

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OMNIBUS SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

JULY-AUGUST 2016

reen Pennant Special allow us to receive valuable feedback on the potential

Welcome to another issue of The Green Pennant Special, the official publication of The Omnibus Society of America.

Through this publication we hope to keep our readers informed of events happening in the transit industry in Chicago and other cities in the United States.

Visit the Omnibus Society of America website at **osabus.org**. At **osabus.org** we will be posting upcoming fan trips and meetings information, as well as membership information.

Please visit our site when you have a chance and give us your opinions and comments.

JULY/AUGUST MEETINGS

The July meeting of the Omnibus Society of America will not be held due to the July 4th holiday.

The August meeting of the Omnibus Society of America will be held on August 8, 2015, in the Anderson Pavilion of Swedish Covenant Hospital. The meeting will start at 7:00 pm.

Our program for the evening will be a slide presentation by Milwaukee native Tom Poliak.

Effective with the August meeting our times are being changed to 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm. Please note the changes in times.

CTA to Launch Faster Bus Boarding Pilot on #77 Belmont Bus Route

6/1/2016

Prepaid CTA bus boarding at Belmont Blue Line station will serve westbound #77 Belmont buses and increase speed and efficiency at popular transfer stop

As part of CTA's continuing efforts to improve service and reliability for customers, the CTA is launching a six-month pilot to test prepaid bus boarding at the popular bus transfer stop at Belmont Blue Line station to make it quicker and easier to board CTA buses.

Beginning on June 6, customers will no longer have to wait to pay fares as they board westbound #77 Belmont buses during evening rush periods (3 p.m. to 7 p.m.). Instead, they will be able to prepay their fares in a designated area, allowing them to enter buses more quickly and increasing the speed and efficiency of bus boarding on one of CTA's busiest bus routes.

"Mayor Emanuel and I are always looking for ways to improve service for CTA customers and this new pilot will

allow us to receive valuable feedback on the potential benefits of prepaid boarding on CTA," said CTA President Dorval Carter. "With this pilot, customers pay fares in advance and board buses much like they do boarding the 'L' – which get customers to their destinations more efficiently and reduce delays that occur during busy rush periods."

Current boarding times during evening peak periods can take as long as 5 minutes due to heavy ridership. With buses operating every 4 to 5 minutes during the evening rush period, slow customer boarding can result in slower service and "bus bunching" that can lead to delays along the route.

Prepaid boarding is expected to provide customers with faster boarding and reduce bus delays that occur from the high volume of customers. The pilot will help provide valuable feedback on prepaid boarding, which the CTA will look to expand pending the results of the Belmont pilot.

During the period in which prepaid boarding is in effect, customers traveling west on the #77 will be required to tap their Ventra card/ticket or personal credit/debit card at a Ventra fare reader to enter the prepaid boarding area prior to boarding the bus. Customers who need to add transit value or unlimited ride passes to their Ventra account can easily purchase fares at a vending machine just outside the designated boarding area or anytime via the Ventra app.

The boarding area for customers who have prepaid their fares will be defined by temporary fencing and will provide weather protection. The area will also be staffed by designated CTA employees, similar to train stations, to assist customers.

The prepaid bus boarding pilot follows a number of bus service improvements that Mayor Emanuel and CTA President Carter have implemented for customers including:

- Reinstatement of Ashland and Western Express routes
- · Launch of Loop Link
- Announcement of improvements to bus service on the South and Far South sides
- Announcement of #11 and #31 bus pilots

The Belmont Blue Line stop is one of CTA's busiest bus and rail connections, serving the #77 Belmont and #82 Kimball-Homan bus routes and providing key bus and rail transfers for customers. More than 7 million rides were taken on the #77 last year.

New CTA Program to Preserve Transit History

6/2/2016

Heritage Fleet will feature historic trains, buses for charters and special events

The Chicago Transit Authority today announced the creation of the Heritage Fleet program, an effort to preserve and celebrate more than 100 years of history of the CTA and its predecessor companies.

The Heritage Fleet program was designed to ensure that vintage buses, rail cars and equipment are properly maintained and stored, and that the historic vehicles continue to be used for charters and other public events.

"The CTA has a very rich history, one that has contributed to the growth of Chicago as one of the world's most vibrant cities," said CTA President Dorval R. Carter. "The Heritage Fleet will allow the CTA and its customers to celebrate and appreciate that history in a real, tangible way."

