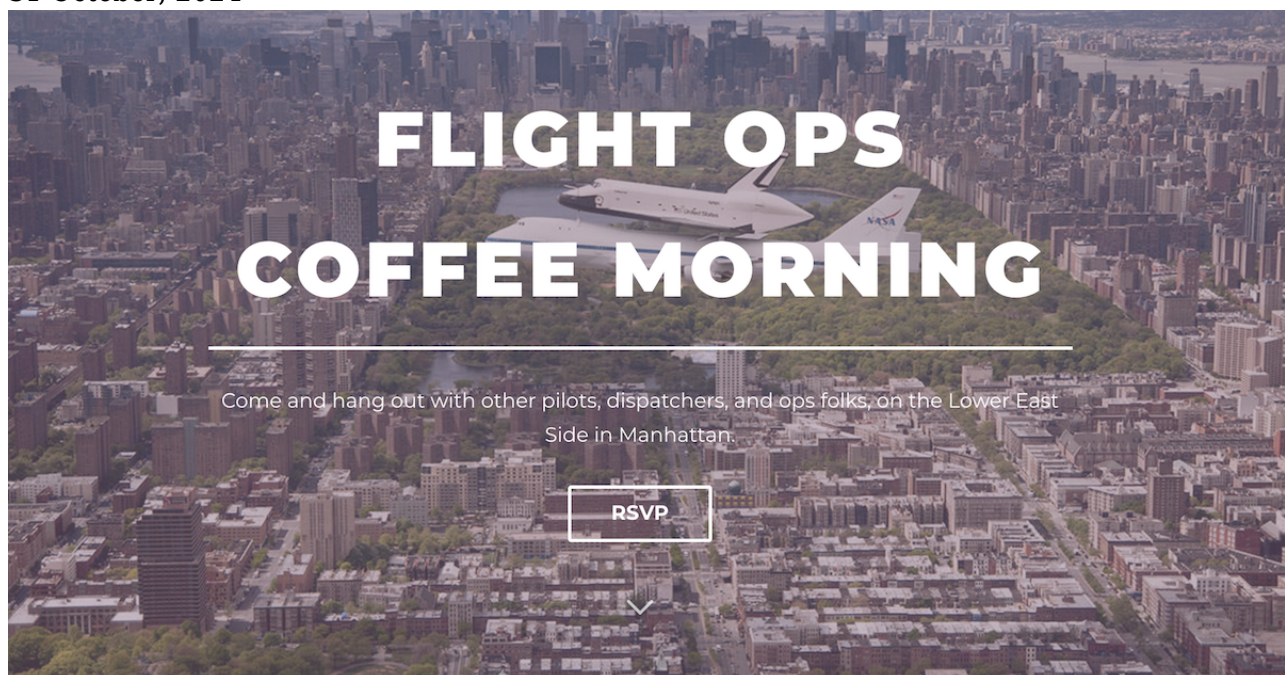
Also, if you know of someone that might like to get involved, it doesn't matter if they aren't an OPSGROUP member - the more hands we have on deck, the better. **Please share, or forward this post.**

---

## FOCM: Flight Operations Coffee Morning

Mark Zee

31 October, 2024



OPSGROUP is hosting the first FOCM in New York City on June 12th, and we'd love you to come along.

FOCM - Flight Operations Coffee Morning - is an OPSGROUP event where you can meet other pilots, dispatchers, controllers, and Ops specialists, hang out, have a coffee, and talk flight ops.

Dave and Mark from OPSGROUP, will host a quick Q&A about **International Flight Ops**, and our work as a group. We'll talk NAT Tracks, Ramp Checks, Flight planning, Airspace Risk, Notams, the latest challenges - and what we can do to make things better.

And you get to meet and connect with other people working in Flight Ops in New York, New Jersey, and

beyond. We'll have A380 Captains and Gulfstream FO's, Corporate dispatchers, New York ATC, and a bunch of other good people.

OPSGROUP is a collective of 5000 pilots, dispatchers, controllers, and ops specialists that work together to share information and resources, making flight ops simpler and safer. We're hosting this because we love connecting people. It's totally free.

## Event details

When: Tuesday June 12th, 2019

Where: Lower East Side, NYC - address on RSVP

Cost: None!

**RSVP here:** <https://focm.splashthat.com/>



PDF Flyer - Print it out!