
Bulletin: vZDC-B-20250203

Applicability: All Controllers providing Air Traffic Service within Washington ARTCC

Effective: 4 February 2025

Expiration: 8 Jan 2026

Reference: vZDC-A-01E, para 4-1-2, Virtual ATIS (vATIS)

Contact: vZDC/ATM

Subject: Implementation Guidance & Background for vATIS Requirement

PURPOSE: This bulletin serves to provide guidance for controllers to properly utilize vATIS (vATIS Version 4.1.0+) and the vZDC provided vATIS profiles. Compliance with vZDC-A-01E and this bulletin's expanded guidance are necessary to ensure that the Information Display System (IDS) properly reflects key configuration elements across all systems to all users.

vATIS VERSION UPDATE (4.1.0 or higher). The vZDC facility supported version of vATIS is the downloadable version available here: <https://vatis.app/> (4.1.0 or higher at time of this bulletin). Previous versions of vATIS are **not** supported. This is *still* a beta version; however, it offers new features and a higher level of reliability than previous versions.

vZDC PROVIDED vATIS PROFILES. Two vATIS profiles are available to download from the [vZDC Publications](#) site. The ZDC profile includes *all* vATIS profiles for ZDC (including PCT), and the PCT profile is only the PCT underlying facilities. Once downloaded, open vATIS and import the newly downloaded profile.

SUNSET OF OTHER PROFILES AND VERSIONS. Controllers are directed to stop using **all** prior vATIS application versions and profile versions immediately and begin using the new vATIS application version and ZDC profiles.

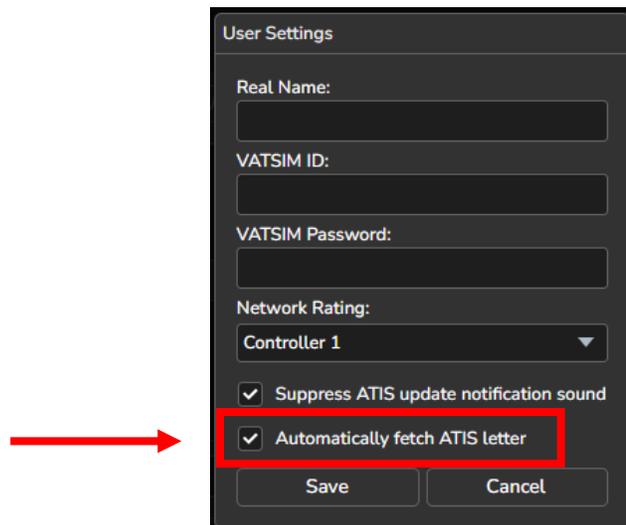
BACKGROUND FOR CHANGES. ZDC has migrated from our original IDS to a new version with improved functionality. With this transition, airport flow configuration data is automatically synced to IDS based on the vATIS selected flow. This significantly reduces controller workload and ensures the flow for all airfields with a published ATIS are always up to date.

Furthermore, this change, and installation of the profiles as described, makes it possible for the ZDC Facilities Team to make updates to the ATIS profiles as necessary and have those changes sync to vATIS when vATIS is launched (similar to how CRC will update changes each time the application is launched).

These vATIS profiles ensure the proper endpoints are configured so that the IDS is able to recognize the vATIS configuration. Furthermore, the IDS requires the exact naming convention of the flow as built in the profile.

MAKING REALTIME UPDATES TO ATIS. Controllers should avoid using the "Airport Conditions" and "NOTAMS" fields of the ATIS. Instead, if additional information is necessary, or modification of the broadcasted ATIS is desired, use the "ATIS Configuration" button, select the ATIS to modify, select the "Presets" tab, select the airport flow from the drop down, and make the update within the ATIS Template window. This method ensures that the entire ATIS is pushed to IDS.

AUTOMATIC ATIS LETTER. Open “User Settings” and select “Automatically fetch ATIS letter” so that those stations with D-ATIS will automatically sync to the currently published ATIS. This will aid controllers when handing off ATIS management to a relief controller or other controller that will maintain the ATIS.



The image shows a 'User Settings' dialog box with the following fields and options:

- Real Name: [Text input field]
- VATSIM ID: [Text input field]
- VATSIM Password: [Text input field]
- Network Rating: [Dropdown menu showing 'Controller 1']
- Suppress ATIS update notification sound
- Automatically fetch ATIS letter

At the bottom of the dialog are 'Save' and 'Cancel' buttons. A red arrow points from the left towards the 'Automatically fetch ATIS letter' checkbox, which is also highlighted with a red rectangular border.