September 1, 2017

NAVBLUE WebApp Updates and Hot Topics

Introduction

This *PBS Notepad* covers the details of the latest software release being provided to the Delta pilots for the October 2017 bid period. This month will mark the ninth bid period since the beta test period ended and the PBS WebApp was launched. The good news is this past month the WebApp was used by just under 7000 Delta pilots for their bidding and the numbers continue to grow. This number was the majority of the bidders for the September 2017 bid period.

Not as good is that we have about half of our pilot group who report they have not read the *PBS Notepads*, watched any videos, or tried the WebApp. According to the feedback we have received, those who have taken the time to read and use the available resources have found them to be extraordinarily helpful and the MEC has asked us to produce more videos. Based on your feedback we will continue to add to the library found in the [Delta Air Lines PBS Working Group YouTube Channel](#). Among the videos to help you get started or review, we suggest:

- [Clearing Your Browser Cache and WebApp Version (6:52 in length)](#)
- [PBS Login and Sync (3:58 in length)](#)
- [Creating Bid Groups and Copying & Pasting Functions (4:49 in length)](#)
- [Basic Bidding and Analysis (4:58 in length)](#)
- [Scrolling Options and Techniques (9:58 in length)](#)

Software Release 17.3

With this software release, it is required that you fully clear your cache prior to syncing your browser. Besides a host of important information on the [PBS Help Website](#), you will find the document that explains the requirements and directions for [clearing your browsers' cache](#). The current version of the PBS WebApp will be posted on the Info Screen and will be seen when you successfully log in. The PBS Working Group recommends reviewing the NAVBLUE online *[N-Preferential Bidding Web App Bidder's Guide](#)*.

Traditional Calendar View Option

An enhancement now available is the option to view your pre-month and post-month schedule in a standard-calendar view. Like before, you will have a fixed horizontal calendar along the top of the WebApp on the calendar screen. The new option allows the bidder the choice of retaining the vertical portion of the calendar or the option of the traditional calendar. To switch back and forth between these two views, simply click the new icon calendar toggle 🗓 on the ribbon to the left. If you hover over, you will see the identifying text "Toggle Calendar View". Figure 1 shows the vertical calendar view and Figure 2 shows the traditional calendar view.
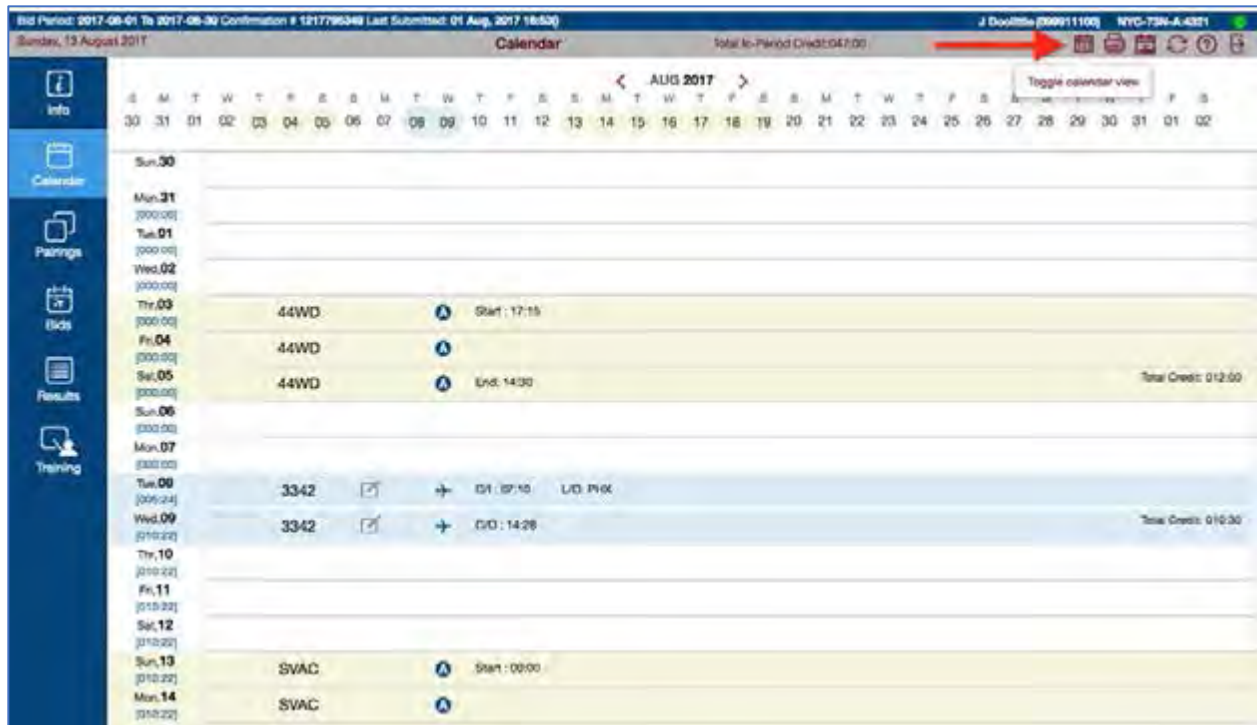
Figure 1 Vertical Scroll Calendar View