The Heritage Fleet currently consists of select retired rail cars and buses, including:

Two 1923 4000-series rail cars, featuring the orangeand-brown paint scheme they wore in the 1940s and adorned with reproduced advertisements from the era.

An eight-car train of 2400-series rail cars, produced from 1976-1978 and featuring their restored red-white-and-blue exterior markings.

Three buses from the 1960s, all featuring their original markings.

The new program, modeled after similar programs at other U.S. transit agencies, will set guidelines for future preservation, maintenance and repair efforts for these vehicles, as well as additional vehicles that may be added to the Heritage Fleet in the future.

The creation of the program formalizes many years of voluntary efforts by CTA employees to preserve CTA's rich history. Most of the activities to be assumed by the Heritage Fleet program, including repairs and upkeep, are already handled on a voluntary basis by CTA employees, or as part of regular CTA operations. Under the Heritage Fleet program, retired CTA employees and rail-industry experts will also be invited to volunteer for maintenance and upkeep efforts.

Funding for the program will come from revenue generated from CTAgifts.com, the CTA's online merchandise store, and from private charters of vehicles, including Hertiage Fleet vehicles. CTA is also developing a plan to showcase the historic vehicles at city events and activities.

CTA to Renovate Historic Quincy Loop Station

6/8/2016

CTA Board awards contract to make improvements to historic Loop 'L' station

The CTA's Board of Directors today approved a contract for renovations of the historic Quincy station, one of CTA's oldest stations built in 1897. The improvements will preserve the original appearance of the Loop 'L' station while upgrading the station with the addition of two elevators to make the station accessible to customers with disabilities.



The \$18.2 million renovation will also include stair replacement, painting, lighting improvements and more.

"The Quincy 'L' station has served riders for more than 100 years, providing Chicagoans with convenient access to and from Chicago's downtown Loop," said CTA President Carter. "These improvements will retain the station's historic appearance while making necessary upgrades including the addition of two elevators."

Some features from the original historic station, which opened when U.S. President William McKinley was in office, remain today—including pressed metal wreaths and fluted pilasters, or columns, located on the stationhouse façade. Much of the station's appearance has been restored over the years while retaining its historic character. This includes the ticket agent's booth, which was faithfully replicated in the 1980s based on original 1897 plans and is still in use today.

The Quincy station was last renovated in 1988. The station provides more than 2.2 million rides annually on the Brown, Orange, Pink and Purple lines and is a major multi-modal transfer point for 10 CTA bus routes as well as providing convenient connections to Union Station and the LaSalle Street Metra Station.

The accessibility improvements are another step toward CTA's push toward 100 percent accessibility across

CTA, a goal set by the CTA Strategic Accessibility Program announced in January 2016.

The construction contract for the CTA Quincy Loop Station Upgrade Project was awarded to Ragnar Benson Construction, LLC. Construction is expected to begin later this year.

CTA to Launch #11 Lincoln Extension Pilot on Monday

6/17/2016

Six-month pilot will extend #11 service between Western Brown Line and Fullerton rail stations

CTA today reminds customers of the upcoming start of a pilot test to extend #11 Lincoln Avenue bus service from Western to Fullerton beginning on Monday, June 20.

The pilot is the latest in a series of recent bus service improvements made by CTA President Dorval R. Carter Jr. – all of which are part of his goal to improve bus service across CTA's entire system.

Beginning at 10 a.m. on Monday, June 20, #11 buses will operate along Lincoln Avenue south of the Western Brown Line stop to the Fullerton Red/Purple/Brown line stop before turning northbound at Webster & Lincoln. The pilot will be in effect for six months on weekdays from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. The regular #11 route between Western Brown Line and Howard Street will continue and be unaffected by the pilot.

The purpose of the pilot is to determine ridership demand for additional service on Lincoln Avenue. During the pilot, CTA will collect ridership data and feedback solicited from riders and the surrounding community to help analyze the effectiveness of the service being tested. At the conclusion of the six-month pilot, CTA will determine whether to conclude the pilot, extend it or make the service permanent.

The pilot will allow #11 buses to serve more than 40 additional bus stops and connect residents to key destinations and businesses along Lincoln corridor.

CTA has worked closely with the local aldermen and community members in developing the pilot. The hours of service are intended to serve the kind of trips the community desired, such as service to senior activities, medical appointments, and shopping trips along Lincoln Avenue. This schedule also best compliments adjacent Brown Line service and the other eleven north-south and east-west bus routes that cross or stop in the area.

