

## Division 1 Breezes Through Annual CHP Inspection

(May 26) Division 1 may have some of the highest-mileage buses in the MTA's fleet, but a squad of California Highway Patrol inspectors sidelined only one bus - for a minor taillight problem - during the division's annual inspection, Thursday.

On the transportation side, the inspectors' random review of operator training records, driving logs and pay journals found Division 1 to be in 100 percent compliance with CHP regulations.

"I shared a bottle of French champagne with my wife last night to celebrate," says Dieter Hemsing, Division 1 maintenance manager. Failure to pass the inspection would have required a re-inspection by eagle-eyed CHP officials.

### Only 33 discrepancies

Division 1 passed its annual inspection with only 33 CHP "write-ups" for discrepancies, the fewest number of any MTA division this year, according to Hemsing, who notes that the division's 179 buses have an average of 525,000 miles each.

During an annual inspection, CHP officials randomly select 15 buses just returning from their morning runs. Another five buses are called in from their routes. Inspectors check brakes, steering, suspension, warming systems, lights and safety devices, as well as the buses' general operational condition.

The inspection was going so smoothly Thursday morning, Hemsing said, that the inspectors called a halt after checking only 16 of the 20 buses.

In a note to division managers, Deputy Executive Officer Dan Ibarra said, "Kudos to everyone at the Central City Division for such an outstanding showing! Great job!"

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