Curious happenings in the OPSGROUP village

OPSGROUP Team
8 August, 2023



Hello members!

We hope you're doing well!

It's been a few months since we wrote with a "**Member Update**" … and there are a lot of things to tell you about. Big ones first, little ones last, but **read to the end** for the best one (Dave making waffles).

#1 The New OPSGROUP Crew Room

OPSGROUP is more fun when you do it with others, as the saying goes. We're in the midst of building out our fresh new Crew Room. Other members are here and you can speak with them, and us!

Get involved:

- Link: **ops.group/crewroom**
- Check that your **profile** is correct, and upload a pic of yourself.

- Draw a better logo for the Crew Room and send it to us!

#2 Crew Room access

We use an app called **Slack** to run the **crewroom**. Download it for your phone or desktop. Use your member email to login.

Once you get there, do this:

1. Check your profile: does it show your **full name**?
2. **Upload a picture**.
3. Now you have full access to the Crew Room!

#3 Ops Kitchen



The **#ops_kitchen** is the channel in the Crew Room where the **OPSGROUP Team** hangs out. We've made this a public channel so you can see what we're talking about, and help out if you like. *Things we talk about here*: today's ops and airspace issues, ops alert preparation, new things we're making, maps, charts, guides, and so on.

Get involved: If you want to be part of making new things for the group, or just curious what's going on today, join this channel. We look forward to seeing you there!

Link: **CrewRoom: #ops_kitchen**

#4 OPSGROUP LOCAL



LOCAL is more fun than global. With 8000+ members, we thought it would make sense to start some local "branches": even Antarctica and Timbuktu have a smattering of members.

The local branch is **for those based there, and those visiting**. You can connect with other members near you, and perhaps organize a meetup or a visit to the local ATC unit. Update the rest of the group on what's happening where you are, and help visiting crews coming your way.

We're starting with these locations:

#newzealand
#australia
#singapore
#hongkong
#italy

Get involved: If you are based in any of those spots, or headed there .. join the channel and **post a quick intro** to say hi!

As we add more, we'll post a note in the #crew_lounge channel. **Tell us** where you'd like the next local set up?

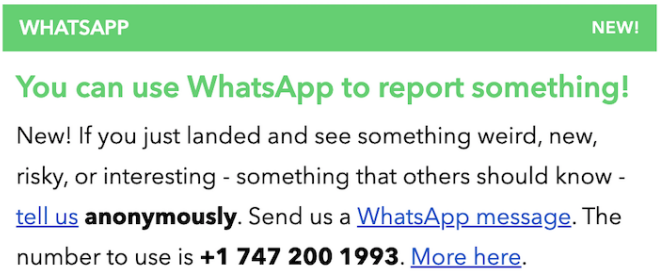
#5 Weird, new, risky, curious?



The only person that really knows what's happening out there is **YOU**. Logically, if you don't tell us, we won't know. So if you're downroute (or uproute) and you come across something in the wild that doesn't make sense – **tell us, please!**

Not sure what to report on? Here's the litmus test: would you mention it to another crew going to the same place? If yes, then, tell us so we can tell **all** the other crews.





The easiest way is to add our number to your phone: **+1 747 200 1993**, and send us a WhatsApp message (with photos, too!) when you spot something new.

Or, you can email us: **news@ops.group**.

Thank you for keeping the group up to date!

#6 Atlantic



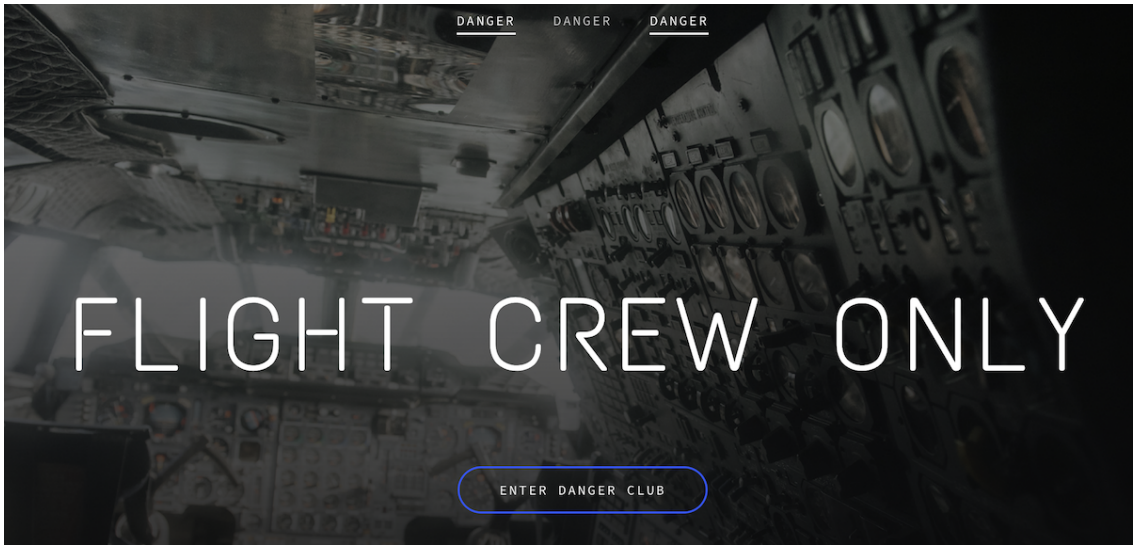
The North Atlantic is topic-of-interest-number-one for OPSGROUP members, so we've set up a LOCAL channel just for the Atlantic ocean region: probably mostly about NAT (North Atlantic) flying, but also mid/south Atlantic, EUR/SAM corridor etc. NAT topics, HLA, NAT Tracks, Clearances, Procedures, etc.