Mayor Emanuel, CTA Move Forward with South Side Transit Investment

6/17/2016

CTA finalizes design for new signature 95th Street Terminal now under construction; Agency prepares for launch of expanded South Side bus service 6/20 Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Deputy Mayor Andrea Zopp and Chicago Transit Authority President Dorval R. Carter, Jr. today announced the CTA has finalized a bold, vibrant design for the new 95th Street Terminal—a \$280M project to completely rebuild the Red Line South's busiest station to create a safer, more-efficient environment for transit riders while creating a signature statement for the South Side.

The CTA also said it is preparing to launch the first of several bus and rail enhancements that will be rolled out this summer and fall to improve transit service on the South Side, a plan announced by Mayor Emanuel and CTA last month.

"With these improvements and this investment in local transit, we are connecting more South Side residents with jobs, education and opportunity," said Mayor Rahm Emanuel. "Improving rail and bus transit service in Chicago – including 95th Street, one of the CTA's busiest bus and rail terminals – benefits customers, grows our regional economy and helps our neighborhoods prosper."

"In building a new, state-of-the-art CTA transit hub for the South Side, Mayor Emanuel and I strongly believe that form and function are both very important to this project," said CTA President Carter. "This terminal will provide a safer, more convenient and pleasant commuting environment for the 20,000-plus customers who pass through 95th each day, complementing the additional South Side rail and bus improvements we plan to roll out starting next week through the fall months."

"With CTA's vibrant new design for the 95th Street Terminal, and the extension of the #26 South Shore Express – we see another example of what the future holds for South Side residents," said Deputy Mayor Andrea Zopp. "The new terminal is a \$280 million investment, but it is less about the size of the numbers and more about the size of the statement that this makes about the city's commitment to helping our neighborhoods thrive."

95th Street Terminal

The new 95th Street Terminal design is a refinement of previous designs for the bus and rail terminal. The new designs present a much bolder architectural statement, befitting what will be the signature station of the CTA system.

The 95th Street project will expand and greatly improve the terminal, which is one of CTA's busiest, with 24-hour Red Line service and more than 1,000 CTA and Pace bus trips on a typical weekday. This work will help improve the movement of train traffic in and out of the 98th yard and through the 95th Terminal which services the Red Line, which is the CTA's busiest rail line.

The design, developed with the project's general contractor Paschen Milhouse Joint Venture IV and architectural firm exp US services, keeps all of the terminal's primary design elements, including covered

bus bays and pedestrian walkways to provide protection from the weather as well as the pedestrian bridge that will connect the two terminal buildings to be located on the north and south sides of 95th Street.

The design has been refined to include the distinct red color of the station exterior, which will serve as an iconic identifier to CTA's busiest rail line, and other modifications to the design throughout the station.

Customers will begin to enjoy the new station beginning in 2017. CTA began the construction on the foundation of the new terminal in 2014, which will be located along the Dan Ryan Expressway at 95th Street, where the current 95th station is located. Construction of the new south terminal building begins this summer. The new south terminal will be completed in 2017 and the new north terminal building will open in 2018.

Renderings of the new 95th Street Terminal:









South Side Bus and Rail Enhancements

The first of CTA planned improvements to bus and rail service on the South Side and Far South Side will begin Monday, June 20, when service on the #26 South Shore Express is extended into the weekday morning and evening hours. Northbound morning service will begin earlier at 4:20 a.m. Southbound service will begin more than an hour earlier with the first trip leaving Chicago/Michigan at 1:10 p.m. and the last southbound trip will depart downtown at 9:20 p.m., a total of an additional three hours of evening service for customers.

The #26 South Shore provides more than 3,200 daily rides and is just the first of several bus routes that will see improvements:

- The 95th Street bus, which will combine separate east and west segments to create a continuous route
- The #4 Cottage Grove bus, which will extend south from 95th Street to 115th Street
- The #71 71st Street bus, which will extend all trips from 73rd to 112th and Torrence, and see increased frequency
- The #26 South Shore Express, which will see earlier and later service
- The #34 Michigan and #119 Michigan/119th bus routes, which will see increased frequency during midday and evening hours

• These improvements will begin in early September

Additionally, the CTA this fall will increase the frequency of Green Line service on the Cottage Grove and Ashland/63rd branches during the morning and evening rush periods.

