



OPS Bulletin

Passenger Boarding Bridge (PBB) Service Calls

March 26, 2019

Many service calls that are made to Vanderlande (VI) in regards to the PBBs in TBIT and RMT Gates are for resetting bridges that were locked out due to “Over Limits”, or to resolve other safety features which keep the bridges from being operated. These cases, potentially resulting in delayed deplaning and/or flight departures, can be avoided.

“Operator Error” can be divided into the following: 1) Those that trigger limiter switches while moving the bridge to avoid mechanical damage to the bridge and 2) Those that lock out the controls to avoid damage to the bridge accessories/components or aircraft.

The first type will warn the operator as it nears the limit by slowing the motion and aurally by an annunciator. The cause of the warning will be displayed on the Control Panel screen. The bridge will be locked if those warning signs are not heeded. Examples of this error type are swing limits, retract limits, extended limits, height limits, over steering limits, contact with aircraft and anti-collision (with an adjacent bridge). Once locked out, VI must be called to reset the limiter. Many service calls belong to this type of “Operator Error”. At some gates, and depending on aircraft type, the retract limit will be activated if the bridge is retracted to the parking (stow) position without first leveling (lowering) the tunnel.

The second type is caused by safety sensors for the canopy and the 400 HZ power cable harness. Service calls of this type usually result from the power cable harness or canopy not having been properly stowed in the fully retracted position. These errors are also indicated on the Control Panel display and may be resolved without having to call for a technician. The Control Panel display will warn the operator of such cases. Contact a ramp agent or aircraft mechanic to resolve issues with the 400 HZ power cable system.

Following these points will significantly reduce unnecessary service calls and delays:

- **Do not continue to operate the bridge if it slows down and/or aural and visual warnings are triggered. Check the cause of the warning.**
- **If retracting, check to see if the height needs to be adjusted.**
- **Check to see if the canopy is fully retracted.**
- **Have the ramp agent check the power cable if a warning is displayed.**
- **Always check the status message on the Control Panel display before calling VI.**

For any questions or concerns, contact the **TBITEC Manager on Duty** at **310-646-9378**