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Metro team assembles in the Southern California Regional Bus Roadeo winner's circle: from left, Operator coach Frank Cecere, Metro South Bay GM Dana Coffey, Mechanics Andrew Warren, Rommel Vargas, Frank Forde, Operator Juan Navarro, Metro San Gabriel Valley GM Jack Gabig, Mechanics coach Alex DiNuzzo, Sr. Instructor Steve Mullaly. Rommel Vargas' daughter Hedi, center, holds on to the Maintenance champion trophy.

Arthur Winston Division 5 Mechanics Claim Championship Trophy at Southern California Regional Bus Roadeo

- North Los Angeles Division 3 Operator Juan Navarro Scores a Healthy Third.
- Metro's team will compete at the 2009 APTA Internationals on May 3.

(April 28, 2009) On their way to the 2009 APTA Internationals in Seattle, Metro's championship maintenance team scored another sweet victory recently at the Southern California Regional Bus Roadeo.

Metro's maintenance team, Arthur Winston Division 5 champion mechanics Andrew Warren, Jr., Rommel Vargas and Frank Forde, took first place honors out of five maintenance teams competing in a grueling competition held April 18 at the Metro Systems Service Center.

Scoring high in the pre-trip inspection as well as the obstacle course at the operator's competition, held April 20 at OMNI Trans in San Bernardino, North Los Angeles Division 3 Operator Juan Navarro took a respectable third place in a field of seven competitors. The top spot in the operator competition was taken by Alonso Valenzuela of OCTA.

The 2009 Maintenance event, coordinated by Steve Mullaly, Sr. Maintenance Instructor at Central Instruction, was held at the Metro Systems Support Center. The competition tests the diagnostic and troubleshooting skills of mechanics in six events, including the air break system challenge, where teams race against the clock to diagnose and repair performance-related bus problems.

Additional information about the 2009 Regional Bus Roadeo, including final

score tallies, can be found on the SCRBR website at www.scrbr.com.

The Arthur Winston Division 5 mechanics and Operator Navarro emerged as champions in the Operators and Mechanics categories at the 2008 Metro Bus Rodeo, Sept. 20. They'll carry the agency's flag at the 2009 APTA Internationals May 3 in Seattle, Wash. -- *from Gayle Anderson*



The home team advantage - from left, Arthur Winston Division 5 champion mechanics Andrew Warren, Jr., Rommel Vargas and Frank Forde and North Los Angeles Division 3 Operator Juan Navarro claim victory at the 2008 Metro Bus Rodeo.

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