

## ATTACHMENT E

### HOW TO MONITOR THE FCC AUCTIONS ON-LINE

This document describes the following ways to monitor the auction:

- View announcements and round results on your Web browser during the course of Auction 44
- Download round results data files
- Obtain round results from touch-tone phone, using FCC's Automated Round Results System
- View or download files containing the text of auction announcements
- Track the auction using dial-up networking, which can be used in the event your Internet Service Provider (ISP) has malfunctioned.

#### Conventions

The instructions in this section use the following typographical conventions:

- bold** Represents objects on the screen that you click with the mouse pointer, including buttons, Internet links, icons, tabs, menu items (e.g., **Cancel** button, **Auctions** link, **Save** option in the File menu).
- italic* Represents field names or areas of a screen (e.g., *Location* field, *Selected Licenses* area of a screen).
- bold italic** Represents characters that you must type exactly as they appear in the instructions. For example, if you are instructed to type ***http://auctions.fcc.gov***, you should type all of the characters exactly as they are printed.

#### A. Viewing Announcements and Round Results

1. To access the FCC Automated Auction System, point your Web browser at ***https://auctions.fcc.gov*** and click **Auction 44**.

Alternatively, you can point your Web browser at ***https://auctions2.fcc.gov***.

2. To view auction-related announcements, click **View All Announcements** on the Home tab.
3. Click the **RESULTS** tab at the top of the page to obtain the Round Results page.

4. Click the **Results Explorer** link.

The Results Explorer lets you obtain the results for any preceding round and, optionally, filter those results by **Service, Market, and Block/Channel**. Using the check box at the bottom, you can limit the results to a specific applicant, and view either the licenses they selected on their Form 175 or the licenses where they are the current high bidder.

5. When you finish specifying your filter criteria, click the **Submit** button to obtain the results.

This produces the Current Results Set page, which lists the licenses that match your search criteria.

## **B. Downloading Round Results Files**

You may use your Web browser to download round results files, as described in the following sections.

### **1. Download Procedure**

1. Point your Web browser at ***https://auctions.fcc.gov***.

Alternatively, you can point your Web browser at ***https://auctions2.fcc.gov***.

2. On the Auctions Systems page, click the **Auction Archives** link
3. On the Auction Data Archives page, click the link for Auction 44.

The Index page that appears shows a parent directory that has three subdirectories, or folders. Clicking one of the folder names expands the associated subdirectory to show its contents.

4. For auction round results, click **Results** and then click the subdirectory for the type of files you want to use. Note the following:
  - Subdirectories **ab, hb, me, wd, mxref, and bxref** provide text (*txt*) and dBASE database (*dbf*) files containing the All Bids, High Bids, Maximum Eligibility, Withdrawals, Market Cross Reference, and Bidder Cross Reference tables, respectively.

- Subdirectory **zip** has a *zipped* file containing the round results text (*txt*) files from the **ab**, **hb**, **me**, and **wd** subdirectories.
  - Subdirectory **mdb** contains Microsoft Access database files in *zipped* form, for use in the Auction Tracking Tool.
5. Click the file you want to download.
  6. If you clicked a text (*txt*) file, it will open in your browser and you can save it to a local disk drive, if desired. If you clicked a database (*dbf*) or *zipped* file, the system will ask whether you want to open the file or download it.

## 2. Naming Conventions For Round Results Files

**Note:** The naming conventions described in this section also apply to the Mock Auction. The only difference is, the Mock Auction is numbered 74 whereas the real auction is numbered 44.

For each round, dBase-compatible database files will be uploaded with the following naming conventions (where *xxx* represents the round number):

- 44\_*xxxs*.dbf contains all bids submitted in a particular round
- 44\_*xxw*.dbf contains all bids withdrawn in a particular round
- 44\_*xxxe*.dbf contains the maximum eligibility and remaining number of waivers for each bidder
- 44\_*xxh*.dbf contains the high bids in a particular round and the minimum accepted bids for the next round

We will also upload the following files, which are created only once, prior to the start of the auction:

- 44\_*xref*.dbf contains bidder cross reference data
- 44\_*mref*.dbf contains market cross reference data

For those who cannot use the dBase-compatible database files, we will also upload the ASCII text (*.txt*) version of these files with the same filenames as above (e.g., 44\_*xxxs.txt*, 44\_*xxxe.txt*). We also provide these text files in a zipped file with a name of the form RR\_44\_*xxx.zip*.

In addition, if you want to use Microsoft Access or you are using the FCC-provided Auction Tracking Tool (ATT), we upload the MDB access version of the round results files as a zipped file with a name of the form 44\_*xxx.zip*.

