



NEWS

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MTA WINS FIRST PLACE AT 1997 INTERNATIONAL BUS MAINTENANCE ROADEO

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority has won first place in the 1997 International Bus Maintenance Roadeo held last week in Nashville, Tenn.

The winning team out-did 47 other competing public transportation agencies from the United States and Canada, and came in 20 points ahead of the Philadelphia Transportation Authority (SEPTA).

The three-day Roadeo was held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 22-24 and required participants to complete a bus obstacle course, a bus maintenance competition, and engine and transmission inspections.

Hosted by the Nashville Metropolitan Transportation Authority, participants were scored on their performance in five different events. In the first competition, teams maneuvered a bus through a seven-minute obstacle course which included a mock drive-through bus washing facility.

Next came a bus safety inspection during which teams had to find and identify defects planted on the bus by the judges.

For the third event, judges had again planted defects on the bus air brake system and participants had to locate and identify the defects.

Fourth and fifth events included inspection of the bus motors and transmissions. Penalties for missed defects were deducted from the teams' final scores.

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Judges for the competition come from the American Public Transit Association's International Bus Maintenance Rodeo Subcommittee, which is made up of representatives from transit systems across the U.S. and associate members. Judges set up the events as well as score the participants.

This year's competition saw one of the largest turnouts, with 48 competing teams including representatives from Vancouver, Toronto, British Columbia, Seattle, Miami, Houston, New York, San Francisco, Pittsburgh, and Atlanta, just to name a few. Each team was allowed a maximum of three participants.

"Winning an international competition like this is an encouragement to all our operations staff who consistently maintain a high standard of excellence in their work," said Ellen Levine, Executive Officer of Operations. "Our winning team came from Division 10. I know every member of the MTA joins me in congratulating Alan Wong, Marco Pedamonte and Doug Creveling for their outstanding job and for bringing home this honor. We are all very, very proud of them."

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