These improvements are the latest among several enhancements over the past year designed to improve bus and rail service. In December 2015, the Mayor and President Carter reintroduced express service on the #9 Ashland and #49 Western bus routes, two of CTA's busiest bus routes. Also in December, the CTA and Chicago Department of Transportation launched Loop Link, a first-of-its-kind corridor connecting the West Loop commuter rail stations with the heart of the Loop and Michigan Avenue. Featuring dedicated bus lanes, busonly traffic signals and raised-platform stations along Washington and Madison Streets, Loop Link was designed to provide faster, more reliable travel times and an improved customer experience. In March, the Mayor and CTA unveiled the first-ever Bus Tracker arrival-time displays at 51 rail stations, an expansion of CTA's mostpopular technology for customers. CTA also announced it will soon begin pilot bus routes on the #11 Lincoln and #31 31st routes.

Pace revamps service in Downers Grove, Lisle, Naperville and Woodridge

Modernized transit network will add \$1 million net increase in bus service to DuPage County

Pace is pleased to announce updates to Pace's DuPage County bus service that will better connect the county with the region as a whole.

These changes, affecting Downers Grove, Lisle, Naperville and Woodridge, begin Monday, June 13, 2016.

By connecting southern DuPage County with more Metra trains and by linking Naperville and Lombard with a new bus route, Pace hopes to better serve riders and connect communities throughout the region.

These service changes include combining routes to optimize service; adding earlier and later trips; lengthening the span of service on the new, combined routes; and adding the new Route 722 to connect the Metra BNSF Railway Naperville Station and Yorktown Center in Lombard (operates every 30 minutes, all day Monday-Saturday), increasing access to this part of DuPage County. The restructured Pace routes will meet 33% more Metra trains than they meet currently.

"Pace works hard to meet the changing needs of our regional commuters with the resources we're given," said Pace Chairman of the Board Richard Kwasneski. "Modernization plans like this rely heavily on current service evaluation, market research and community

input. We're pleased to report that this final service plan incorporates public feedback gathered at hearings held earlier this year and maintains a robust level of service to / from connecting services."

Affected routes include 462, 464, 684, 686, 688, 689, 714, 722, and 821. The regular adult fare is \$1.75 with a Ventra Card (\$2 with cash). Reduced and free ride programs for eligible seniors and people with disabilities are available through the RTA (RTAChicago.com). See the DuPage Service Restructuring for additional information.

I-90 MARKET EXPANSION PROGRAM

Pace's I-90 Market Expansion Program is a comprehensive solution to the growing congestion and air quality concerns in the region. This program works in concert with the Illinois Tollway's Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) Rebuilding and Widening Project, which invests over \$240 million in transit infrastructure along the corridor. In addition to enhancing existing service on I-90, Pace will add three new express routes, two distributor services and three new park-nrides to serve our passengers. New service will launch with the completion of the Tollway's construction at the end of 2016 with other transit enhancements to be completed in 2017.

See the Toll Highway Authority's presentation on their partnership with Pace to bring improved transit service to the Jane Addams corridor.

To improve mobility and provide transit alternatives along the I-90 corridor, Pace is partnering with the Illinois Tollway, Regional Transit Authority, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, Chicago Transit Authority, Cook County and the Illinois Department of Transportation. In addition, Pace continues to reach out to the various communities along the corridor as preparations are made for the launch of service and construction of the stations and park-n-ride facilities.

Several different but related construction projects are part of the overall improvements along the I-90 corridor. In addition to the "flex lane" for Pace buses being built on Tollway right-of-way, other projects include the expansion of the Rosemont Transit Center to accommodate extra vehicles, three new Pace park-nrides, and a pedestrian bridge over I-90 at Barrington Road.

ROSEMONT TRANSIT CENTER RENOVATION EFFECTIVE ON OR AROUND MAY 23, 2016, THROUGH FALL 2016

Please note that construction has been delayed. It is expected to begin mid-June.

In partnership with Cook County and the CTA, Pace is pleased to announce the renovation of the Rosemont Transit Center. During this renovation, Pace service will

slide-out baggage bay bike racks. Equipped with a Cummins ISX engine and Allison B500 transmission, they are powered by the newest EPA-mandated clean-diesel engine technology.



Operating from Park & Ride locations throughout the greater Houston area and leveraging HOV lanes, METRO's new coaches allow for the expansion of its commuter express services.

