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Metro's K. N. Murthy Lands National Industry Award

(Sept. 17, 2009) The Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) honored Krishniah N. Murthy with the *Industry Innovation Award* at the 38th National Meeting and Training Conference held in Dallas, Texas, this summer.

"This award is a recognition of the development of the underground and light rail projects we have here," said Murthy. "Also it recognizes the pioneering work we did earlier in seismic design."

Some of the major achievements under Murthy's direction include the establishment of seismic design criteria for underground rail structures; designs for stations that are unique in terms of their functional and safety (seismic, hazardous gas) requirements; ongoing and successful efforts to incorporate "lessons learned" from earlier Metro Rail experiences into current designs; the application of stringent value engineering concepts resulting in millions of dollars of savings, and a rigorously implemented quality assurance program.

About COMTO



Krishniah N. Murthy, the holder of COMTO's Industry Innovation Award for 2009, is the Deputy Chief Capital Management Officer at Metro. Murthy directs the design and construction activities for the rail capital projects in the agency and is also the task leader for the Measure "R" program. *Photos by Gayle Anderson*

-- Reported by Sharad Mulchand



On the Move: From left, South Bay General Manager Dana Coffey, Southern California Chapter President Marion Jane Colston, COMTO National Board Chair Shirely DeLibero, CEO Art Leahy, Chief Operating Officer Carolyn Flowers, Executive Officer of Administration Don Ott, Chief Administrative Services Officer Lonnie Mitchell and Fred Minagar, who heads Minagar & Associates, a multidisciplinary traffic engineering, transportation planning and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) consulting firm.

The Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) is the premier organization for the training, education and professional development of minority transportation professionals. Founded in 1971 on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C., the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) was created to provide a forum for senior-level minority professionals in the transportation industry. From highways and roads to mass transit systems, subways to rail systems and port authorities to airports, COMTO members represent every level of the transportation industry. Marion Jane Colston, Director, Strategic & Organizational Planning, is the president of the Southern California Regional Chapter of COMTO. The chapter hosted a reception in May to welcome the organization's national officers, National Board Chair Shirley DeLibero and COMTO CEO Julie Cunningham. CEO Art Leahy was the featured speaker.



CEO Art Leahy addresses prime time COMTO reception hosted by Southern California Regional Chapter in May.

--from Gayle Anderson

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