

# smartCARS 3 | Windows PC, Mac OS, and Linux

*If you haven't already read the [Flight Operations](#) chapter, we recommend you do so now before continuing.*

## Download and Support

To download smartCARS 3 for PC, Mac, or Linux, please visit here:

<https://smartcars.tfdidesign.com/central/download>

If you require support with the application, you need to **contact TFDi Designs** at one of the links below.

*Walker Air Transport cannot provide support for the application.*

Discord: <https://tfdidesign.com/chat>

GitHub: <https://github.com/invernyx/smartcars-3-bugs>

Support Portal: <https://support.tfdidesign.com/support/home>

You can view the official user manual from TFDi here:

<https://docs.invernyx.com/en/smartcars3/user-guide>

The following details below will walk you through the application from the perspective of a pilot at Walker Air Transport. There are features in the TFDi user manual that we will/do not deploy in our virtual airline.

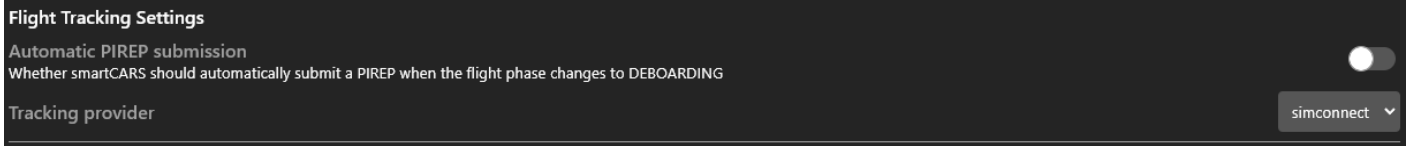
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## Simulator Specific Settings

### Microsoft Flight Simulator

We recommend that "Automatic PIREP submission" be disabled -- this will result in invalid flights being submitted to Walker that will be automatically rejected.

Tracking Provider will be set to "simconnect".

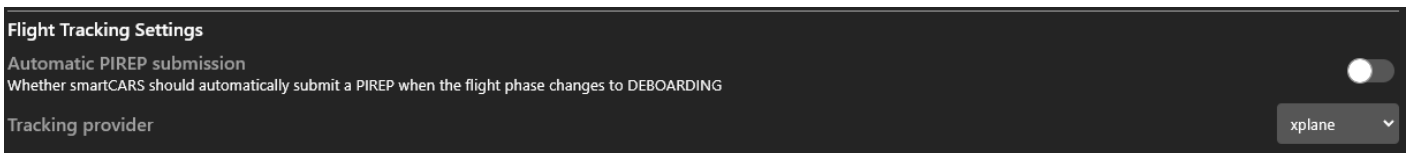


## X-Plane

*If you have a VPN program installed, it needs to be connected, uninstalled, or you need to adjust the network adapter weight (according to Laminar this is a solution for those who need to retain a VPN but don't use it all the time) so that it will not interfere with XP UDP connectivity to 3rd party apps.*

We recommend that "Automatic PIREP submission" be disabled -- this will result in invalid flights being submitted to Walker that will be automatically rejected.

Tracking Provider will be set to "xplane".



2. You cannot run your simulator as administrator. If you have "User Access Control" enabled on your PC and you received a popup asking you if you wanted to run X-Plane, MSFS, or Prepar3D and you clicked yes -- your application has been hard set to "run as administrator". If you attempt to try and fly you will be presented with this error.

[image-1693575958087.png](#)

[image-1693576050086.png](#)

### How can I fix this?

You will need to find your executable file (*not your shortcut file*), right click and choose properties, compatibility, and uncheck the "Run as Administrator".

Another option is to also completely disable 'User Access Control' but that is your choice. You can watch this video and decide:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D2XlznYAcAQ>

If you continue to have problems after doing this, you will need to contact TFDi at the support links above.

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## Using smartCARS 3

## Logging into smartCARS 3

When you launch smartCARS 3, you will be asked to log in with your TFDi account.

[image-1688299785001.png](#)

*You do not have to create or login with an account, you can simply click on 'Skip TFDi Design Login'.*

*If you choose to not create and/or login with a TFDi account, you will not be visible on their map under our virtual airline. You will also be unable to access your premium features you purchased from TFDi.*

On the next screen, choose 'Walker Air Transport'.

[image-1688299681662.png](#)

You can now log into our virtual airline by using your **email** or **pilot ID number** (do not include WAT, just enter the 3-4 digits.)

The username and password here is the exact same username and password used to log into our website.

[image-1688299926444.png](#)

*If you cannot log in, please attempt to log into <https://crew.walkerair.us> -- if that works then you are typing something wrong in smartCARS 3.*

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## Main Page

The **Main Page** screen containing your **name**, **pilot ID**, and **rank** will appear together with your personal statistics - **total hours**, **total flights** and **average landing rate**. You will also get notifications in this panel as well as be able to logout using the button under your name and rank.

*For a new, first time Pilot, these fields will be blank because no flights have been completed.*

To navigate through the remaining sections within *smartCARS*, click the icons in the left column. You can drag these icons around as well to create your preferred menu layout.

Connected to: Microsoft Flight Simulator 2024

## Welcome Walker Air Transport Pilots!

Make it a habit to check this Flight Log immediately before and after takeoff – and regularly throughout your flight – in order to avoid the occurrence of time-wasting instances resulting in rejected PIREPS.

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### Help

You should *first* search our documentation at [here](#), or you can open a ticket by clicking "Help > Submit a Ticket" in CrewOps.

### Discord

If you would like to chat with your fellow pilots, please join us on [Discord](#). You can link your account by clicking on your name in the top-right of CrewOps, and choosing Discord. Follow the instructions to sign in with Discord and authorize your connection to our server.

### Patreon

If you are interested in more, we offer subscriptions through Patreon that help support the platform and development work. You can read more information at [here](#).

