



APTA BUS MAINTENANCE MANAGERS WORKSHOP

APTA MOBILITY CONFERENCE 2025

Monday April 7th, 2025

10:30 am – 4:30 pm

JW Marriott Austin

Room: 201-202, Level 2

WORKSHOP PROGRAM

Organized by APTA Bus Technical Maintenance Committee officers Jerry Guaracino, Chair; Obed Mejia, Vice Chair; Geoff Hoff and Geoff Lawrence, Co- Secretaries

APTA staff: Lisa Jerram, Tdisho Pendleton

Note: Breakfast is available to all attendees before the Opening Ceremony.

10:15 am Attendees to arrive; program will start promptly at 10:30

10:30 am **Welcome**
Jerry Guaracino, Chief Engineer, WMATA; Chair, APTA Bus Technical Maintenance Committee

Session 1:

10:30 - 11:30 am **Hydrogen at Your Agency**
Many agencies are turning to fuel cell buses for their zero emission deployments. What can you expect and what do you need to know about fueling these buses? Hear first from an expert in hydrogen fueling about delivery and storage options, and maintenance and training needed for hydrogen fueling. Then you'll hear from an agency about their approach to hydrogen in terms of delivery and storage, why they chose the pathway they chose, and the safety and maintenance needs. (Joint Q&A will follow presentations.)

*Presenter 1: **Sydney Krueger**, President, KTC Consulting*

*Presenter 2: **Rusty Korth**, VP of Zero-Emission Strategies, Regional Transit Service (Rochester, NY)*



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Session 2:

11:30 - 12:15 pm

Copper Brake Phase-Out: What You Need to Know

The U.S. EPA has mandated the reduction of copper in brake pads to less than .5 percent by 2025. Manufacturers have developed or are developing compliant brake pads for transit buses. These copper-free brake pads offer environmental benefits and comparable performance to traditional pads, but may present challenges in terms of higher costs and lack of compatibility with existing braking systems.

This session will give you an overview of the regulations driving this switch to copper-free brake pads, review available options, and lay out the impacts on your maintenance facilities and workforce. You will also get an overview of *APTA Recommended Practice on Aftermarket Disc Brake Pad Evaluation*. (Joint Q&A will follow presentations.)

*Presenter 1: **Geoff Lawrence**, Vice President, Fraser Gauge*

*Presenter 2: **Brian Markey**, President, Custom Training Aids, Inc.*

12:15 pm – 1:30 pm **Break for Bus Display and Lunch**

1:30 pm

Welcome to Afternoon Session

Obed Mejia, *Senior Bus Equipment Maintenance Instructor, LA Metro; Vice Chair, Bus Technical Maintenance Committee*

Session 3:

1:30 – 2:30 pm

Update on Battery Electric Bus Safety Practices

Hear the latest on best practices for operating, maintaining and managing a battery bus fleet. You'll hear technical details from a manufacturer, including how cell balancing works and High Voltage isolation parameters, as well as manufacturer recommended practices. Then you'll hear more broadly about maintenance requirements and issues including PM requirements; issues that are typically found on BEBs; workforce training, SOPs and equipment needs. (Joint Q&A will follow presentations.)

*Presenter 1: **Patrick Kaufman**, Head of Zero Emission Bus Development, Gillig*

*Presenter 2: **Jason "JP" Poteat**, Vice President, Zero-Emission Fleet Support, WSP*

2:30 pm

Break



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Session 4:

2:45 – 4:15 pm

Managing Charging Infrastructure

Do you have charging equipment for battery electric buses coming to your depot – or maybe you’ve already installed them. How do you manage this new asset? In this session, you will first hear from King County Metro on the approach they’ve developed for managing charging infrastructure across multiple manufacturers. Then you will hear from charging equipment manufacturers on their solutions for service, maintenance, backup capacity, training and warranty. (Audience Q&A will follow all presentations.)

*Agency perspective: **Carly Rask**, Zero Emission Technical Advisor Capital Division, King County Metro*

Equipment manufacturer roundtable:

- **Carter Pallme**, Sales Engineer, North America, Siemens/Heliox
- **Pat Hayes**, VP Transit Charging Solutions North America, ABB
- **Marc Lao**, Sr. Sales Application Engineer, Hitachi Energy

4:15

Closing Remarks

4:30

Conclude Workshop

Note that there is a set of conference sessions from 4:30-5:30 pm that Workshop participants may want to attend. See [conference program](#) for details.

To attend ONLY the Maintenance Managers Workshop: Fee is \$650 to attend just the all-day workshop (includes breakfast, lunch and access to the Bus Display). Register [here](#) and select the “Maintenance Managers Workshop Only” option.

If you are registered for the Mobility Conference and would like to attend the Workshop, there is no additional charge but we ask that you **RSVP with Tdisho Pendleton** at tpendleton@apta.com so we can accommodate everyone.

Full conference details including registration can [be found here](#).

Questions? Please contact Tdisho Pendleton at tpendleton@apta.com