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FLEET SKILLS TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS

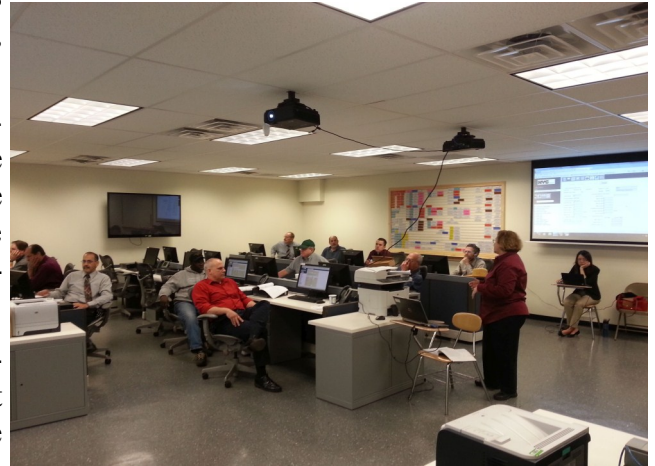
MAHANTH S. JOISHY

Fleet technology is changing rapidly. In just the last few years, we have seen substantial changes to NYC's fleet, fuels, emissions control equipment, and information management systems.

To help keep up, DCAS has been working to augment agency training efforts in fleet. In 2013 alone, over 2,000 fleet staff citywide participated in trainings with DCAS in areas including health and safety, the new fleet management system, alternative fuels, defensive driving, and vehicle diagnosis.

We want to keep this effort up in 2014. All City repair supervisors and mechanics are encouraged to pursue Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certification with support through DCAS. We also want to ensure that all fleet staff are up to date on the State Defensive Driving course. OEM also offers training in emergency incident coordination which fleet staff have participated in.

To learn more about ASE certification or defensive driver training, please contact your agency fleet supervisors or DCAS at NYCFleet@dcas.nyc.gov. Thanks for all your participation in the last year.



SPOTLIGHT: FDNY MOBILE MECHANIC ROY CULKIN *ARMENOUSH ASLANIAN-PERSICO*



FDNY's Fleet Emergency Repair Crew has a vital role in emergency operations. When an active FDNY vehicle needs roadside or on-site repair, the FDNY Control Center dispatches an Emergency Repair Crew vehicle to the location. The crew is led by Deputy Director Tim Ramos and consists of 14 mechanics, each with their own mobile repair truck. The crew is on call 24/7 in all five boroughs, greatly reducing the number of vehicles being brought into shops for repair and lowering down time.

Emergency Crew mechanics are highly skilled and work on the entire range of FDNY vehicles, including cars, ambulances, and ladders. The repair vehicles are 2002 Ford F450s with utility bodies that carry vehicle parts, a toolbox, batteries, and electrical equipment. In partnership with OMB and DCAS, FDNY is currently upgrading the entire fleet of mobile repair units. Each vehicle also carries a laptop and meters which contain diagnostic programs. Typical repairs include starters, lights, tires, and batteries, as well as hydraulic, body, and electrical work. During winter storms and summer heat waves, the mechanics often work extended shifts.

One of the crew's senior mechanics is Roy Culkin, who has been with the crew for 20 years and FDNY for 29 years. Roy studied auto repair at William E. Grady High School in Brooklyn and Farmingdale State College before being hired as an FDNY ladder service worker. He later received promotions to senior service worker and mechanic, and is a specialist in fire apparatus. Roy was at Ground Zero after 9/11, repairing destroyed rigs. During Hurricane Katrina, he and other FDNY colleagues traveled in a convoy to Louisiana and assisted with recovery efforts for two weeks. A great asset to FDNY and Fleet, Roy is a Brooklyn native and lives in Long Island with wife Patricia and sons Roy and Christopher.