Vacation Predictions - Pilots

If you are a Flight Attendant, this document does not apply. The Vacation Overlap for Flight Attendants is completely different than the Vacation Overlap for Pilots. Be sure to read Vacation Corrections – Flt Attendants.

The vacation predictions in WBidMax are created by using the **KNOWN** contractual requirements, and by reverse engineering **UNKNOWN** parameters and buffers that the company uses to create vacation overlap. We use a color code scheme and naming convention in WBidMax to help you fully understand the vacation prediction for any line. Green is Good – Red is Bad.

The Color Codes for Vacation Predictions in WBidMax

Line 40 above has two Vacation Periods (July 6 – July 12 and July 20 to July 26). If the pilot chooses to drop all, then the entire month will be off.

Bright Green (VA): this color represents flights that are dropped with pay and these flights are within your vacation period.

Light Green (VOF or VOB): this color represents flights that are dropped with pay and are NOT within your vacation bid period. (Overlap)

Dark Green (VAP): this color represents additional TFP that is added to your line. A 7 day vacation week gets a minimum of 26.25 TFP. If you have a 3-day in your vacation week that pays 21.00 TFP, then you will have a Dark Green VAP of 5.25 TFP. This additional TFP is added to your line and is part of your vacation pay.

Red (VDF or VDB): this color represents flights that CAN be dropped for NO pay. If the company can meet the requirements of our contract and either deadhead you back home from a trip or deadhead you to rejoin a trip, they will usually do so. The portion of the trip prior to deadheading back to base or the portion of the trip after you have deadheaded to rejoin a trip, can be dropped for NO pay. Remember, you have to have your vacation drop preferences set in CWA for this to automatically happen.

The designations of Vacation Pay in WBidMax

VA: (Vacation Pay) is bright green. VA represents flights that are dropped with pay and these flights are within your vacation period.

VAP: (Vacation Additional Pay) is dark green. VAP represents additional TFP that is added to your line.

VOF: (Vacation Overlap Front) is light green. VOF represents flights that are in front of the vacation period. They are dropped with pay and are NOT within your vacation bid period.

VOF: (Vacation Overlap Back) is light green. VOB represents flights that are in back of the vacation period. They are dropped with pay and are NOT within your vacation bid period.

VDF: (Vacation Drop Front) is red. VDF represents flights that CAN be dropped for NO pay. These flights are in front of your vacation week.

VDB: (Vacation Drop Back) is red. VDF represents flights that CAN be dropped for NO pay. These flights are in back of your vacation week.

Why does WBidMax NOT automatically drop the VDF andVDB flights?

Shown below is the Modern view with the VAC button on and the DRP button off.

Shown below is the Modern view with both the VAC and DRP buttons on.

WBidMax occasionally has errors in the Vacation Overlap predictions. As a result, WBidMax will display where we think the company will split the trip. This way, you have situational awareness and can then further assess whether or not you see errors in the prediction.

Additionally, not everyone DROPS the VDF or VDB. For example: let's say I have a family vacation to Park City starting on a Saturday. I also have vacation that starts on Sunday. Let's say I find a line that has a trip that finishes on Sunday, but on Saturday it looks like the company would split the Trip in SLC and then deadhead me back to PHX. I would probably not drop this VDF, since it gets me to SLC on the day I want to travel.

DRP Button

Touching the DRP button to on (orange) will remove all the VDF and VDB from the line and adjust the TFP, Blocks of Days off, Number of Days off, TAFB, FDP, and Blk Hours.

VAC and DRP and EOM

The VAC button will apply the vacation corrections to each line. It takes a little while as we are checking every flight for a possible deadhead back to domicile to start vacation or a deadhead from domicile to rejoin the trip.

The DRP button will remove the VDF and VDB from your display and from your line pay totals, recalculate your days off, your largest block of days off, your TAFB, and your flight hours. You can only turn on the DRP button if VAC or EOM is turned on.

The EOM button will apply a vacation correction to your line as if you had vacation that starts on a Sunday on the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd of the month that follows this bid period. For example: if you are bidding for July, then EOM would make corrections for a vacation that starts on the 3rd of August. This is done because some lines will have trips at the end of this month that overlap into the next month, and that vacation would affect the vacation corrections for trips in the bid month. For more information regarding EOM, read the EOM document in the Help Documents section.

You can turn on or off the VAC, DRP, and EOM buttons to your desire. With all three buttons off, there will be no vacation corrections applied.

Why might I want to turn VAC off?

Let's say I have a vacation the previous month that overlapped into this bid month. The trip that overlapped finished on the 2nd. If able, I want to avoid all lines that fly on the 1st or 2nd of the next bid month. So I would definitely set a "Days of the Month" constraint for the 1st and 2nd. I may want to also do so for the 3rd to insure I don't have a 10 hour rest problem, a 31 hour break problem, or a 168 hour FDP problem. Now that I've identified these offending lines, I would "Bottom Lock" these lines and then turn back on the VAC button. Remember, if a line has a trip on the 1st or 2nd, and the VAC button is on, this line will not be constrained by a 1st or 2nd Days of the Month constraint, because WBidMax is smart enough to know that these days are OFF if the VAC button is on.

Line Display and Trip Display

This is an example of a Line with VAC off.

This is an example of a Line with VAC on and DRP off

This is an example of a Line with VAC on and DRP on

This is an example of a Line with EOM on and DRP off
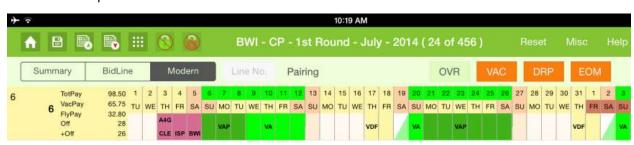

This is an example of a Line with EOM on and DRP on.

This is an example of a Line with VAC on and EOM on and DRP off

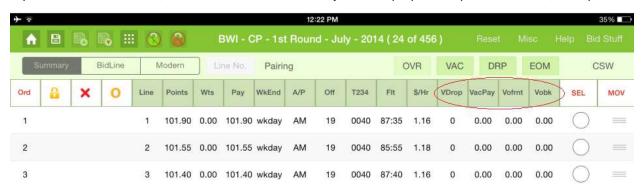This is an example of a Line with VAC on and EOM on and DRP on.

This is an example of Trip Detail with VAC or EOM on and DRP off on the left, and VAC or EOM and DRP on, on the right. Note the strike through when DRP is on.

Display Columns in Summary View

If you set VAC or EOM on, the columns headers will adjust to display Vac Pay, VoFrnt, VoBk, VDrop

Remember, you can always change the columns headings at any time by double tapping the column headings and then selecting the columns headings of our choosing. Also, you can touch the "reset" in the column headings menu (at the top of the menu when it is displayed) to "reset" the columns headings back to WBid standard column headings.

Legal Mumbo Jumbo

If you are looking for 100% accuracy in your Vacation Overlap – there are **NO** providers that can deliver 100% accuracy. Swaptimizer cannot do it and WBidMax cannot do it! The company makes their Vacation Overlap corrections based upon "un-written" policy. The only way we are able to get very close to 100% accuracy is by analyzing 1000's of Vacation Corrections and then reverse engineering the process.

We are proud of our Predictions at WBidMax. In aggregate, the WBidMax Vacation Predictions are equal to or better than Swaptimizer. However, since we both have created our algorithms independent of one another, we sometimes differ. If you want an Vacation Overlap prediction that is as good as is it

possibly can get, then I would suggest you use both Swaptimizer and WBidMax and compare. If there is a discrepancy, then check for legal deadheads, duty day, fdp, etc.