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Have a great flight – and let us know if there's anything we can do to make your experience

Sky Blue Radio  
skyblueradio.com - Sky Blue Radio

Hours: 5369 | Flights: 3309 | Landing Rate: -133 fpm  
Switch Community | Log Out

Notifications: Clear All

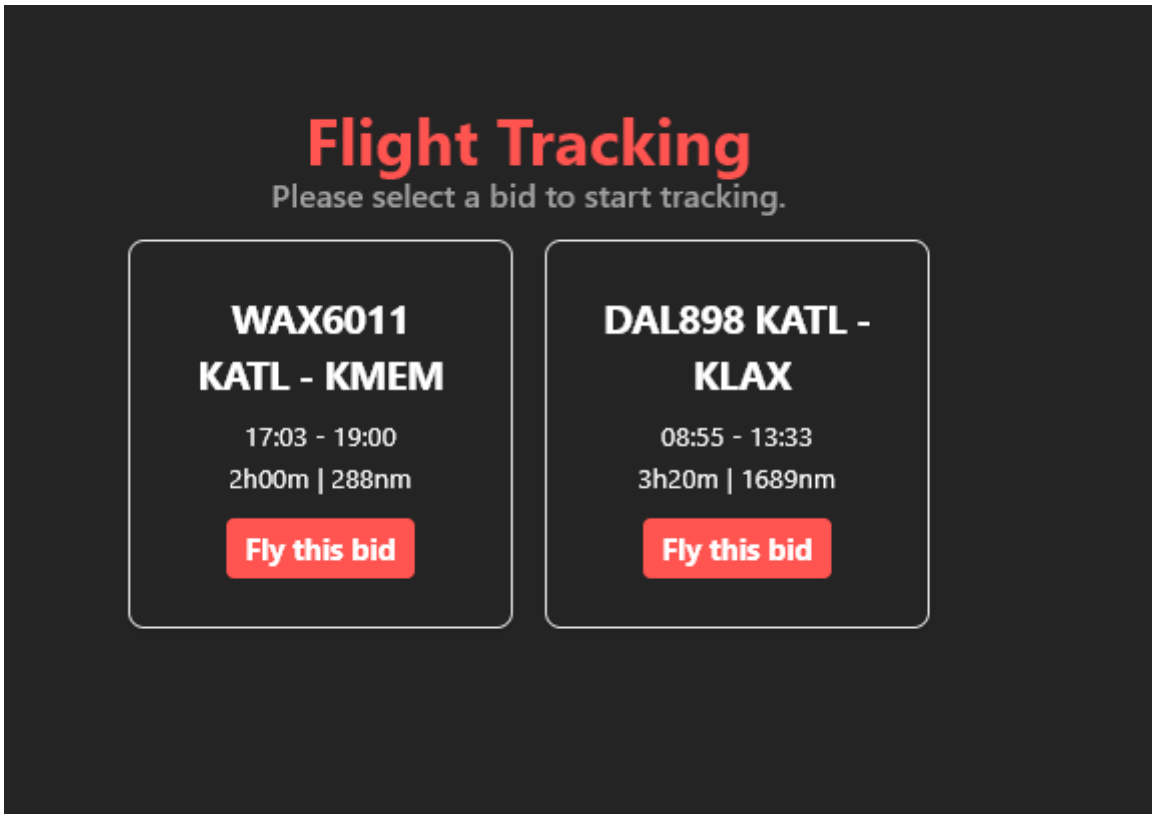
No notifications

Mobile ?

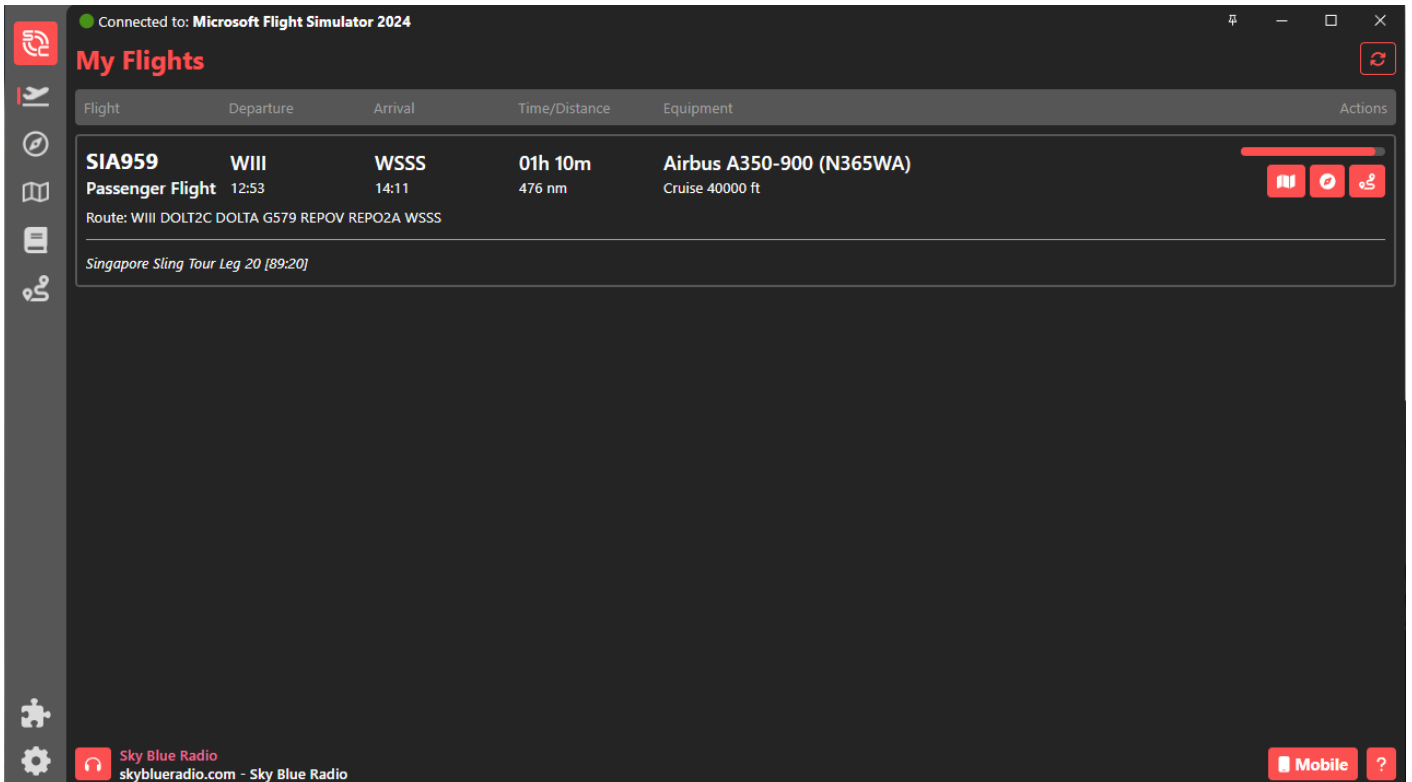
## My Flights

In order to see the flights that you've completed a [bid](#) from the crew site, click on this [image-1688300033767.png](#) icon on the left side of the screen.