Figure 2 Traditional Calendar View

Print Options and Techniques

The calendar, in either view, is printable by clicking on the print icon 🖶. There are a few things to remember when printing:

- The WebApp defaults to printing in *portrait* which fits the calendar in approximately the top half of standard letter paper
- If you opt to print in *landscape*, you may have to adjust your printer's settings, depending on the default settings, to fit the calendar on one sheet. We have found that approximately 90 percent works well.
- As a technique, you can print your calendar to a PDF document and save it to a known location for review. This works very well on the Surface 3.

Support for iPhone 6S Plus and 7 Plus

While the experience of using a tablet or computer is much better than using a phone, with this release, the PBS WebApp is now supported for iPhones with a screen resolution of 1920 x 1080, currently the iPhone 6S Plus and 7 Plus. This layout will now match the iPad but must be used in *landscape mode only*. Closing tabs for other pages you have open will collapse this section and give you a little more screen spaces.
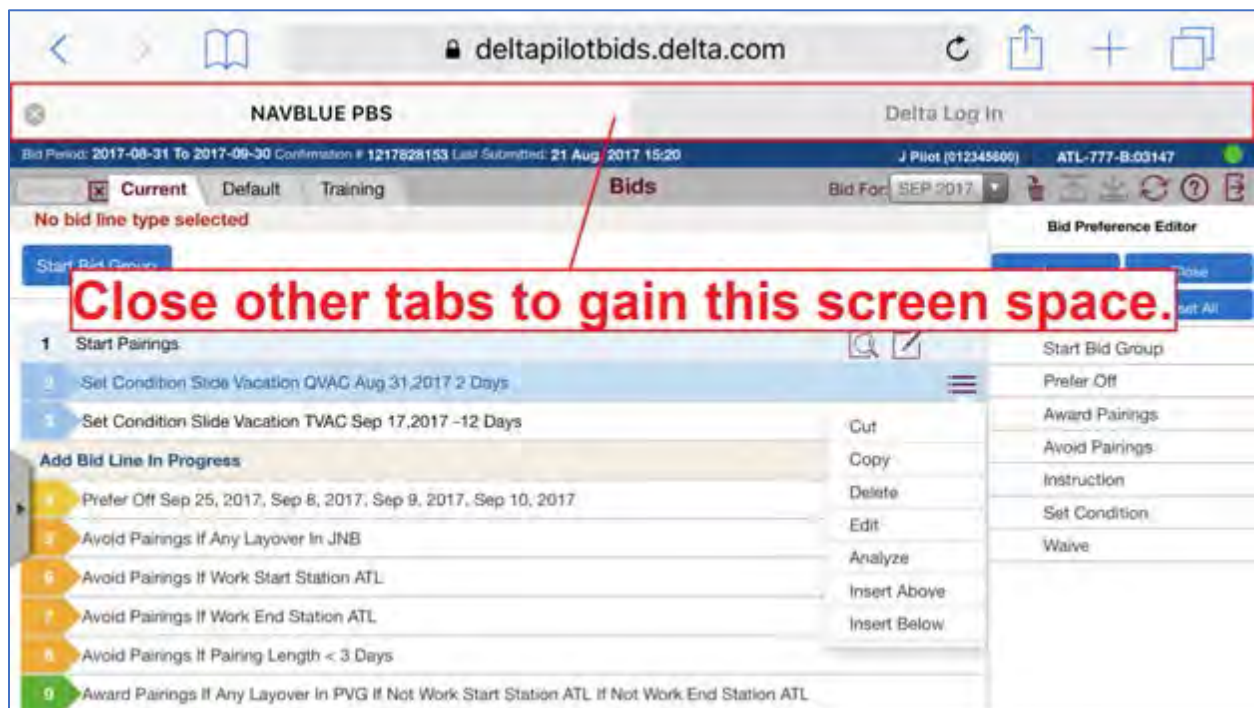

