

ELECTRONIC AUCTION RESOURCES

HOW TO MONITOR THE FCC AUCTIONS ON-LINE

The auction announcements and round results for Auction 20 will be accessible through the FCC Wide Area Network, the Internet and the FCC Auction Bulletin Board System (BBS). You can check on round results and also read any material released by the Commission during the course of the auction. This fact sheet provides the information that you need to track the auction from your computer.

Option 1: Tracking the Auction via the FCC Wide Area Network

The FCC has implemented a Remote Access System that allows users to dial in directly to the FCC to view round results, auction announcements, and messages, and to make suggestions to the FCC regarding the FCC auction process.

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

Minimum Hardware Requirements

- o CPU: Intel Pentium
- o RAM: 16 MB (more recommended if you have multiple applications open)
- o Modem: v.32bis 14.4kbps Hayes compatible modem or faster
- o Monitor: VGA or above
- o Mouse or other pointing device

Minimum Software Requirements

- o Operating System: Microsoft Windows 95/98 [*Note: The FCC no longer supports Windows 3.1x*]
- o Point-to-Point Protocol (PPP) Dialer: Use the Dial-Up Networking feature included with Windows 95/98
- o Web Browser: Netscape Communicator 4.05 with JDK 1.1 or a higher version of Netscape (available at <http://www.netscape.com>)

Connecting to the FCC Network

To use the FCC Remote Access System, you must first connect to the FCC Network using Dial-Up Networking.

Dial-Up Networking connects to a 900 number telephone service at a charge of \$2.30 per minute. The first minute of connection time to the 900 number service is at no charge.

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.*

For instructions regarding how to connect to the FCC Network using Dial-Up Networking, see the *Accessing the FCC Network Using Windows 95/98* section.

Note: Throughout these instructions, “enter” means to type the appropriate information and then press the ENTER key.

Using the FCC Remote Access System

After you have connected to the FCC Network, start your Netscape Web browser. In your browser’s *Location* field, enter the following location:

- ***http://wtbwww03.fcc.gov*** and then click **Round Results Viewer, Suggestion Box, or Announcements**

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

For technical assistance with installing or 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.*

Option 2: Tracking the Auction via the Internet

You may use your Web browser to download announcements and round results from *wtbwww01.fcc.gov* or *www.fcc.gov* as described in the following section.

Downloading from *wtbwww01.fcc.gov*:

1. Connect to your Internet service provider and start your Web browser.
2. In the *Location* field of the Web browser screen, enter the following location:
http://wtbwww01.fcc.gov

3.
 - a. Click on **Auction 20**.
 - b. For auction announcements, click on **Announcements**.
For auction round results, click on **Results**.
4. Click on the file you wish to download.

Downloading from *www.fcc.gov*:

1. Connect to your Internet service provider and start your Web browser.
2. In the *Location* field of the Web browser screen, enter the following location:
http://www.fcc.gov
3.
 - a. Click on **Auctions**.
 - b. In the *Auctions* section on the right, click on **Public Coast Stations** under *In Progress*.
 - c. Click on **Data(Round Results), Announcements, Template**.
 - d. For auction announcements, click on **Announcements**.
For auction round results, click on **Public Coast Stations Auction Round Results**.
To download a bid import template file, click **Template**.
4. Click on the file you wish to download.

Archive Directories

The FCC will establish archive directories for round results files on the Internet. After every 50 rounds, files will be moved from the *Results* directory to an archive directory. The newest round results files will continue to be uploaded to the *Results* directory.

For example, in round 102, round results files would be located as follows:

On *wtbwww01.fcc.gov*:

Rounds 1-50	pub/VPC/Auction_20/Results/R001-050
Rounds 51-100	pub/VPC/Auction_20/Results/R051-100
Rounds 101-102	pub/VPC/Auction_20/Results

On *www.fcc.gov*:

Rounds 1-50	pub/Auctions/VPC/Auction_20/Results/R001-050
Rounds 51-100	pub/Auctions/VPC/Auction_20/Results/R051-100
Rounds 101-102	pub/Auctions/VPC/Auction_20/Results

Option 3: Tracking the Auction via the Bulletin Board System (BBS)

The FCC Auction Bulletin Board System (BBS) provides dial-in access for Auction Results. To access the FCC Auction BBS, use a communications package that can handle Zmodem protocol (such as PcAnyWhere, Procomm, or Microsoft Hyperterminal in Windows 95/98) to dial in to (202) 682-5851. Use the settings of 8 data bits, no parity and 1 stop bit (8,N,1).