You no longer need to start a flight manually, smartCars3 should automatically detect you are at the departure airport and start the bid. In case you have multiple bids from the same origin airport, SC3 will ask which bid you would like to use.



**NOTE:** If you've completed a Bid and it doesn't show up, click the [image-1688300076378.png](#) icon on the top right.



Please read this section in it's entirety, the way smartCARS 3 operates is completely different than smartCARS 2.

In smartCARS 3, a pilot is no longer required to enter their route, cruise altitude, and load. This information comes from a couple different sources within the Walker Air Transport bid as well as simBrief.

<b>Route</b>	Your route will be blank unless you used our simBrief integration to build your flight plan, and you have the SimBrief plugin installed and SimBrief ID set in smartCARS 3 settings
<b>Cruise Altitude</b>	Cruise is automated in smartCARS 3, it will detect when you are in this phase and adjust if you should have to conduct step climbs or descents.
<b>Load</b>	Every pilot briefing is given a random load based on a couple variables. You can see this load by visiting your pilot briefing and looking at the left side. If you use our simBrief integration to generate your flight plan, it will use the load provided by our website or a custom load you enter. <a href="#">Read more here.</a>

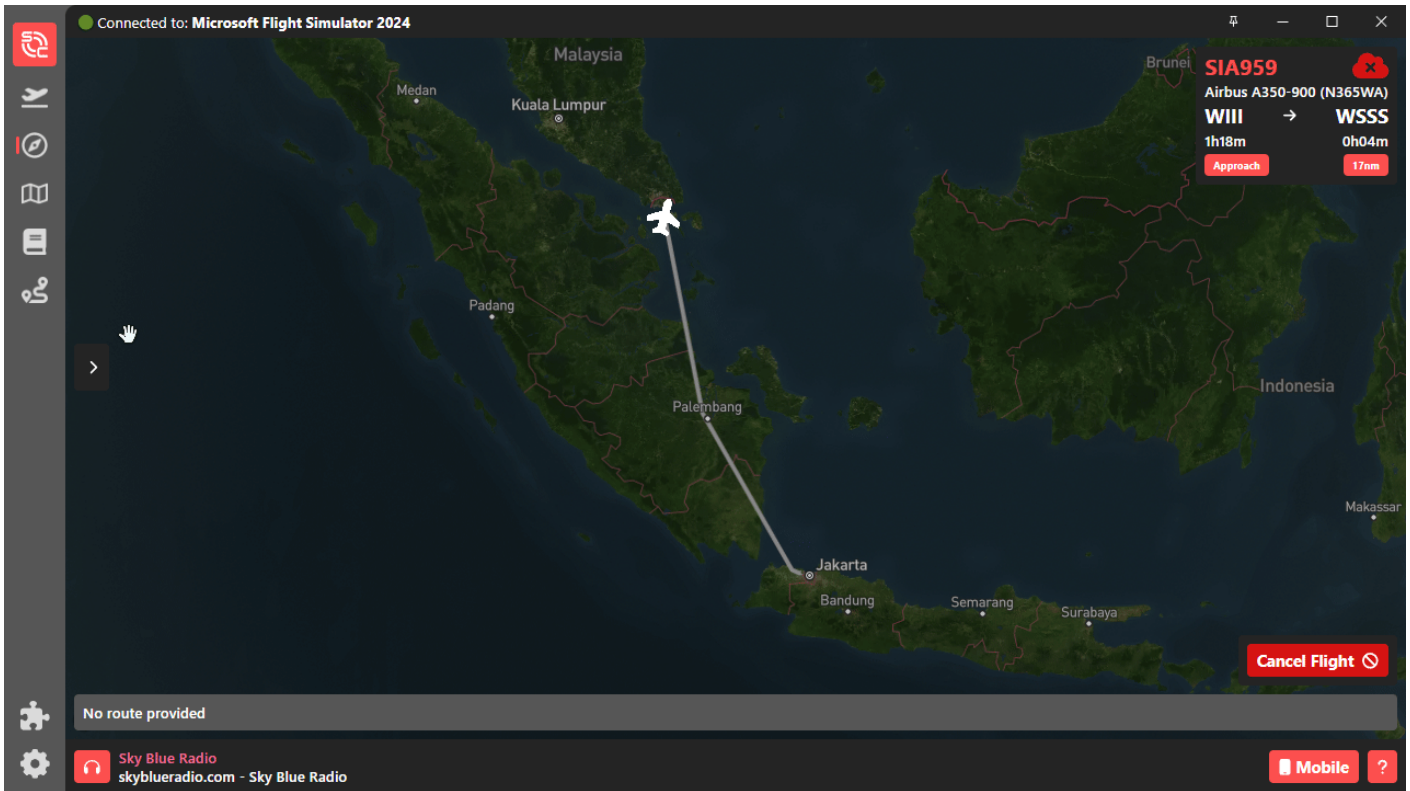
*Using our simBrief integration ([read more here](#)) will ensure that your **route** and **load** are prepopulated for your flight.*

### **Notice about Online Networks**

Do **not** select an online network in the “*Online Network*” dropdown within smartCARS3. We do not use ACARS data to determine whether you are flying on an ATC network.

To appear on our maps and have your PIREPs correctly reflect the network, you must configure your Network ID(s) in your pilot profile.

[\*\*Click here to read how to add your ID\(s\) to your pilot profile.\*\*](#)



Using the [image-1688300396124.png](#) button here will also delete your bid in our CrewOps.

## Flight Tracking

Spawning in the correct origin airport will bring you to the Flight Tracking page. In this page, you can monitor your flight log for any erroneous logs. In this page, you can also change your route (by clicking the Show Route) and add comments (by typing into comment field then pressing enter) to the flight log in realtime as needed. You can find these options by opening the flight log as above.

