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Champions in training...



PHOTO BY IENNIEER YEH

2004 Raildeo Competition Set for Saturday, May 1

Employees, family members and guests invited!

(April 14, 2004) The 2004 Raildeo - the annual competition to select Metro Rail's top train operators and maintenance specialists – is set for Saturday, May 1.

All employees, family members and guests are invited to the Raildeo to be held this year at Metro Red Line Division 20, located at 320 Santa Fe Ave., Los Angeles.

Twenty train operators are signed up for the operators' competition, which begins at 7 a.m. A dozen maintenance specialist will begin their event at 10 a.m.

The first and second place train operators and the winning maintenance team will represent Metro at the APTA International Rail Competition, June 2-9, in Miami.

The 2003 winners were Operators Tu Phan, Robert Rodriguez and Linda Sardinha and Maintenance Specialists Eric Czintos, Ronnie Burt, Glenn Abraham and Jose Rodriguez.

Family activities

Various family activities, including information booths, the "Metro Experience" mobile theater and entertainment for the kids, are planned from 9 a.m. until the winners' ceremony at about 3 p.m. Lunch will be hot dogs, links, fries and soda.

The band, "El Chicano," will provide live music from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. A DJ also will be on hand to keep the music going throughout the day.

The operators' competition includes troubleshooting, a pre-departure inspection, a rulebook test and an obstacle course designed to test driving skills.

Operators planning to participate in the event can schedule practice sessions from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., daily, from April 17 to 24.

The maintenance contest includes a written test, identification of defective electrical and electronic components, wheel gauge application, use of measuring devices, parts identification and use of safety equipment.

Members of the Raildeo planning committee are Duane Martin, Tim Porter, Angela Pina, Esther PippIns, Chris Medina, Byron England, Tom Lingenfield, Manuel Precie, Anita Coleman and Maria Tapia.

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