

Fleet Updates: NY State Inspection Program

By Keith T. Kerman



In the fleet newsletter, we often discuss initiatives in safety and sustainability, from intelligent speed assistance to fleet electrification. The bedrock of fleet safety and sustainability is something familiar to us all and codified in law: the NY State Inspection program (MVI) managed through NY State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

Mechanics with State Inspector's licenses are required to certify each year that vehicles meet required safety and emissions standards. DCAS has discretion when to make cosmetic repairs to vehicles such as scratches, dings and dents, or painting. However, when it comes to vehicle operation, cars and trucks must meet the legal MVI thresholds for safety and emissions. This is not discretionary.

Fleet operators are part of this process. All fleet operators are required and expected to bring their vehicles in for MVI prior to expiration. The responsibility by law and policy is with the driver. DCAS and fleet agencies will suspend fuel cards or take other actions to ensure legal compliance.

In the last 18 months, through DCAS coordination and OMB support, fleet agencies with repair garages have updated the state vehicle inspection program (VIP3). Citywide, Fleet Management performs nearly 27,000 MVIs each year.

City fleet agencies including Sanitation, Parks, Transportation, Correction, Environmental Protection, Fire, and Police deployed 96 new NYVIP3 OPUS analyzers which are now actively used by City auto mechanics during both day and night shifts. DSNY had the largest number at 70 and helped train over 300 mechanics from all agencies on the new system.



The new system employs wireless technology, updated analyzers, on-board diagnostics (OBD), and printers for stickers. Installation and training on these units was time-consuming for all the garages. All commercial garages in the state also were required to do this update.

While not an easy transition, reviews are mostly positive so far. From Erik Grabowski, Supervisor of Mechanics Equipment at Correction, "At Correction, auto mechanic Jamel De La Cruz has been performing NYSIs on all Fleet vehicles using the new NYVIP3 which has been a major upgrade from the previous NYVIP2 station. The user menu is very easy to navigate."

As per Kampta Nath, Deputy Director, FDNY 34th Street Garage, "The new heavy duty inspection machine is a plus for the department. Since the inspection machine was received about a year ago, it has simplified the inspection process and has reduced paperwork. All mechanics with inspection licenses coming in to the FDNY are already familiar with the machine which in turn speeds up the inspection process.

From Devin Day, an auto mechanic at DEP Upstate Fleet Operations, "The ability to swiftly address common issues like OBD tool pairing and sticker printer calibration ensured minimal disruption. The new OPUS NYS VIP3 motor vehicle inspection machines have brought another level of technology to the fleet shops. The new systems are now more automated. They verify the technician performing the inspection, record and transmit the results to NYS, and now directly print the new inspection sticker for placement on the windshield. The old system was not able to verify the technician and relied on books of inspection stickers that required tracking and management by staff to ensure they all were accounted for. The new system is a win for the shops and removes some administrative burdens on staff."

The VIP initiative involved a comprehensive update to our core inspection system at all the garages and impacts every on-road vehicle in the fleet. At DSNY, we thank Andrew Raghunauth, Mohammad Baig, Christopher McDonald, Yetkin Kurulgan, and their lead, SOM II Naveed Khan. A big thanks to retired Deputy Director Spiro Kattan who managed his team to ensure a smooth rollout.

Thanks also: DOC: Michael Kranz and Anthony Dell'Era; Parks: Timothy Murphy and Fabian Pierre; DEP: Ron Bogart and Matthew Freud; FDNY: Tim Ramos, Ed Mitchell, Sean Lee and George Stoupakis; NYPD: Michael Gorgia, Douglass Brenner, and Richard Catalano; DOT: Seupersaud Bharat, Eric Dorcean; and DCAS: Harris Kaplan and Sherry Lee.



VISION ZERO

Building a Safer City



Wednesday, October 30th, 2024

Queens Theatre, Flushing Meadows Corona Park

DCAS and Together for Safer Roads invite you to the 2024 Vision Zero Fleet Safety Forum!

The event will bring together leading stakeholders from public and private fleets, innovative safety technology companies, policy experts, and road safety advocates for an exciting day of speeches, panel discussions, and breakout sessions.

Join us as we discuss how to systematically build safety into our roads, vehicles, and fleet operations.

The event is free and includes breakfast and a networking lunch.

Event Schedule:

Networking
breakfast begins:

7:30 a.m.

Program begins:

8:30 a.m.



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10 Years of Vision Zero: Part 5 - Leading by Example



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Week in Review | September 8 - September 14



Commemorating 9/11, a major investment in anti-stormwater flooding infrastructure, rolling out newly renovated East River Park ballfields (which are totally lit), and cracking down on illegal activity in Times Square with "Operation Front Door" -- here's how the City of New York got stuff done for you last week.

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[NYC Fleet Newsletter 470, September 13, 2024:](#) NYC Fleet Newsletter 470, September 13, 2024, Fleet Spotlight: Muhammad Nadeem, Fleet Services

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 469, September 6, 2024:](#) Federal Support of NYC's Fleet Innovation

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 468, August 30, 2024:](#) Recognizing Fleet Staff on this Labor Day

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 467, August 22, 2024:](#) DCAS, Public Schools, and Agency Fleets Celebrate this Summer's Automotive Interns

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