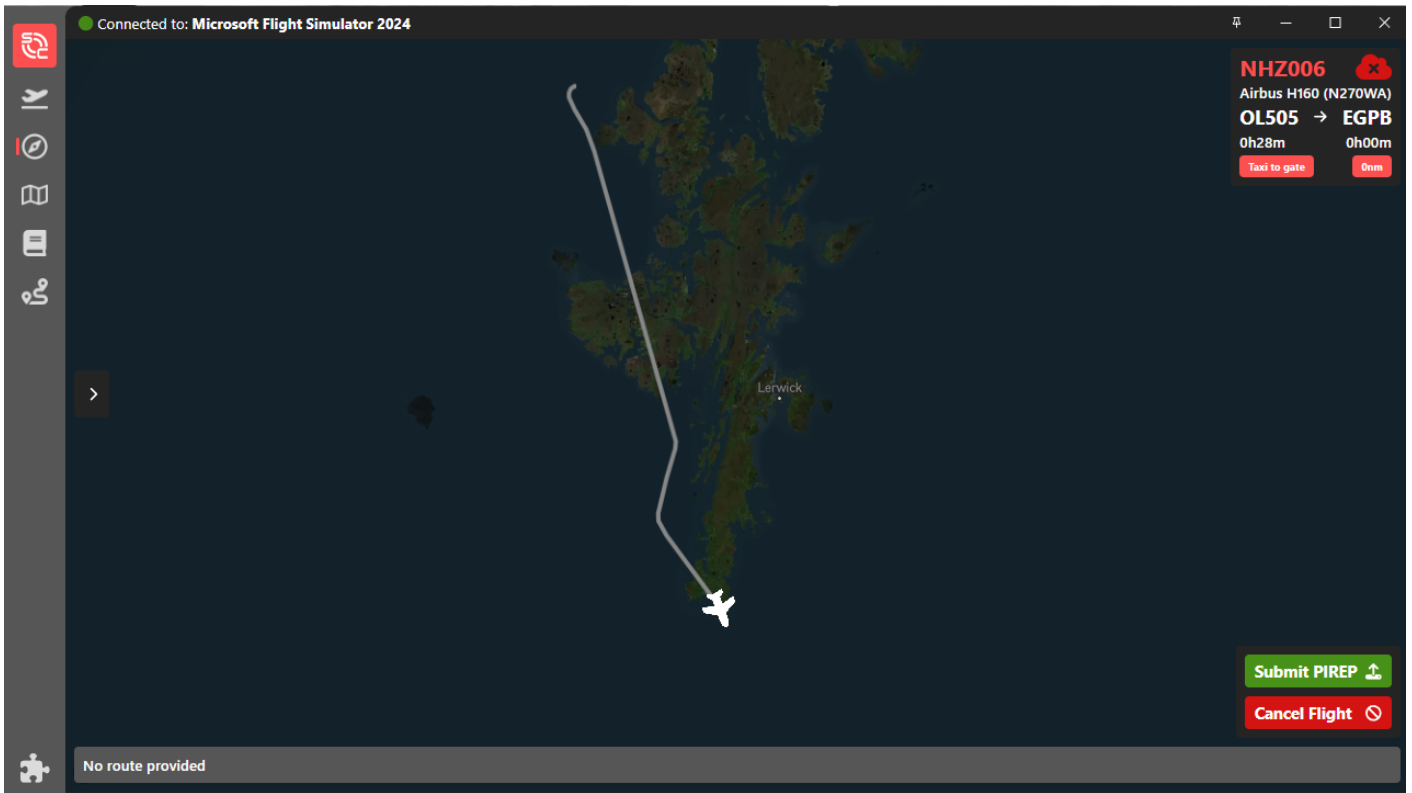
Pause at TOD is now the toggle button at the bottom left of the screen, under the comment field.

There is also a drop down that will allow you to change your online network status while in flight. If you are on VATSIM or any other online service and accidentally forget to specify that at the start of your flight, you can now do it while in flight.

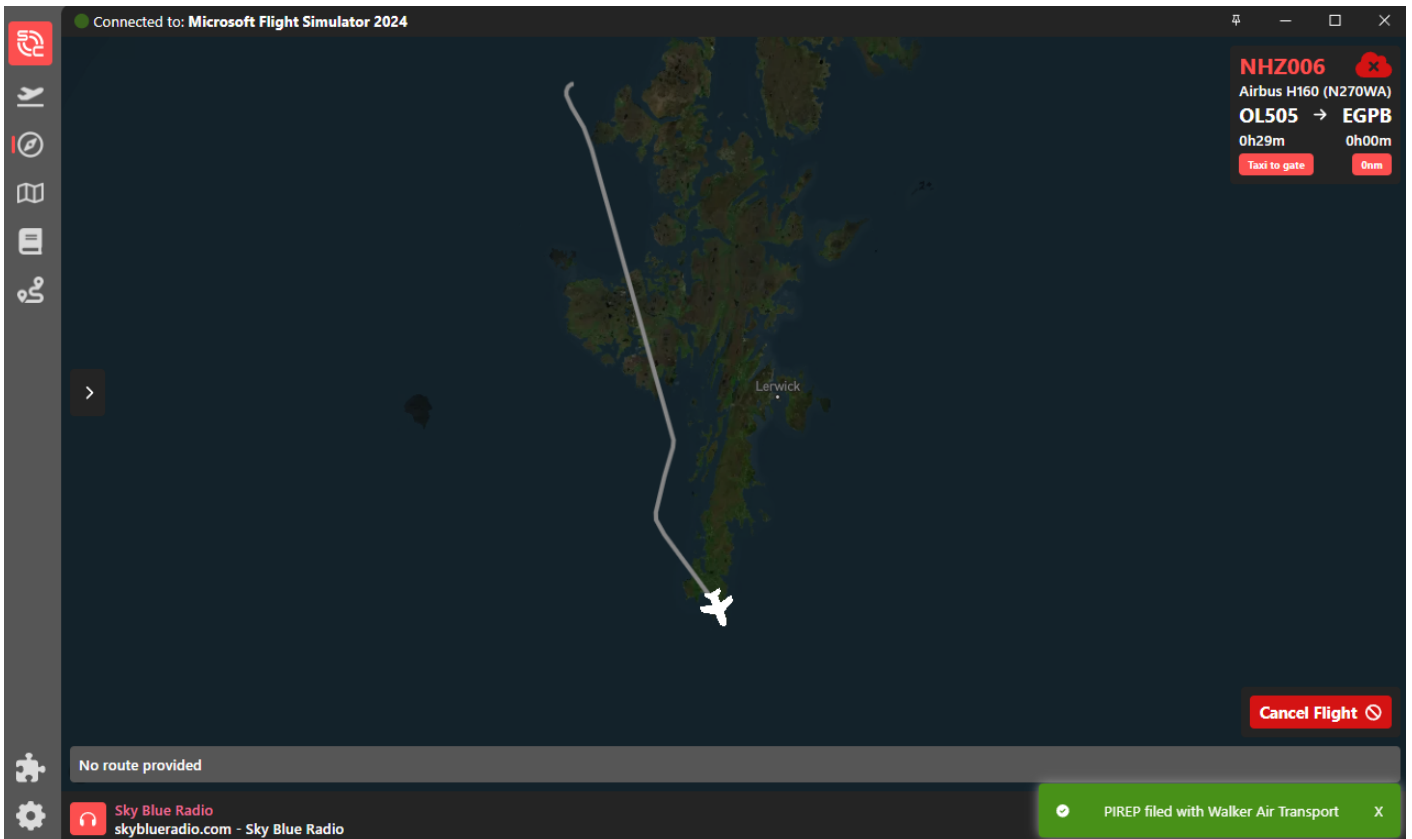
*Your TOD is a rough approximation by the application based on your altitude and thus will not exactly match the TOD on your aircraft's ND and may, in certain cases, be after your FMS-calculated TOD.*

## Flight Completion & PIREP Submission

After landing at your destination, taxi to the ramp, and come to a complete stop.