Once your computer is connected to the Auction BBS, do the following:

1. To create an account:
 - a. Enter your first name.
 - b. Enter your last name.
 - c. When asked whether you want to create an account, enter *y*. (You may also enter *Y*, the program accepts either case.)
 - d. When prompted, enter a password.

The password can be from four to ten characters long (where the characters can be either letters or numbers).
 - e. To confirm the password, enter it again.
 - f. When prompted for contact information, enter your voice phone number. Include the area code; for example, you might enter *202-555-1234*.
 - g. Enter your company name.
2. On the Welcome screen, enter *c* for *Continue*.
3. When asked whether you want to view the bulletin menu, enter *y* for *Yes*. Then, to continue, press ENTER to obtain the FCC Auction BBS Main Menu.
4. Enter *a* (for Auction Menu) to obtain the *Auction Library Menu*. The top options on this menu provide a range of numbers to represent the available auctions.
5. To select *Auction 20*, enter *b* to select the second range.
6. On the Auctions Library Menu, enter the number of the auction you want. Enter *0*, in this case.

The Auction Menu appears.

7. Enter *a* to select *Announcements* or enter *r* to select *Results*.

The list of available files for Auction 20 appears. These files are sorted by date, with the most recent files at the beginning of the list.

8. To scroll downward to the next screen of file names, either press ENTER or enter *c* for *Continue*. To scroll upward to the preceding screen of file names, enter *p* for *Previous*.

Note that on each screen, file names are numbered separately, starting with 1.

9. To select one or more files for downloading or viewing, mark the files you want. The program marks a file by preceding its name with an asterisk (*).

You can do the following:

- o To mark an individual file, enter its line number.
 - o To mark a range of files, enter *m* (for *Mark*) and then enter the range of files in response to the prompt. For example, to mark files 6 through 12, enter *6-12* at the prompt.
 - o To unmark a file, enter its number again. You can also use *Mark* to unmark a range of files.
10. When you have finished marking files, you may download or view the marked files (you may only view text files).

To download the marked files, take the following steps:

- a. Enter *d* for *Download*.

The program displays a list that summarizes the download operation. The *Time* column lists the download time for each file; the *Total Time* column lists a running total of the download times.

- b. Enter *d* to proceed.
- c. Select the file transfer protocol that has been specified in your terminal emulation software (e.g., Zmodem).
- d. When the download operation has finished, the list of files reappears.

To view the marked files, do the following:

- a. Enter *v* for *View*.
 - b. Enter the file number that you would like to view.
11. Enter *x* to leave the BBS.

Note: All round results files will be accessed through the *Results* menu on the BBS. No archive menus will be created.

Announcement Files

The announcement files will use the following naming convention: *aa_xxx.nn* where *aa* is the auction number, *xxx* is the round number and *nn* is the announcement number. For example, 20_002.07 would represent an announcement for Auction 20 that was posted during round two and was the seventh announcement for the auction.

Round Results Files

For each round, dBase-compatible database files will be uploaded with the following naming conventions:

- 20_xxxS.DBF contains all bids submitted in a particular round
- 20_xxxW.DBF contains all bids withdrawn in a particular round
- 20_xxxE.DBF contains the maximum eligibility and remaining number of waivers for each bidder
- 20_xxxH.DBF contains the high bids in a particular round and the minimum accepted bids for the next round

where *xxx* represents the round number.

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., 20_xxxS.TXT, 20_xxxE.TXT).

Round Results File Formats

The Round Results File Formats will be published in a future Public Notice.