In the last few days some **good discussion** about:

* Removal of Oceanic Clearance issuance (in next NAT Doc 007)
* New Lost Comms procedure for the NAT
* New Squawk 2000 procedure (10 mins instead of 30 mins)

Get involved: Join that conversation in the **Crew Room: #atlantic**

#7 Danger Club – ideas for the next one?



Danger Club is the OPSGROUP spot for some dangerous conversations about things that happen in the cockpit. If you've joined any of the first eleven sessions, you know how it works. If you haven't, join the next one (and have a look at **dangerrr.club**).

We have a new channel in the Crew Room for Danger Club, and if this sounds like you, join the conversation: **Crew Room: #dangerclub**

Get involved: We're planning the next Danger Club (#12) and need a good incident to look at. Have you any ideas? Remember, this is all about how we are as humans in the cockpit, so we focus on incidents with some "interesting" human behaviour to give us some talking points to start.

Also, we're hoping to do a ***Danger Club Live*** at NBAA 2023 in Vegas – more on that below.

Link: Crew Room: #dangerclub

#8 We have a spy in our midst

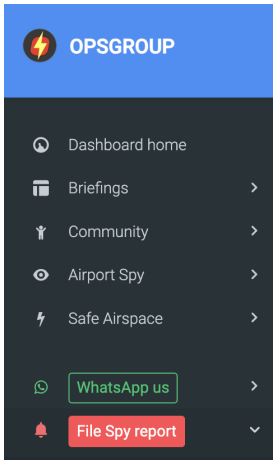


Actually, we have dozens. Are you one of them?

Airport Spy is getting busy lately: thank you to everyone who has been busy filing reports. You can help out too: when you get back after your trip, or downroute and bored at the hotel: use Airport Spy to write a quick summary.

These are **useful for you** the next time you visit the airport, but **even more useful** for other crews that haven't visited yet. Sloppy handling, average ATC, or just an amazing experience – whatever you encountered, take 2 minutes and jot down the highlights.

Get involved: In the **Dashboard**, use the "File Spy Report" link as shown below:



#9 Vegas OPSGROUP meetup! Hands required



We're heading for Las Vegas and the focus is: **Waffles**. Chef Dave will be on hand to lead the team, but we're looking for volunteers to help run our club stand while he does the waffling.

NBAA BACE 2023 is on from **Oct 17-19**. If you're going, and have some time to help out, let us know! Join the **#vegas2023** channel in the Crew Room.

Our plans:

- The OPSGROUP Team will attend in full
- We will have a Club Stand in the North Hall of the Convention Centre
- **Get involved: Members wanted!** Help out for an hour: there will be lots to do!
- We will have some good merch (see below) – Tshirts, pins, stickers, and Tiny Cock Pit Kits.
- Member drop in: stop by and say hello (even if just for a minute)
- **OpsQuiz Live** – we'll host our famous Ops Quiz live (MC Dave)

- **Danger Club Live** – we're planning a live version for Vegas
- Actual waffles
- Actual coffee (New Zealand style Flat Whites)
- *more to come!*

Got some more Vegas ideas for us? Let us know!

Link: **Crew Room: #vegas2023**

#10 Vegas Merch



Right now we're busy desiging some flight bag stickers … and we need some member help with more ideas. We want to have a bunch ready for members at Vegas '23 – what should we make? Ideas please either in the **#vegas2023** channel in the Crew Room, or … email us.

- **T-Shirt ideas**
- **Sticker ideas**
- **Other ideas!**



#11 Everything else

That was a lot. Did you read it all? Good. If you're not still here, we'll wrap up with some snippets. These are them:

- **Coffee & Waffle** : Our old Ops Chats were good, but we paused these last year and we think we can do better. We're planning a new regular online meeting called *Coffee & Waffle*. It's nothing more than an excuse to get together as members and have some good old fashioned chats. Thoughts on this? Email us. We're thinking once a month, not recorded, no agenda, **we'll do it live**!
- **Tell us stuff!** We'll ask again because we're really keen to get your updates: scroll up for the WhatsApp number to text us new things! THANK YOU!
- **Ask us stuff!** If there's something on your mind, **just email us**. We like email, and we like replying, and we will!
- And that's the end of the end of the updates, for this time. Have a smashing weekend!