Once stopped, a Submit PIREP button will show on the lower right hand, which once you hit, will send your PIREP to the Walker system. Once it is processed, a confirmatory notification on the bottom right will show up. If you have smartCARS premium, it will also notify that the logs have been sent to TFDi servers. You can also configure smartCARS 3 to autosend your PIREP through its settings.



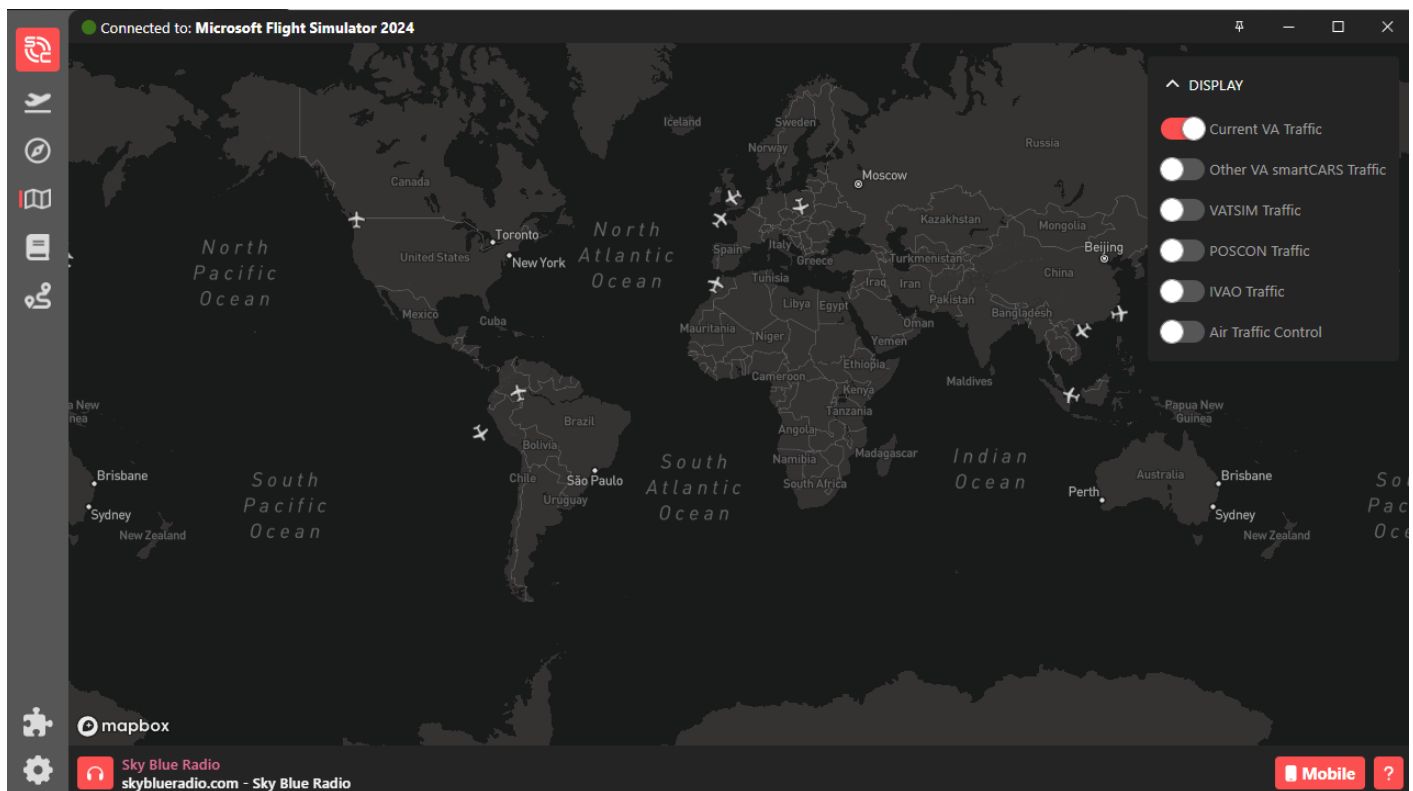
If you didn't exceed our flight requirements and/or standards, your PIREP will be automatically approved - and that will be verified by its presence in your **Logbook**.

## Flight Length Calculation

Veteran pilots who used smartCARS2 before may be confused with how total flight time is calculated in smartCARS 3 - unlike the previous version where it starts from pushback and ends only once the plane has reached a complete stop, the current version calculates total flight time using off blocks to in blocks.

## Map Tab

The Map referenced here is **not** the same one on the Crew Ops website. This shows various densities depending on your filter selection on the top right - ranging from VA-only to online networks.



## Logbook

This page allows you to see your previous logged flights with the VA, and its PIREP status. You can also use the search and filter options if you are looking for a certain flight.

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Departure Airport: mm/dd/yyyy    Arrival Airport: mm/dd/yyyy    Any Aircraft    Any Status

Callsign	Departure	Arrival	Aircraft	Date	Status
SIA851	ZGGG	WSSS	Airbus A350-900	2025-03-07 17:31:29 UTC	Accepted
SIA850	WSSS	ZGGG	Airbus A350-900	2025-03-07 12:28:16 UTC	Accepted
SIA105	WMKK	WSSS	Airbus A350-900	2025-03-07 06:20:48 UTC	Accepted
SIA850	WSSS	WMKK	Airbus A350-900	2025-03-07 05:27:44 UTC	Accepted
SIA901	RPVM	WSSS	Airbus A350-900	2025-03-06 18:03:38 UTC	Accepted
SIA900	WSSS	RPVM	Airbus A350-900	2025-03-06 14:45:05 UTC	Accepted
SIA923	WARR	WSSS	Airbus A350-900	2025-03-06 06:23:53 UTC	Accepted
SIA922	WSSS	WARR	Airbus A350-900	2025-02-28 15:51:18 UTC	Accepted

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skyblueradio.com - Sky Blue Radio    Mobile ?