Figure 3 iPhone Screen Resolution

Bug Fixes

A few sporadic bugs affected some bidders under infrequent situations. These bugs only affected the pairing search results and bids analysis but the award logic was unaffected.

- Multiple combinations of If Not Duty On with If Not Departing On and additional parameters
- If Not Depart On with multiple Layover parameters
- If Not Depart On with If Not Pairing Length
- Multiple Layover bid parameters (e.g. Starting On with Duration Of)
- Copying and Pasting of bid groups while editing causing System Generated bids to erroneously be removed

One known bug is those using iPads or iPhones with the latest iOS update 10.3.3 are having issues where network printing while using Safari is not working correctly. This is affecting a myriad of websites and the NAVBLUE PBS WebApp but it is not affecting network printing using the Chrome browser.

These corrections cover all known issues.

Hot Topics and General Reminders

NAVBLUE is Navtech and Navtech is NAVBLUE
There has been continuing confusion over the past year and a half about many topics related to our software vendor for PBS. Here are the issues to know:
- Our software vendor has remained unchanged since 2005. In December 2015, Airbus announced its intent to acquire Navtech Inc. This acquisition was completed in March 2016 and the company was rebranded as NAVBLUE.
  - *The bidding and award logic have not changed.*
  - *The bidding features and options, except for those added since the acquisition, remain unchanged.*
- The NAVBLUE PBS system now has two bidder user interfaces (UIs) as the PBS Desktop Application (DA) was retired at the end of July 2017.
  - The PBS web application (PBS WebApp) is the new UI that replaced the DA. It has *all* the bid options and functionality of the DA and more. Please review the *PBS Notepads 16-01 through 17-06* on the [PBS Help website](#) for thorough discussions about these topics.
  - The PBS Web UI is the old and original online bidder interface
    - This UI will remain a part of the suite of software and will not be discontinued until Q1 2018 at the earliest.
- *There is no requirement to log on to the DeltaNet to reach either UI and it is the recommendation of the Delta PBS Working Group you bookmark the URLs on all of your devices and browsers.*

  NAVBLUE PBS WebApp   https://deltapilotbids.delta.com/webapp
  NAVBLUE PBS Web UI   https://deltapilotbids.delta.com/

