Technical Website Will Better Assist Bus Mechanics and Operators

By JENNIFER YEH

(October 31, 2002) MTA mechanics and operators now can get access to the latest technical information about the bus fleet through the use of a new Vehicle Technology link on MTA's Intranet.

Among the information included on this website: current service manuals, technical data, news, maintenance practices, parts lists, price lists, help screen, operators' manuals and fleet facts. All the information is controlled centrally and updated frequently.

"When you get a parts and maintenance manual for a new bus, you literally get a thousand pages," says Vehicle Acquisition Manager John Drayton. "It's also difficult to ensure that the latest technical information for maintaining our fleet gets to every operating location in a timely fashion. It's easier to find current information on the website than in the manuals."

Through the use of the website, mechanics and bus operators can improve their ability to maintain buses as well as be updated on the latest safety facts. The site also can provide detailed repair information on individual buses, such as the history of maintenance and warranty expiration dates.

The Vehicle Technology website is available on MTA computers with Intranet access. The longer-term goal is to make all maintenance and repair information available electronically on the shop floor via Technical Information Centers (TICs) that would be linked back to the MTA network.

The link to the Vehicle Technology website can be found on the dropdown menu in the right-hand section of MTA's Intranet home page. The Maintenance Instruction Department also provides periodic training courses on using electronic manuals and diagnostic tools.

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