In the event an error occurs with the MDB file creation process only, the zipped file will not be generated. However, if such a failure occurs, we will upload text files that contain the MDB round results data. For details, refer to *Round Results Text Files Produced In Case of ATT Processing Failure* at the end of this section.

**File Formats:** For a description of the internal formats of the round results files, refer to *Round Results File Formats* at the end of this document.

**a. Round Results Text Files Produced In Case of ATT Processing Failure**

In the event an error occurs with the MDB file creation process, and the MDB files are not created, we will initiate a backup process to provide a temporary solution for bidders who normally would rely on the Auction Tracking Tool data to analyze round results. Specifically, we will upload tab-delimited ASCII (.txt) files that contain the same round results data as the MDB files, but in a flat file format.

There will be one .txt file for each Auction Tracking Tool table, and they will have names of the following general forms (where xxx is the round number):

- All Bids: 44\_xxxa.txt
- Bidders: 44\_xxxb.txt
- Bidders Raising Own High Bid: 44\_xxxc.txt
- Bidders Who Reduced: 44\_xxrx.txt
- Increment Statistics: 44\_xxxi.txt
- Markets: 44\_xxxm.txt
- Round Statistics: 44\_xxru.txt
- Waiver Statistics: 44\_xxrv.txt
- Withdrawal Statistics: 44\_xxxd.txt

For example, 44\_001a.txt is the All Bids table file for Round 1.

These text files will be uploaded to the same location as the MDB zipped file, as described under the preceding section titled *Locations of Uploaded Files*. Bidders will then have all of the table data that is normally supplied with the MDB files. However, bidders will not be able to import the .txt file into the Auction Tracking Tool. Instead, they will have to use Notepad, Wordpad, Excel, or some other application that can work with text files.

Once the processing error has been corrected, the MDB files will be created and posted to the Internet, replacing the temporary text files. Bidders will receive a message that the files have been updated. The updated zip file can then be loaded into the Auction Tracking Tool.

### C. Tracking the Auction From a Touch-tone Phone

High Bid round results are also available from a touch-tone phone. To access this system, dial 800-432-2110 from outside the Washington DC area or 202-414-1260 from within the Washington DC area. Once the system has been activated, you will follow the voice prompts. You will need to know the name of the license you want by service code, market, and frequency block/channel, such as CL CMA332 C.

### D. Accessing Auction Announcements

You may use your Web browser to view or download announcements, as described in the following sections.

#### 1. Access Procedure

1. Point your Web browser at <https://auctions.fcc.gov>.

Alternatively, you can point your Web browser at <https://auctions2.fcc.gov>.

2. On the Auctions Systems page, click the **Auction Archives** link.
3. On the Auction Data Archives page, click the link for Auction 44.

The Index page that appears shows a parent directory that has three subdirectories, or folders. Clicking one of the folder names expands the associated subdirectory to show its contents.

4. Click **Announcements**.
5. Click the file you want to download.

**Template File for Importing Bids:** The file *template.txt* is a template that can be modified as desired and used to select a group of bids simultaneously, by importing them in a file.

6. The file will open in your browser and you can save it to a local disk drive, if desired.

#### 2. Naming Conventions For Announcement Files

The announcement files will use the naming convention *aa\_xxx.nnn*, where *aa* is the auction number, *xxx* is the round number and *nnn* is the announcement number. For example, *44\_002.007* would represent an announcement for Auction 44 that was posted during round two and was the seventh announcement for the auction.

#### **E. Tracking the Auction via the FCC Wide Area Network**

To participate as a bidder in an FCC auction or view the auction's announcements and round results, the FCC recommends accessing the Bidding System via the Internet. As a contingency, you may access the Bidding System via the FCC Wide Area Network.

##### **1. Minimum Hardware and Software Requirements**

The following minimum hardware and software is required to use the FCC Remote Access System:

- CPU: Pentium 133 or above
- RAM: 32 MB (64 MB recommended)
- Monitor: VGA or above
- Mouse or other pointing device
- Operating System: Microsoft® Windows™ 95™, 98™, 2000™, ME™, NT™
- Modem: 28.8 Kbps Hayes© compatible modem or faster (56.6 Kbps recommended)
- Point-to-Point Protocol (PPP) Dialer: Use the Dial-Up Networking feature included with the operating system
- Web Browser, with cookies enabled, either of the following:
  - ◆ Microsoft® Internet Explorer 4.0 or higher (recommended). If you have Internet Explorer 5.0 or higher, your browser must have either Microsoft VM or Java Plug-In Version 1.3.1 installed.
  - ◆ Netscape® Communicator™ 4.0 or higher, with Java Plug-In Version 1.3.1.