Accidentally Connecting to F999A or GoGo
Recent reports from both pilots and PBS bid assist facilitators (BAFs) have highlighted an issue regarding the use of the Company issue Surface tablets when in the pilot lounges, airport concourses, or anywhere in close proximity to any Delta aircraft. *PBS Notepad 17-01* had a thorough discussion of the issues regarding the WebApp performance when connected to the F999A or GoGo networks. What we have found is that since our S3s are configured to auto connect to the F999A network and GoGo (if you have set it up to auto connect) it will cause the WebApp performance to be significantly degraded as it is trying to connect to a network that in reality, it cannot connect to.
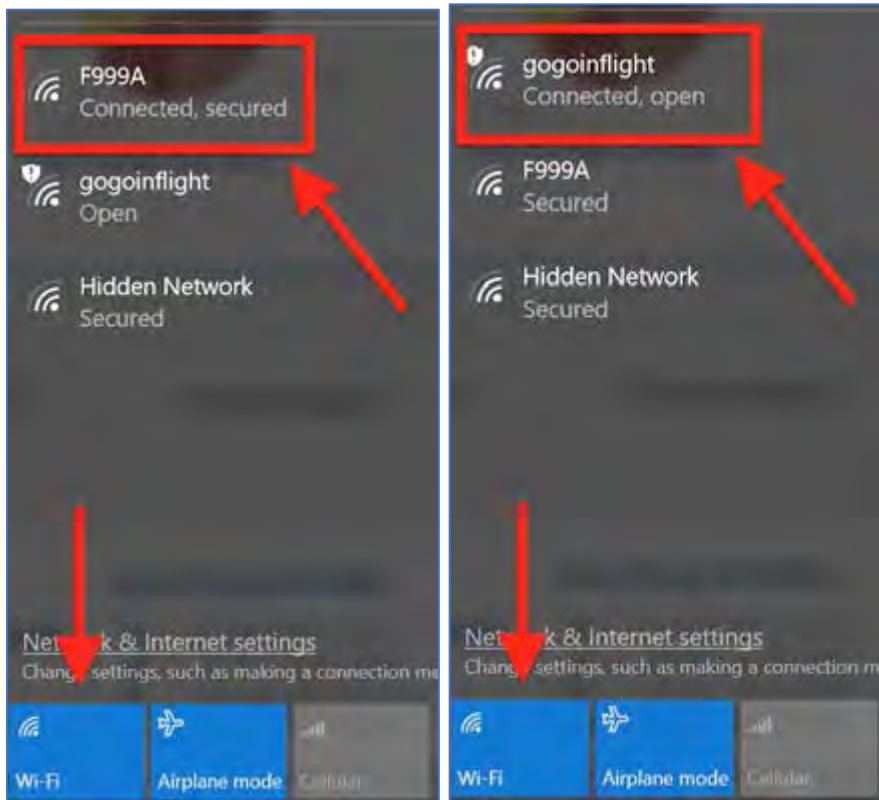
Figure 4 Surface Tablet Connected to F999A or GoGo

If you experience this, simply disconnect from these networks, connect to an alternative network, or turn off your Wi-Fi.

Alphanumeric Ordering of Bid Parameters

There have been some ongoing misconceptions about the perceived ordering of parameters in various bid options. Only two specific types of bids have a priority order.

- **Prefer Off** bids, both in pairings bid groups and reserve bid groups, are prioritized in the order they are entered. This is true for individual dates, date ranges (including reverse range priority), and days of the week (with or without time ranges applied)
- **Pairing Number Depart on Date** bid but you <u>must</u> select **Ordered**
  - A thorough explanation of this bid feature is found in the <u>PBS Gouge</u> and a <u>video located on the PWG YouTube Channel</u>

Any other bids such as pairing number or layover stations, regardless of the order you select them, *are not expressing a priority order*. These entries end up in an alphanumeric order. Here are two bid lines exemplifying this:

Figure 5 Bid Lines Added in Alphanumeric Order

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Red-eyes

A red-eye is a pairing where any flight departs between 1400-0400 AND arrives between 0200-1200. These times *are local station times* as displayed on the pairing as opposed to base time. The intent is to define the classic west coast to east coast red-eye, yet not trigger simple early morning or late night flights. Please review this section in the *PBS Gouge* as there is an expanded discussion of this topic. Keep in mind that based on the definition seen above, red-eyes may filter some but not all pairings that have trans-oceanic flight segments or North America to South America flights which may or may not be the intent of the bidder. It is highly encouraged that all bidders use other parameters in their bids to better define the inclusion or exclusion of these pairings and always use the analysis tool of the PBS WebApp as it will clearly show what matches each bid line and what is being filtered from the pool of pairings or added to desired pool of pairings.

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