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## Are You Master Mechanic Material? Evaluations Set for February 2008

- [See also:](#) Metro Liners Challenge Mechanics with High-Tech Sophistication

By NED RACINE

(Dec. 7, 2007) Daniel Galindo and Rommel Vargas are master mechanics. You might be master mechanic material as well.

Maintenance Instruction will next perform master mechanic evaluations in February 2008. Steve Mullaly, senior equipment maintenance instructor at Operations Central Instruction, anticipates 40 to 50 mechanics will be invited to the evaluations.

Metro began its master mechanic classification in 2005. Since then, according to Mullaly, the Central Instruction—Maintenance staff has evaluated almost 100 mechanics. Eighteen of those mechanics passed the evaluation process.

Currently, 16 master mechanics work throughout the agency.

Before mechanics are invited to an evaluation, managers post a job bid and screen mechanics. Managers look for a history of good attendance and work record as well as skill.

Mechanics recommended for evaluation, according to Mullaly, are high level journey mechanics who have:

- Technical knowledge
- Diagnostic skills
- Troubleshooting skills
- Safety habits
- Documentation required to be evaluated

Mullaly notes that most of these skills are obtained by a mechanic A during his or her years at Metro.

Mullaly describes master mechanics as technical experts in repairing buses with superior knowledge of transit bus components, systems, and subsystems. They are expected to train other mechanics in troubleshooting and repair. Additionally, a master mechanic must be able to work with little or no supervision.