You can click on a flight to see more details, including the flight log, map, route, etc.

Connected to: Microsoft Flight Simulator 2024

← SIA851    Airbus A350-900    WSSS

Accepted Passenger Flight 2025-03-07 17:31:29 UTC 1562 nm 03h 07m -95 fpm 20,035 kgs

ZGGG VIBOS1 VIBOS R473 SIERA MULET ALLEY V32 EPDOS 1642 ESPOR Q801 ESBUM Q802 ELALO ELAL18 WSSS

3/7/2025 9:45:10 PM Using Microsoft Flight Simulator 2024

3/7/2025 9:45:10 PM Flying A350-900 (No Cabin)

3/7/2025 9:45:10 PM Now boarding

3/7/2025 9:49:41 PM Pushing back

3/7/2025 9:50:04 PM Engine 2 On

3/7/2025 9:51:15 PM Engine 1 On

3/7/2025 9:51:44 PM Taxiing out

3/7/2025 9:53:16 PM Flaps set to 25%

3/7/2025 9:55:54 PM Taking off with 25801 KGS of fuel

3/7/2025 9:56:21 PM Gear lever raised

3/7/2025 9:56:22 PM Climbing at 171 kts, 9 degrees pitch, 3 degrees bank, wind 010 at 6 kts, with 25643 KGS of fuel

3/7/2025 9:57:27 PM Flaps set to 0%

3/7/2025 10:29:46 PM Cruising at 40000 ft with 20214 KGS of fuel

3/8/2025 12:57:06 PM Descending with 130 nm to go with 7818 KGS of fuel

3/8/2025 1:18:39 AM Approach started at 7838 ft AGL with 10 nm to go and 6811 KGS of fuel

3/8/2025 1:25:06 AM Flaps set to 25%

3/8/2025 1:26:01 AM Flaps set to 50%

3/8/2025 1:26:25 AM Gear lever lowered

3/8/2025 1:27:22 AM On final at 984 ft with 4 nm to go at 147 kts, 3 degrees pitch, -1 degrees bank, fuel remaining 6208 KGS

3/8/2025 1:27:23 AM Flaps set to 100%

mapbox

Log    Map

Sky Blue Radio  
skyblueradio.com - Sky Blue Radio    Mobile ?

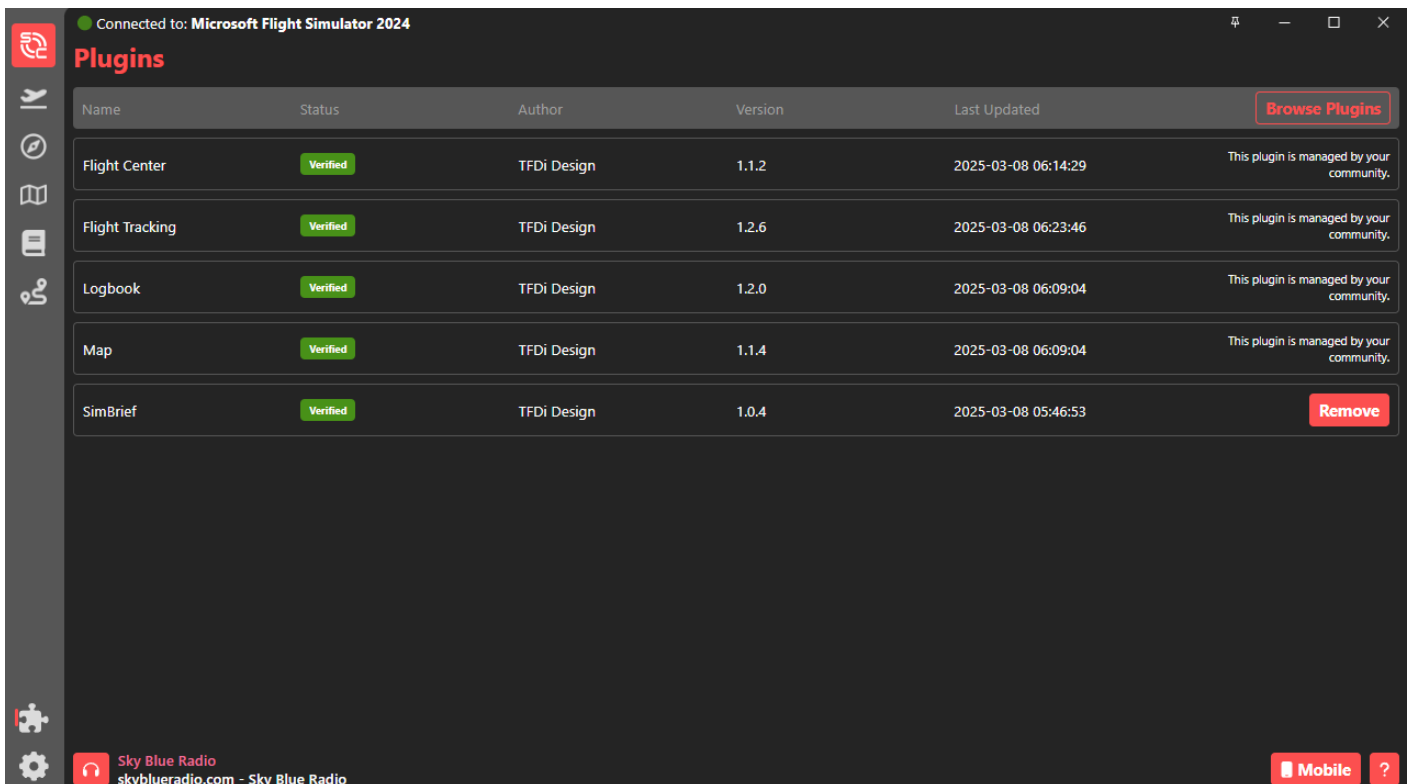
We highly recommend using the Walker CrewOps [Logbook](#) instead of the smartCARS one as that provides more detailed information. Further, flights logged with SC2 will not show all details in the SC3 viewer - particularly actual route flown on the map.

# Plugins

In this page, you may add community-built plugins to enhance your smartCARS user experience.