Java Plug-In Version 1.3.1 is available for downloading at <http://java.sun.com/getjava/download.html>.

## 2. Connecting to the FCC Network

To connect to the FCC Network, you must use Dial-Up Networking. Dial-Up Networking establishes a point-to-point connection from your PC to the FCC Network. *This point-to-point connection is not routed through the Internet.*

To access the FCC Automated Auction System, configure your dial-up network to dial **900-555-5335**. (Alternatively, you can configure your dial-up network to dial **900-555-5554**.) The first minute of connection time to the 900 number service is at no charge, but additional time is billed at a charge of \$2.30 per minute.

When you have finished, exit your Web browser, then disconnect from the FCC Network.

### F. Round Results File Formats

This section describes the formats for the round results files that will be uploaded to the FCC Internet site after each round of the auction. There are three sets of results files. The first set of files is in Microsoft Access 97 *mdb* format and contains the data tables for the FCC Auction Tracking Tool. The other files are in *dbf* and *txt* format and contain the raw output of the auction data.

#### 1. Auction Tracking Tool File Format

There will be a single Auction Tracking Tool *.zip* file for each round of the auction. The following layout describes the tables and fields within the *mdb* round file. The *mdb* files are for use with the FCC Auction Tracking Tool.

##### a. All Bids table

Auction ID	Number(Long Integer)
Round	Number(Long Integer)
License Name	Text(15)
Market	Text(6)
Block	Text(2)
Submarket	Number(Long Integer)
Bidder	Text(50)
Increments of Bid	Number(Long Integer)
Gross Bid Amount	Currency
Net Bid Amount	Currency
Date	Text(10)

Random No                      Text(30)

**b.        Bidders table**

Auction ID	Number(Long Integer)
Round	Number(Long Integer)
Bidder	Text(50)
FCC Acct	Text(10)
Bidding Credit	Number(Single)
Initial Eligibility	Number(Long Integer)
Current Eligibility	Number(Long Integer)
Change in Eligibility	Number(Long Integer)
Waiver Type	Text(4)
New Bids	Number(Long Integer)
Gross Bids	Currency
Net Bids	Currency
Total High Bids	Number(Long Integer)
Gross High Bids	Currency
Net High Bids	Currency
Current Activity	Number(Long Integer)
Additional Activity Required	Number(Long Integer)
Unused Elig	Number(Long Integer)
Waivers Remaining	Number(Long Integer)
Withdrawals Remaining	Number(Long Integer)

**c.        Bidders Raising Own High Bid table**

Auction ID	Number(Long Integer)
Round	Number(Long Integer)
License Name	Text(15)
Major Grouping	Text(6)
Minor Grouping	Text(6)
Block	Text(2)
Submarket	Number(Long Integer)
Bidder	Text(50)
Increments of Bid	Number(Long Integer)
Gross Bid Amount	Currency
Net Bid Amount	Currency
Date	Text(10)

**d.        Bidders Who Reduced table**

Auction ID	Number(Long Integer)
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Round	Number(Long Integer)
Bidder Who Reduced	Text(50)
Reduction Amt	Number(Long Integer)
Current Eligibility	Number(Long Integer)

**e. Increment Statistics table**

Auction ID	Number(Long Integer)
Round	Number(Long Integer)
1	Number(Long Integer)
2	Number(Long Integer)
3	Number(Long Integer)
4	Number(Long Integer)
5	Number(Long Integer)
6	Number(Long Integer)
7	Number(Long Integer)
8	Number(Long Integer)
9	Number(Long Integer)

**f. Markets table**

Auction ID	Number(Long Integer)
Round	Number(Long Integer)
License Name	Text(15)
Major Grouping	Text(6)
Minor Grouping	Text(6)
Block	Text(2)
Submarket	Number(Long Integer)
License Size (MHz)	Number(Double)
Market Name	Text(50)
BUs	Number(Long Integer)
Population	Number(Long Integer)
Number of Bids	Number(Long Integer)
High Bidder	Text(50)
Round of High Bid	Number(Long Integer)
Increments of Bid	Number(Long Integer)
Gross	Currency
Bidding Credit	Number(Single)
Net	Currency
Date	Text(10)
Min Acceptable Bid	Currency
Bid Increment	Currency
Prev High Bidder	Text(50)
Round of Prev High Bid	Number(Long Integer)

Prev Gross	Currency
Prev Bidding Credit	Number(Single)
Prev Net	Currency
Selected	Number(Long Integer)
All Selected	Number(Long Integer)

