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Pictured with one of Metro's new heavy-duty tow trucks are, from left, Welder Frank Hernandez, Welder Rene Perez, Machinist Manuel Macias, Welder Doug Campbell, Sheetmetal Machinist Art Martinez, Welder Jamie Cover, Welding Leadsman Phil Martinez, Welder Jeff Barton, Sheetmetal Supervisor Robert Kang, Machinist Fred Wenzel and Machinist Chris Patrizio. Not Pictured are Machinist Terry Diederichs, Quality Assurance Technician Paul Rankin, Mechanical Engineer Dale Zielinski and Equipment Instructor Walt Graham.



Quality Assurance Recognizes Team of RRC Craftsmen

(Aug. 18, 2004) The Quality Assurance Department has given special recognition to a team of Regional Rebuild Center craftsmen.

The team engineered specifications and is manufacturing 12 sets of lift adapters that will permit Metro tow trucks to more easily and safely tow any bus in the fleet.

"With these adapters, which are specific to each type of bus," says Equipment Maintenance Superintendent Mike Stange, "our mechanics can hook up securely. And, we'll have more lifting and towing options."

PHOTO: BILL HEARD

The adapter devices – which can provide wheel, axel and conventional chain lift – are constructed of heavy metal. The metal is specially cut and welded to fit the tow truck lifting arms and the attachment points on the different types of buses.

Project Engineer Dale Zielinski and Warranty Equipment Mechanic Paul Rankin designed and developed the adapters, which are now being built by

the team of highly skilled welders, machinists and sheet metal technicians.

The specially made adapters are required because the tow truck manufacturer provides only a standard tow bracket.

Deputy Executive Officer Milo Victoria of Central Maintenance recently presented a plaque to the team to recognize their work.



The adapter devices designed and manufactured by the team are attached to a tow truck's lifting arm like the one pictured.