

MTA Rail Teams Place First, Ninth at International Rail Competition

Metro Rail teams at MTA have won first place in the maintenance competition and ninth place in the operator competition at the 11th Annual Rail Rodeo, an international rail competition sponsored by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA).

The annual APTA Rail Rodeo encourages excellence and professionalism in rail transit operations and recognizes the men and women who keep rail transit systems operating safely and efficiently. Twenty-seven operators and 33 maintainers representing seventeen North American rail systems participated in the June 7 event in San Jose, Calif. MTA placed third overall in the rail competition.

"This is a great honor," said Director of Rail Fleet Services Dave Kubicek. "MTA rail maintenance and operations teams have worked hard and have the experience and dedication needed to perform well in this competition."

The maintenance competition consisted of a battery of tests designed to measure knowledge and efficiency of rail mechanical devices, parts and components. The operator competition tested rail operator knowledge of train mainline operation, safety, standard operating procedures and customer service.

Maintenance team members are Metro Red Line Maintenance Specialist Glen Abraham and Metro Blue Line Maintenance specialists Ronnie Burt and Eric Czintos.

The operator team consisted of Metro Red Line operators Tu Phan and Robert Rodriguez. The two men placed first in last year's rail competition – the first time an MTA team had won at the international level.

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