



[Gerald Francis](#)

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## **Gerald C. Francis Named MTA's General Manager, Rail Operations**

(Jan. 25, 2002) Gerald C. Francis, an executive with more than 22 years experience in rail freight and mass transit, has been named the MTA's general manager of Rail Operations, effective Jan. 28.

Currently the assistant vice president of Rail Operations for Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), Francis also has held rail management positions with Bi-State Development in St. Louis and with the Union Pacific Railroad.

"Gerald brings a wealth of rail experience, including a background in start-up programs, to the MTA," said Deputy CEO John Catoe. "And, with his strong customer service credentials and leadership, he will make a valuable contribution to our Metro Rail program."

Joining DART in 1995 as manager of Central Rail Operations, he was involved in start-ups on the agency's light-rail line. In 1997, he was named senior manager of Central Rail Operations.

Since 1999, Francis has been assistant vice president, Rail Operations, with responsibility for rail operations and build-out of extensions to DART's light-rail system. He also oversees the Operations Control Center, rail yard operations and training, the operations administrative staff and field supervisors.

Prior to joining DART, Francis was transportation supervisor and controller of the light-rail start-up program in St. Louis. He supervised daily central control operations and was responsible for movement of all trains and mainline activities.

He began his transportation career in 1979 with the Union Pacific, where he held positions as manager of Safety, manager of Terminal Operations and manager of Yard and Industry Operations.

A business administration graduate of Creighton University in Omaha, Francis is a member of the APTA Rail Roadeo sub-committee and of APTA's Transit Standards general rules sub-committee. He and his wife, Michelle, a publishing company customer service manager, have three grown children, Shawna, Gerald, Jr., and Nicole.

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