As of now, there are no Walker-specific plugins added, nor are there any aside from the default ones that you will need to be able to fly for Walker.

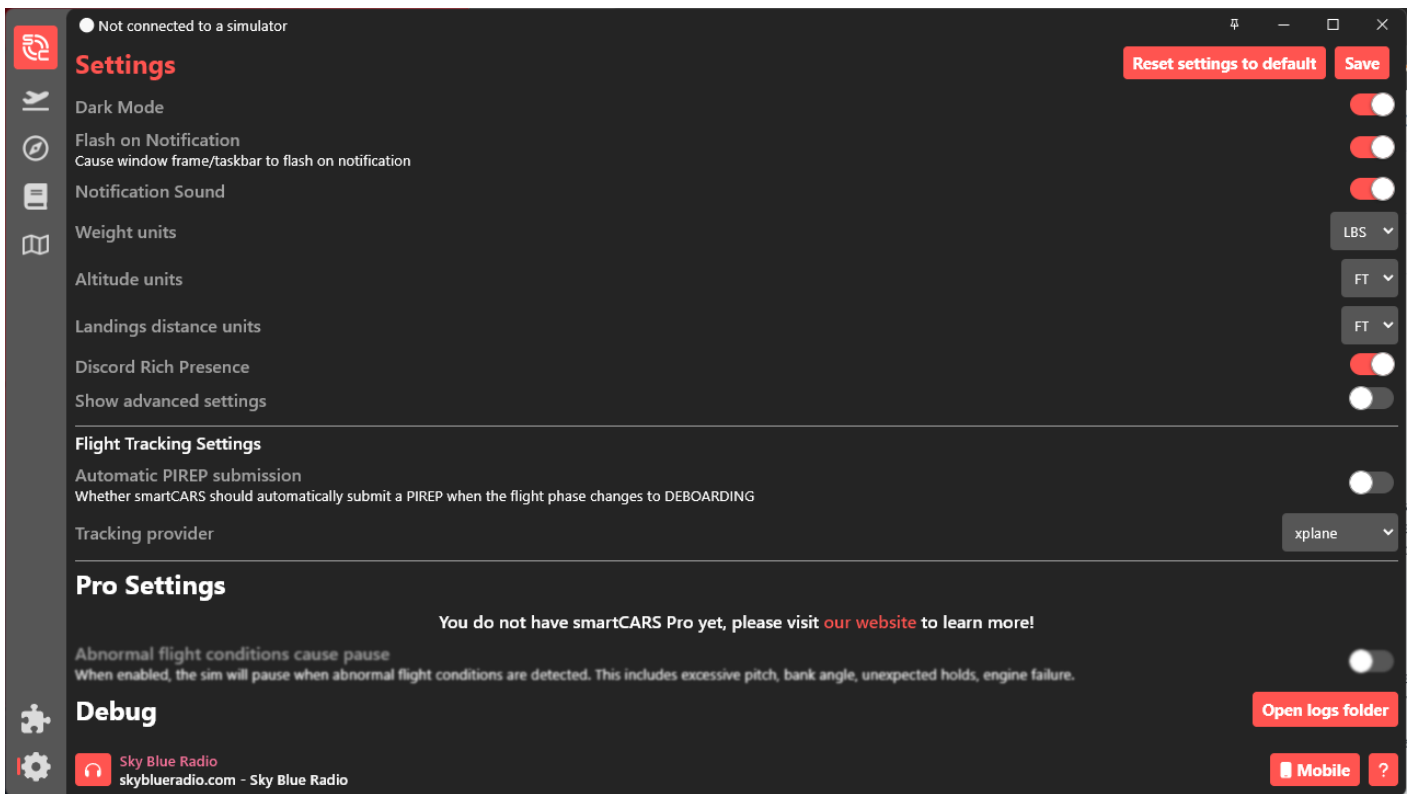
*Do note that the available SimBrief plugin in SC3 does not communicate with the Walker website - which means your passenger counts, routes, etc will not automatically sync on the CrewOps OFP page. We highly suggest using Walker's own SimBrief integration available on the CrewOps site, and we will not be liable for any PIREP inaccuracies or rejections resulting from the usage of the SC3 SimBrief plugin.*



# Settings


smartCARS 3 has a number of settings that you may adjust as you see fit and to align with your preferences - none of these settings should stop you from being able to log flights with Walker **aside from tracking provider**, so set them as you'd like.

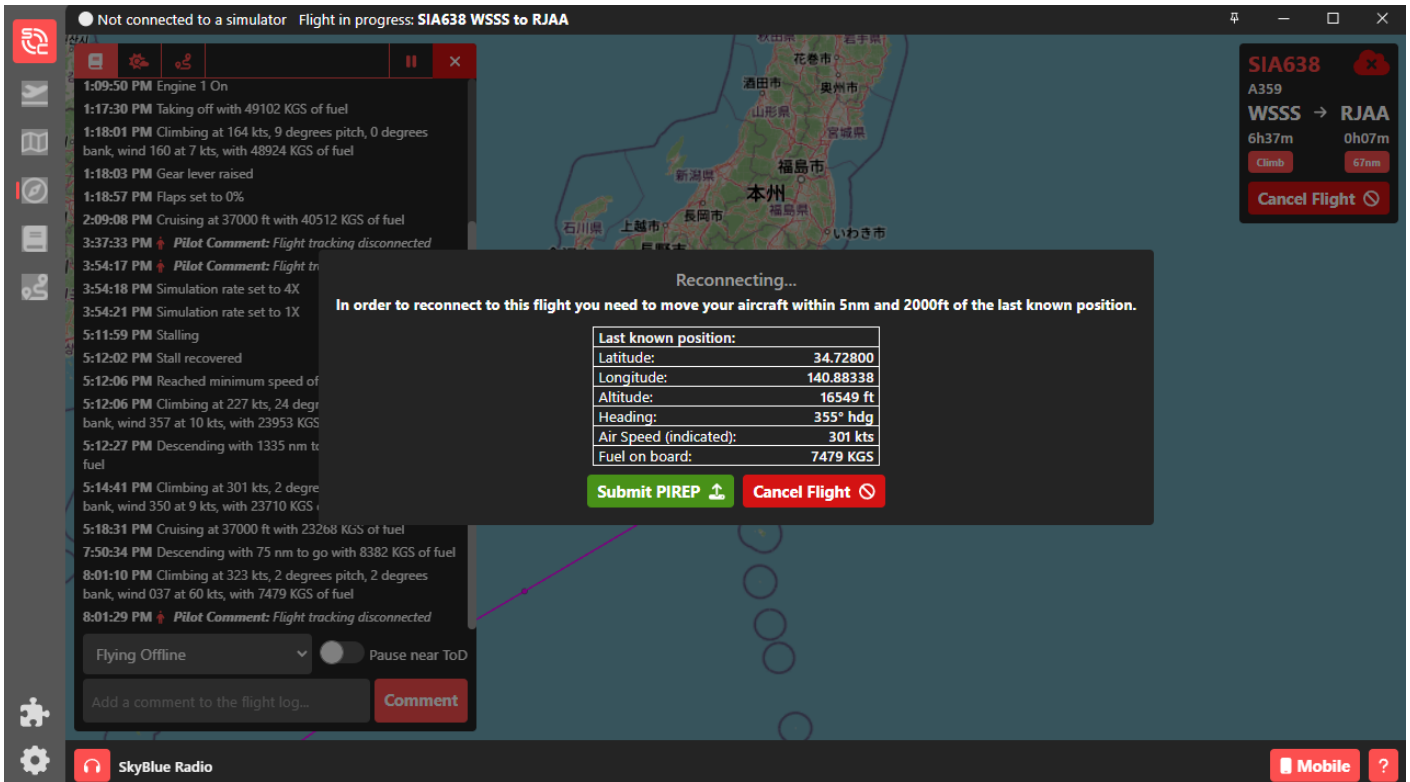
*We recommend that "Automatic PIREP submission" be disabled -- this will result in invalid flights being submitted to Walker that will be automatically rejected.*