Help

For technical assistance with downloading files or installing and 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.*

AUCTION TRACKING SOFTWARE

The Commission will provide, free of charge, a stand alone tracking tool to assist bidders and non-bidders in tracking the auction. In the past, this tool has been provided in an Excel spreadsheet format that required users to download round results files and import them into the tracking tool software for processing. The Commission is investigating ways to make the tracking tool software more efficient and effective, and hopes to have a revised tool in place before the beginning of Auction 20. In the absence of a revised tracking tool, software resembling that used in previous auctions will be provided. Details will be released as soon as they are available.

ACCESSING THE FCC NETWORK USING WINDOWS 95/98

This describes how to access the FCC Network from a system that is running the Microsoft Windows 95 or Microsoft Windows 98 operating system. This involves configuring dial-up network access and then performing the dial-up procedure.

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., *Applicant* 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://wtbwww03.fcc.gov***, you should type all of the characters shown in bold italic exactly as they are printed.

SMALL CAPS Represents keys on the keyboard (e.g., **ENTER**, **CTRL**, **ESC**).

Note: Throughout these instructions, “enter” means to type the appropriate information and then press the **ENTER** key.

Configuring Dial-Up Networking

1. To start dial-up networking:
 - a. Click the **Windows 95/98 Start** button.
 - b. Click the **Programs** option to display the Programs menu.
 - c. Click the **Accessories** option to display the Accessories menu.
 - d. In Windows 95, click **Dial-Up Networking**.
In Windows 98, click **Communications**, then **Dial-Up Networking**.

If Dial-Up Networking is not an option on your Accessories menu, you should install it from your Windows 95/98 CD or diskettes.

2. When the Dial-Up Networking window appears, double-click the **Make New Connection** icon.

3. The Make New Connection window appears.

If you are connecting to submit FCC Form 175 applications, type *FCC Auctions 800#* in the field titled *Type a name for the computer you are dialing*.

If you are connecting to review FCC Form 175 applications or to use the FCC Remote Access System, type *FCC Auctions 900#* in the field titled *Type a name for the computer you are dialing*.

Note: If you connect to the FCC's 900# telephone service, there is a charge of \$2.30 per minute. The first minute of connection time to the 900 number service is at no charge.

4. In Windows 95, click the down arrow at the right of the *Select a modem* field and select your modem from the menu of available modems.

In Windows 98, click the down arrow at the right of the *Select a device* field and select your modem from the menu of available devices.

If your modem does not appear on this list, you must install your modem driver according to the modem manufacturer installation procedures, which are usually described in your modem's user manual.

5. Click the **Next** button.

6. If you are connecting to submit FCC Form 175 applications, type *800* and *378-7435* in the *Area Code* and *Telephone Number* fields, respectively.

If you are connecting to review FCC Form 175 applications or to use the FCC Remote Access System, type *900* and *555-5335* in the *Area Code* and *Telephone Number* fields, respectively.

7. Verify that the correct country is selected in the *Country code* field.

If necessary, click the down arrow at the right of the *Country code* field and select the appropriate country from the menu of available countries.

8. Click the **Next** button.

9. Click the **Finish** button.

An icon labeled either *FCC Auctions 800#* or *FCC Auctions 900#* appears in the Dial-Up Networking window.

10. Verify that properties are configured correctly before attempting a dial-up session. Put the mouse pointer on the FCC Auctions icon that you wish to configure and click the *right* mouse button to display a menu. Click **Properties** from the menu.
11. Click the **Configure** button. Click the **Options** tab at the top of the Properties window.
12. In the *Connection control* area of the Options tab, verify that *neither* option is selected. If either option is selected, click the check box at the left of the option to deselect it. Then click **OK**.
13. In Windows 95, click the **Server Type...** button.

In Windows 98, click the **Server Types** tab at the top of the Properties window.
14. In the *Advanced Options* area, verify that only *Enable software compression* is selected.
If it is not selected, click the check box at the left of the option to select it. If either of the other options is selected, click the check box to deselect it.
15. In the *Allowed Network Protocols* area, verify that only *TCP/IP* is selected.