**g. Round Statistics table**

Auction ID	Number(Long Integer)
Round	Number(Long Integer)
Round Date	Text(11)
Stage	Number(Long Integer)
New Bids	Number(Long Integer)
Total High Bids	Number(Long Integer)
Pctg of BUs for All Bids	Number(Single)
Pctg of BUs for High Bids	Number(Single)
Gross Bids	Currency
Net Bids	Currency
Dollar Change in Net Bids	Currency
Pctg Change in Net Bids	Number(Single)
Eligible Bidders	Number(Long Integer)
Bidders At Risk	Number(Long Integer)
Number Reduced	Number(Long Integer)
BUs Reduced	Number(Double)
Eligibility Ratio	Number(Single)
Pctg of Covered BUs	Number(Single)
Waivers	Number(Long Integer)
Withdrawals	Number(Long Integer)
FCC Held Licenses	Number(Long Integer)
Pctg of Covered Pops	Number(Single)
Pctg of the Covered Pops with Bidding Credit	Number(Single)

**h. Waiver Statistics table**

Auction ID	Number(Long Integer)
Round	Number(Long Integer)
Bidder	Text(50)
Waiver Type	Text(1)
Remaining Waivers	Number(Long Integer)

**i. Withdrawal Statistics table**

Auction ID	Number(Long Integer)
Withdrawal Number	Number(Long Integer)
Bidder	Text(50)
License Name	Text(15)
Market	Text(6)
Block	Text(2)
Submarket	Number(Long Integer)
BUs	Number(Long Integer)
Population	Number(Long Integer)
Round	Number(Long Integer)
Gross	Currency
Net	Currency
Date	Text(10)
Min Bid	Currency
New High Bidder	Text(50)
New High Bid Round	Number(Long Integer)
Gross High Bid	Currency
Net High Bid	Currency

**2. Round Results File Format**

The round results files were used by the previous Excel based tracking tool produced by the FCC and are still being distributed for those bidders who use them for their own tracking purposes. The following layouts are for the dbf files. The txt files will have character field types.

**a. ALL\_BIDS file**

service_code	char(2)
market	char(6)
freq_block	char(2)
round_num	numeric
bid_amt	numeric
bidder_num	numeric
fcc_acct	char(10)
date	char(10)
net_bid_amt	numeric
sort_col_1	numeric
sort_col_2	numeric
sub_market	numeric
random_num	double

**b. HIGH\_BIDS file**

service_code	char(2)
market	char(6)
freq_block	char(2)
bid_round	numeric
bid_amt	numeric
bidder_num	numeric
fcc_acct	char(10)
date	char(10)
net_bid_amt	numeric
min_accept	numeric
min_incr_2	double
num_of_bids	numeric
sort_col_1	numeric
sort_col_2	numeric
sub_market	numeric

**c. MAXIMUM\_ELIGIBILITY file**

round_num	numeric
bidder_num	numeric
fcc_acct	char(10)
max_elig	numeric
rmng_waivr	numeric
waivr_ind	char(1)
rmng_withdrawals	numeric
required_act	numeric
current_act	numeric

**d. WITHDRAWALS file**

service_code	char(2)
market	char(6)
freq_block	char(2)
bid_round	numeric
bid_amt	numeric
bidder_num	numeric
fcc_acct	char(10)
date	char(10)

net_bid_amt	numeric
sort_col_1	numeric
sort_col_2	numeric
sub_market	numeric

**e. BIDDER\_CROSS\_REFERENCE file**

bidder_num	numeric
fcc_acct	char(10)
co_name	char(50)
bidding_credit_pctg	numeric

**f. MARKET\_CROSS\_REFERENCE file**

license_name	char(15)
market	char(6)
freq_block	char(2)
sub_market	numeric
license	char(11)
market_Desc	char(50)
bid_units	int
population	int

**3. Results Explorer Export File Format**

The Results Explorer provides an option to export a comma-delimited text file. The export file contains the following fields:

- Service Code
- Market
- Block/Channel
- Submarket (has the value **0**, because this auction does not use submarkets)
- Bid increment (default value = **1**, which selects minimum acceptable bid)
- Round number
- Company name (set to **FCC** if no bid has been placed on this license)
- Standing high bid at the end of the selected round, in dollars
- Minimum acceptable bid for the round that follows the selected round, in dollars
- Amount of increase between the standing high bid in the selected round and the minimum

acceptable bid in the subsequent round.

#### **G. Help**

For technical assistance with using FCC software, contact the FCC Technical Support Hotline at (202) 414-1250 (V) or (202) 414-1255 (TTY). The FCC Technical Support Hotline is generally available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET. *All calls to the FCC Technical Support Hotline are recorded.*