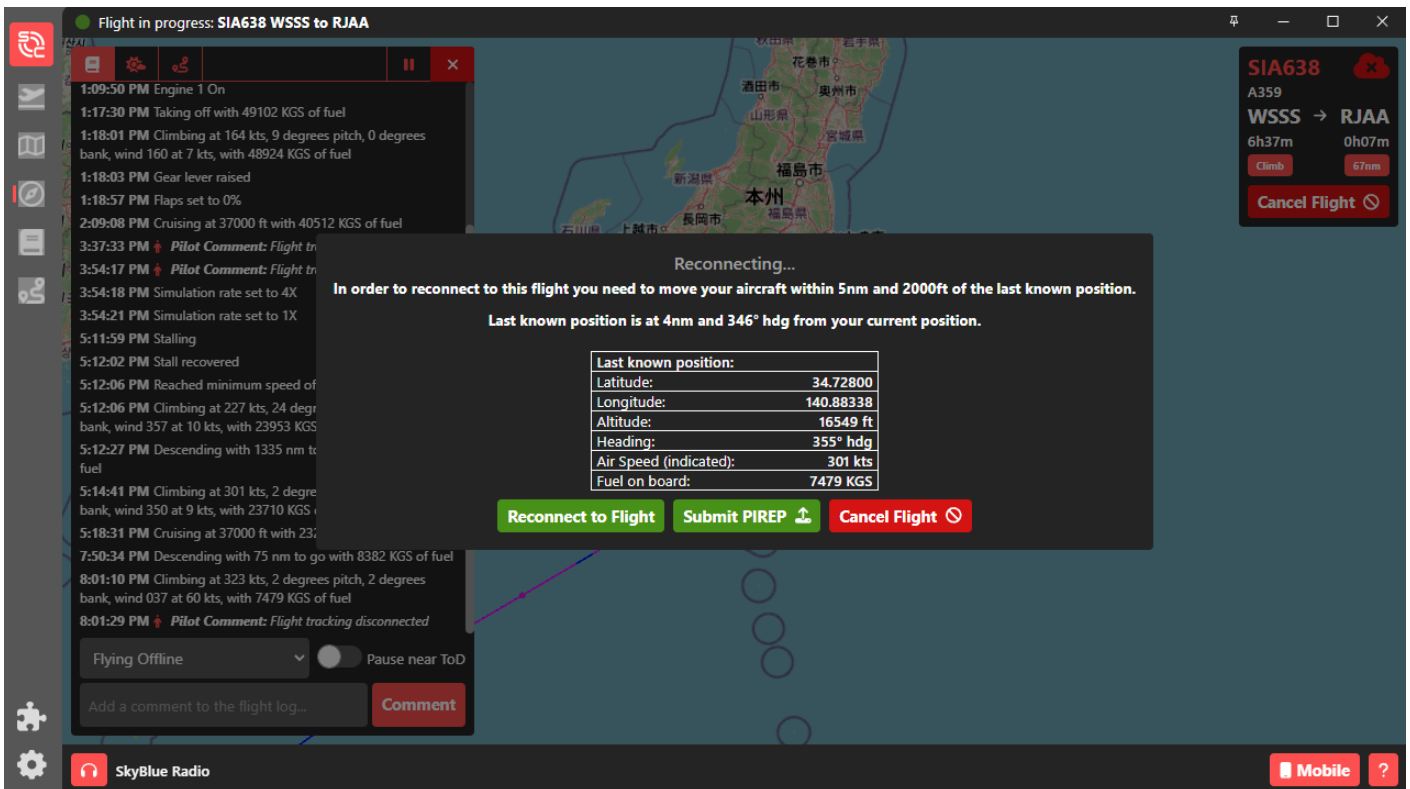
## Reconnecting via SmartCars3

If your simulator crashes, but your SmartCars does not, you may attempt a reconnect following below steps.

1. SmartCars will tell you the information about your aircraft prior to the crash - please match this as closely as possible and meet the requirement for reconnection (within 5nm and 2000ft of last recorded position). Do **NOT** click on  as that will be a rejected flight since you did not arrive at destination.



2. Once within the requirement for reconnection, a green button will show up beside **Submit PIREP** - called **Reconnect to Flight**. Click this button to reconnect.



3. Your log should then show "*flight tracking reconnected.*"

8:01:29 PM  *Pilot Comment: Flight tracking disconnected*

8:10:54 PM  *Pilot Comment: Flight tracking reconnected*

4. Once reconnected, confirm with the SmartCars3 moving map and the Walker CrewOps map that you have indeed reconnected, which can be confirmed by seeing your aircraft moving on both maps. If you are not, Alt+F4 the sim and attempt the process again.

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Revision #25

Created 2025-03-08 09:10:29 UTC by WAT1076 Cedric T.

Updated 2025-12-03 11:19:38 UTC by WAT100 Storm W.