

GM Conducts Electric Vehicle Training for City Mechanics

By: Keith T. Kerman

With 2,398 on-road and 793 off-road electric and solar units in operation, and 978 plug-in replacement units on order, New York City's electrification of the City fleet is well underway. Through the transition, our fleet staff are adjusting to the new maintenance and servicing methods that these vehicles need.

Electrification is a major transition for operators and agencies alike, as electric vehicle (EV) charging and range management take on critical importance. However, in the long run, [EVs hold the prospect of greatly reduced maintenance costs](#) compared to their gas powered counterparts, and NYC's fleet staff are critical to supporting this transformation.

Our City's 1,333 mechanics and service workers will be adjusting to new maintenance, servicing, and crash management requirements. All this entails—battery management, crash protocols, charger servicing, and regenerative braking—will pose new dimensions for the City's servicing professionals. To date, our City's mechanics have met every challenge with sustainable fleet options, including biofuels, hybrids, natural gas, and our early electric efforts, so we have no doubt this transition will be successful.



City mechanics from seven City agencies participated in an EV training at the DSNY Central Repair Shop.

To support the effort, on Feb. 1, General Motors (GM) provided an all-day training for 15 mechanics from seven agencies, including DCAS, the Department of Sanitation (DSNY), the Fire Department of New York (FDNY), the New York City Police Department (NYPD), the Department of Transportation (DOT), the Department of Correction (DOC), and the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation. The training covered service and safety for maintaining hybrid and electric vehicle systems, and reviewed data bus networks on electric cars. Data bus networks are the serial data communication networks used by modern vehicles to allow multiple devices and computers to share information. It is paramount for technicians to understand how these rapidly evolving communication networks work.

This training highlighted something we have often discussed many times in our newsletters: the merging of electrical and information technologies with traditional automotive technology. As explained by Deputy Director at DSNY Spiro Kattan, who helped organize the training at the DSNY Central Repair Shop in Queens, “Advanced technical training plays a pivotal role towards the sustainable operation of a fleet.”

NYC Fleet: EV Mechanical Training Participants			
February 2, 2022			
Agency	First	Last	Title
DCAS	Scott	Rose	Administrative Quality Assurance Specialist
DCAS	Anthony	Sheocharan	Auto Mechanic
DOC	Jamel	De La Cruz	Auto Mechanic
DOC	Christopher	Bhola	Auto Mechanic
DOT	Tenzing	Dargyal	Auto Mechanic
DOT	Glen	Bandoo	Auto Mechanic (Diesel)
DSNY	Jaime	Obergh	Auto Mechanic
DSNY	Yetkin	Kurulgan	Auto Mechanic
DSNY	Naveed	Khan	Supervisor of Mechanics (Mechanical Equipment)
FDNY	Denis	Breykin	Auto Mechanic
FDNY	Michael	Giacometti	Auto Mechanic
NYPD	Nicholas	Koloniaris	Auto Mechanic
NYPD	Luciano	Alcantara	Auto Mechanic
PARKS	Taravea	Singh	Auto Mechanic
PARKS	Javier	Vazquez	Auto Mechanic

New York City currently operates 338 all-electric Bolts, 74 plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV) Volts, and we have 500 new GM EV Bolts on order (the largest single sustainable fleet buy the City has ever made), and GM is currently the City’s largest battery electric vehicle (BEV) supplier.

“We at GM Fleet value our long-term relationship with New York City and are proud to be one of NYC Fleet’s largest suppliers of electric vehicles,” said Jay Ferraro, GM Fleet Regional NYC Fleet Account Executive - Northeast Region. “We admire the City’s commitment to

sustainable operations and zero emissions, and our customers all benefit from NYC’s insights and experiences. It’s our privilege to serve you as you serve the citizens of New York City.”

Thanks to GM’s Fleet Account Executive Jay Ferraro and Market Area Fleet Manager Rodger Cornish for offering the course, and thanks to DSNY and Deputy Director Spiro Kattan, and DCAS Senior Project Manager Ramona Ledesma-Garrido for organizing.

We look forward to offering more EV training for our servicing professionals as the year moves forward.

NYC Fleet Manual

The NYC Fleet Manual and Drivers Handbook has been updated. Please see the updated version at [NYC Fleet Manual and Drivers Handbook](#).

Fleet Vision International Quarter 4



The Fleet Vision International magazine for the fourth quarter of 2021 is out now. This edition features an article written by DCAS Deputy Commissioner and NYC Chief Fleet Officer Keith Kerman on the work NYC Parks is doing to clean, repair, and safeguard NYC parks while reducing fleet emissions.

[Fleet Vision International Q4 2021](#)

DCAS's Inside Citywide Podcast

DCAS's [Inside Citywide podcast](#) provides a behind-the-scenes look at New York City government. Episode 2 takes a look at the future of the City of New York’s vehicle fleet as it transitions to all-electric by 2040.



COVID-19 Safety Reminder

For all fleet drivers, please be reminded to wear a mask when operating a fleet vehicle with others in the vehicle. Attached again are the [Department of Health's COVID-19 Safety Guidelines relating to vehicle operation.](#)

Check out past editions of the Fleet Newsletter

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 378, January 27, 2022:](#) Fleet Spotlight: Thanks and Best Wishes to Our Longtime Fleet Stalwarts

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 377, January 11, 2022:](#) Fleet Spotlight: FDNY Pumper Inspection Team

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 376, January 6, 2022:](#) DCAS's Online Fleet Auctions Find a New Home With IAA

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 375, December 29, 2021:](#) NYC Fleet Year in Review, 2021

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 374, December 23, 2021:](#) Mayor Announces Major Acceleration of Fleet Electrification

Check out the [complete archive.](#)

// Connect with DCAS to learn more about the City of New York's Fleet //



Visit us on the web at nyc.gov/DCAS