

CEO Roger Snoble welcomes representatives from transit agencies to the TransportMAX Users Group Conference.



MTA hosts TransportMAX Users Group Conference

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By Veronica Torrejón and Robert New

(Dec. 9, 2003) Representatives from transit agencies across the country came together for the second TransportMAX Users Group Conference hosted this year by MTA.

Organized by MTA Procurement and Materiel Management Organization, the semi-annual conference attracted about 20 representatives from eight agencies including Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, the Chicago Transit Authority, and the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District.

"We appreciate the hospitality, we really do," said TransportMAX Users Group Chairman James Zingale. "This has been one of the best meetings we've ever had."

The two-day conference kicked off, Nov. 21, with welcome addresses by CEO Roger Snoble and Lonnie Mitchell executive officer, Procurement and Material Management.



Organizers, from left, are TransportMAX Users Group Chairman James Zingale, Lonnie Mitchell, Executive Officer, Procurement and Materiel Management ; DEO Ted Montoya, procurement; CEO Roger Snoble, Anthony Kouneski, vice president of Member Services for the American Public Transportation Association, and Michael Corcoran, president of TransportMAX.



Ted Montoya leads conference participants Diana Shaw, Bill Seman, Glenda Smith and Cheryl Cavitt on a tour of the Regional Rebuild Center.

Snoble thanked attendees for participating in the conference, which, he said, was an important event for the country's transit industry.

"The Los Angeles MTA is committed to TransportMAX over the long term and we are excited about where we are today," he said. "I look forward to its continued future growth and success. I am glad the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) and the TransportMAX Users Group are involved in the process."

e-commerce procurement

TransportMAX, an online digital marketplace for the transit industry, allows buyers to post and receive quotes from vendors electronically. MTA became an active leading member of the TransportMAX Users Group early in 2003 after the agency's procurement and material management team implemented the E-Commerce procurement process.

CEO Roger Snoble opened the conference with a welcoming speech. During his opening remarks, Snoble welcomed the attendees to Los Angeles and thanked them for their attendance at the transit industry event.

"The Los Angeles MTA is committed to TransportMAX over the long term and we are excited about where we are today and look forward to the continued future growth and success," he said. "I am glad that The American Public Transportation Association (APTA) and The TransportMAX Users Group are involved in the process."

Snoble also spoke about where the LACMTA is growing in the near as well as long-term time frame with Rapid Bus, the Freeway Services Program and the expanded rail service, specifically the Eastside Project.

Conference highlights included a presentation of TransportMAX III upgrades, discussion of TransportMAX statistics, reports from the transit property users and an informal tour of the MTA Regional Rebuild Center.

Conference participants Glenda Smith and Cheryl Cavitt from San Mateo County Transit District were impressed by the automated storage and retrieval robots that glided around the rebuild center toting heavy parts and machinery like a scene from Star Wars.

"Awesome," Smith said shaking her head in amazement. "That is truly awesome."

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