

▼ Long Beach Medical Center staff and Metro Blue Line Division 11 Manager Duane Martin look on as Operator Mike Barnes demonstrates the proper way to climb into a train.

- Medical Team  
'Scopes Out'  
Metro Blue Line  
Division

by Eric Rapp



(May 16, 2002) In an effort to improve employee safety, managers at Metro Blue Line Division 11 invited a medical team to take a hands-on tour of the facility. The tour was part of the Local Safety Committee's agenda for the Safety's First program.

The Long Beach Medical Center team – Physician Assistant Joe Cerna, Nurse Carmen Flores and staff member Cynthia Perez – observed working conditions for operators, mechanics and service attendants.

By seeing exactly what employees do on the job, the medical staff will be able to better identify range-of-motion or repetitive stress injuries, as well as assess more serious injuries an employee might incur.

"This was a good opportunity for us to see what employees here do," says Cerna. "It will help us to know what really happened if someone is injured."

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▼ Physician's Assistant Joe Cerna tries the correct method to manually operate a rail switch.



▼ Nurse Carmen Flores tries out the operator's control handle to experience the range of motion needed to drive the train.



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