

[Home](#)[CEO Hotline](#)[Viewpoint](#)[Classified Ads](#)[Archives](#)[Metro.net](#) (web)

Resources

[Safety](#)[Pressroom](#) (web)[Ask the CEO](#)[CEO Forum](#)[Employee Recognition](#)[Employee Activities](#)[Metro Projects](#)[Facts at a Glance](#)
(web)[Archives](#)[Events Calendar](#)[Research Center/
Library](#)[Metro Classifieds](#)[Bazaar](#)

Metro Info

[30/10 Initiative](#)[Policies](#)[Training](#)[Help Desk](#)[Intranet Policy](#)

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Operators Juan Navarro (left) and Joe Acosta

Metro Roadeo Champions Headed to Memphis

(Oct. 5, 2010) Some of Metro's finest bus operators and mechanics had the opportunity to showcase their skills at the agency's recent 35th Annual Bus Roadeo at the Santa Anita Racetrack in Arcadia.

Sponsored by the American Public Transportation Assn., the event was held to select the next team of champions to carry the Metro flag at the next International Bus Roadeo in Memphis.

Thirty-five operators and 12 maintenance teams competed in the event 35th Metro Bus Roadeo.

Operators Juan Navarro and Joe Acosta gained top marks for their successful maneuvering their 45-foot buses through an obstacle course of cones and barrels, as well as executing serpentine turns, precision parking assignments, and pinpoint emergency stops, as well as backing between closely spaced cones.

Navarro beat out the competition with a score of 643 points out of a possible 700.

The returning champion, who wore the 2008 crown, edged out operator Joe Acosta, who was the top contender last year.

Coached by Javier Sora, the Division 10 team of David Klinkenborg, Angel Feria, and Jose Maya took top honors in the mechanics competition.

The mechanics competition tested the abilities of technicians from participating Metro operating divisions to troubleshoot a variety of mechanical problems and repair them quickly.

