Departure Control Tutorial

What is Departure Control?

 Departure control is the first radar controller you talk to coming out of a controller airport. He/she is in charge of identifying you on radar and giving you new instructions whether they be vertical (altitude), lateral (heading) or a speed restriction.

What airspace does Departure control?

 Departure controls all the airspace around a terminal area whether it be IFR or VFR traffic. They usually control the airspace below FL180 (18,000 feet). There are a few exceptions like Phoenix..there departure controllers can clear you up to FL210.

• Tower to Departure?

 The tower will always send an aircraft to departure control. In Infinite Flight, the tower will usually give an altitude to an airplane to contact departure since we do not have reliable radar.

Transcript on how to talk to Departure Control

 Tower: SWA123 contact Little Rock Departure. Pilot:Departure SWA123..;LR Departure SWA123 is 2,500 for 4,00 on the OSHNN8 DEP(can also be a heading). Departure: SWA123 radar contact, climb and maintain one-seven thousand. Pilot: Climb and maintain one-seven thousand SWA123.

How to pronounce altitudes above 9,000 feet?

 For any altitude below nine thousand (9,000 feet), you use the phonetic term which can be found here.

How to pronounce altitudes above 10,000 feet?

- For any altitude above ten thousand (10,000) feet, you pronounce the first two numbers individually. This happens for every altitude up to Flight Level 180.
- EX. Eleven thousand feet (11,000) would be read as one-one thousand.