



APTREX INSTITUTE

*American Public Transit Exams Institute
Professional Certification for the Transportation Industry
Accredited by the ITCRB*

News Release

For Release: IMMEDIATELY

Contact: Jenny Fang

Date: April 1, 2002

Phone: 604-632-9905

COTA Staff Earn APTREX Transit Certification

VANCOUVER, BC - Seven managerial staff from the Central Ohio Transit Authority have been awarded Certified Transit Manager(sm) designations. The announcement came March 25th after the accreditation board (ITCRB - International Transit Certification Review Board) reviewed the results of the certification testing conducted on March 8, 2002.

COTA President and CEO Ronald L. Barnes, is very well known as a leader in the transit industry. He has been quoted when it comes to raising public confidence and his mantra for transit in Columbus is, "Whoever needs a ride, gets a ride in our community." Mr. Barnes' leadership begins with employees, but it certainly doesn't stop there. His vision for mobility management, using all available options to get citizens where they need to go, is changing the way Columbus thinks about transit.

APTREX Institute CEO, David Stumpo said, "The elements of transit certification were built upon a standard from years of research and development of our industry. The results of this positive development for our workforce is improvement for our customers and value-added training for the workforce. We continue to be excited about the excellent feedback we receive. In addition, COTA has shown their dedication to their workforce initiatives and we applaud Ronald Barnes for his desire to improve his workers and our industry."

The APTREX Institute was developed in 1993 as an "arms-length" organization for the implementation of certification testing for supervisory and management personnel. The Institute will also be conducting onsite testing at the upcoming APTA Conferences. Applicants should have their applications submitted at least 30-days in advance. The schedule for testing is as follows:

Bus Conference - May 5th to May 8th - Minneapolis, MN

(Visit us at the Product Showcase - Booth #200)

Rail Conference - June 9th to June 12th - Baltimore, MD

Annual Conference - September 22nd to 26th - Las Vegas, NV

(Visit us at the Expo - Booth #7531)

Dave says, "The Institute has all the right qualities that our transit industry has been begging for in standards for education and staff development. The Institute is dedication and committed to improve the industry and the people that make it work. This summer we will be rolling out a new product called "**TranSMART 101TM**" - an exciting learning game for the transit industry."

Certification means knowledgeable, dedicated, focused and committed. This sets the standard for our industry to achieve excellence. For further information about the APTREX Institute, please visit our website at www.aptrex.com or contact us at 604-632-9905.