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## ***PBS Bidding: Bid Window & Vacation Slide/Any Tips***

The purpose of this *PBS Notepad* is to review two specific details of PBS that we see have a negative effect on pilots' line awards from time to time:

1. Bid Window
2. Vacation Slide/Any and Coverage

### **Bid Window**

Nearly every month, the PBS Committee receives an email from pilots asking why their bid preferences were not honored. The pilots report having submitted a Current Bid, but PBS used the Default Bid instead.

In each case, the underlying reason is the pilot submitted a bid prior to the opening of line bidding for the month at 1800E on the 4<sup>th</sup>. This point in time is the earliest that your Current Bid can be submitted. Of note, Training and Default Bids can be submitted at any time. The bid window will remain open until 1800E on the 11<sup>th</sup> of every month.

**While it is possible to enter lines of bid in your Current Bid prior to the bid window opening, your Current Bid will NOT be uploaded when you select submit. You must wait until the bid window opens to successfully submit a Current Bid.**

The PBS Committee recommends to always verify you receive a Confirmation Number displayed for your Current Bid after submitting it. If you are on the Current Bid tab and PBS shows "Confirmation # Bids Modified," your bid has not been submitted to the PBS server.

### **Vacation Slide/Any and Coverage**

The PBS Committee recommends you carefully consider your exposure to a coverage award prior to entering a Vacation Slide or Vacation Any request.

PBS will not slide your vacation to days where PBS has given you coverage awards. Coverage occurs as a separate process before the regular bid processing. Any coverage awards will block PBS from sliding vacation days that overlap the coverage awards because the vacation slide is part of the subsequent regular award process.

***Sliding your vacation can also expose you to coverage.*** Suppose you have a holiday vacation that you wish to slide to another week in the bid period? If pilots at your seniority are subject to coverage over the holiday, your Set Condition Slide Vacation bid will expose you to that coverage if the slide request makes you available for flying during the holiday.

Similarly, a *Set Condition Vacation Any* bid temporarily removes a pilot's vacation days from his calendar while PBS builds his schedule. This removal of the pilot's original vacation from his calendar occurs prior to PBS processing the remaining of his bid, ***including coverage***. For example, a pilot who has vacation over a holiday and who bids *Set Condition Vacation Any* may expose himself to a coverage award over that holiday even though his original vacation would have protected him.

As always, feel free to email the PBS Committee with any questions or comments at [DALPBS@alpa.org](mailto:DALPBS@alpa.org)