If it is not selected, click the check box at the left of the option to select it. If either of the other options is selected, click the check box to deselect it.
16. Click the **TCP/IP Settings** button and select *Specify name server addresses*.
17. Type *165.135.22.249* as the Primary DNS.
18. Click **OK** on the TCP/IP Settings window and the Server Type window.

Dial-Up Procedure

1. If the Dial-Up Networking window is not currently open, do the following:
 - a. Click the Windows 95/98 **Start** button.
 - b. Click the **Programs** option to display the Programs menu.
 - c. Click the **Accessories** option to display the Accessories menu.
 - d. In Windows 95, click **Dial-Up Networking**
In Windows 98, click **Communications**, then **Dial-Up Networking**.

The Dial-Up Networking window appears.

2. In the Dial-Up Networking window, double-click the **FCC Auctions 800#** or **FCC Auctions 900#** icon.

Note: If you connect to the FCC's 900 number telephone service, there is a charge of \$2.30 per minute. The first minute of connection time to the 900 number service is at no charge.

3. Click the **Connect** button on the window. *Do not enter User name and Password.*

The Connection window appears, indicating the status of your connection as your modem dials into the system. This window must remain running during your dial-up session. You may minimize the window, if you wish.

If your modem fails to establish a connection, please see the *Troubleshooting* section below.

4. Once the connection is established, open your Web browser.
5. In your browser's *Location* field, enter the appropriate Universal Resource Locator (URL) as follows:
 - For FCC Form 175 Submit, enter *http://wtbwww04.fcc.gov*
 - For FCC Form 175 Review or the FCC Remote Access System, enter *http://wtbwww03.fcc.gov*

If nothing appears in your Web browser, please see the *Troubleshooting* section below.

6. When you have finished, exit the Web browser, then click the **Disconnect** button on the Connection window to end your dial-up session.

Troubleshooting

Following are problems you may encounter and possible solutions for resolving or isolating them.

Modem does not respond

1. Confirm that all physical connections for the modem are present.
2. Confirm that the phone line is active by connecting it to a telephone and checking for a dial-tone.
3. If you are dialing the 900 number service, check for a 900 number telephone block. If the volume settings are low, the modem may be dialing but not connecting. Check for this by trying to connect to the 800 number, or by dialing the 900 number on that line using a telephone.

4. Confirm that the correct modem driver is installed for your modem.

Modem dials but does not connect

1. If you are dialing the 900 number service, check for a 900 number telephone block. Check for this by dialing the 800 number to see if you connect, or by dialing the 900 number on that line using a telephone.
2. Confirm that the number the modem is dialing is correct.
3. Confirm that the modem prefix, if any, is correct.

Modem dials and connects, but nothing appears when you enter the Location in the Web browser

1. If your Internet Service Provider adds numbers to the *DNS Server Search Order* list in your Dial-Up Adapter's TCP/IP protocol, you will need to add the FCC's Primary DNS number as well. Do the following:
 - a. Click the Windows 95/98 *Start* button, then click the *Settings* option to display the Settings menu.
 - b. Click *Control Panel* and then double-click the *Network* icon.
 - c. Highlight the TCP/IP Protocol and click *Properties*. If there are multiple TCP/IP protocols, highlight TCP/IP --> Dial-Up Adapter and click *Properties*.
 - d. Click the *DNS Configuration* tab.
 - e. Ensure *Enable DNS* is selected and type **165.135.22.249** in the DNS Server Search Order box, then click the *Add* button.
 - f. Click *OK* on the TCP/IP Properties windows, then click *OK* on the Network windows.
 - g. If you are prompted to restart your computer, click *Yes* to restart, then reconnect to the FCC Network.
2. Verify the properties in your dial-up networking icon, particularly that the Primary DNS is set to 165.135.22.249 and that TCP/IP is the only selected protocol.
3. Confirm that your Web browser is not using proxies.

Receive an Internal Server error in the Web browser

1. Confirm that the *Location* is correct.
2. Confirm that *JavaScript* is enabled in your Web browser.

Help

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