The MCI Commuter Coach, which is Buy Americacompliant and Altoona-tested, is specifically designed for express service and highway speeds. It offers a rugged, semi-monocoque structure which elevates passengers and drivers above traffic. In addition to seat belts, safety systems include Electronic Stability Control (ESC), tire pressure monitoring and a fire suppression system.

Since 2001, METRO has purchased 381 MCI Commuter Coaches, including 122 diesel-electric hybrid MCI Commuter Coaches. MCI is the first intercity coach manufacturer to offer an over-the-road intercity coach in diesel-electric hybrid as well as CNG to public transit agencies.

Houston METRO operates an integrated transit system that includes light rail, local bus paratransit, HOV/HOT lanes and 25 Park & Ride lots.

"We work closely with transit systems to get the most out of these programs," said Tom Wagner, MCI Vice President of Public Sector Sales. "The Commuter Coach offers METRO's passengers a comfortable, safe and convenient ride, an enormous draw for riders facing a long distance commute during rush hour traffic."

DELTA BUS LINES SERVES MISSISSIPPI DELTA WITH TWO NEW MCI® D4505 COACHES

DES PLÀINES, ILLINOIS, MAY 27, 2016: (TSX:NFI) (TSX:NFI.DB.U) Motor Coach Industries ("MCI"), a subsidiary of New Flyer Industries Inc. (the "Company"), the largest bus and motor coach manufacturer in North America announced the delivery of two MCI D4505 motor coaches to Delta Bus Lines of Greenville, Mississippi. The purchase adds to Delta's exclusive young fleet of D4505 coaches that meet the vital transportation needs of residents in the northwest Mississippi region, known as the "Mississippi Delta."

"The Mississippi Delta is a rural region where residents depend on Delta Bus Lines as the chief mode of intercity transportation," said Joe Howard, founder and owner of Delta Bus Lines. "We are the most economic means by which people can travel beyond the Mississippi Delta to make important events, such as weddings, funerals and church functions, and get to and from college."



With North America's best-selling motor coach, Delta has peace of mind with its fleet of 11 D4505s. The newest two D4505s deliver the reliability and comfort that customers expect since Delta debuted its first D4505 in 2008. When Delta runs to capacity on its 55-seat coaches during its summer peak season, keeping the bus cool is critical, according to Howard. "Temperatures can reach above 90 degrees, and this coach is always cool at 65-67 degrees," said Howard. "That's key to retaining customers, of which nearly half are repeats."

The D4505 delivers value-oriented, high quality performance with many of the improvements of the MCI J4500, including dual 150-amp Denso alternators, new parcel racks that expand capacity and the REI A/V system. The model also gained new 90-mm headlights, including an LED headlight option. Delta also installed an interior camera system for driver and passenger security.

"This coach by far is the best I've ever purchased from MCI," said Howard. "When I go home, I can sleep knowing the D4505 does what it is designed to do." Howard added that with regular preventive maintenance, such as changing batteries and belts, Delta runs it steady, year-round operation worry free.

As a workhorse coach, the D4505 fits nicely into Delta's daily, year-round roundtrip service between Memphis, Tennessee, and Greenville, Mississippi, Greenville and Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Greenville and Jackson, Mississippi. Delta also makes 21 stops in 17 cities, throughout seven of the Mississippi Delta's 16 counties. When necessary, Delta partners with local transit systems, to serve all constituents, including senior citizens, disabled residents and college students.

The Mississippi Delta, a distinctive region between the Mississippi and Yazoo Rivers that stretches 200 miles long and 70 miles at its widest point, has a population of 700,000.

Howard and the late Walter Koontz started Delta in 1985. They both became interested in the transportation business as teenagers working as porters for Greyhound Lines. Initially, Howard and Koontz operated as a local Greyhound franchise and then in 1991, took their business independent. While the majority of Delta's business is intercity transportation, Delta also provides full-service travel planning and private charter service to popular travel destinations, such as Dallas, Orlando and Atlanta. Community oriented and charitably minded, Delta offers discounted fare programs under "Busing Children to Growth" and "Keeping Families Together," giving children and families in need the ability to enjoy educational field trips outside the Mississippi Delta.

PREMIER TRANSPORTATION DEBUTS FIVE NEW MCI® J4500 COACHES FOR CHARTERS

Meets Growing Dallas-Ft. Worth Group Transportation Demands

DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS, MAY 10, 2016: (TSX:NFI) (TSX:NFI.DB.U) Motor Coach Industries ("MCI"), a subsidiary of New Flyer Industries Inc. (the "Company"), the largest bus and motor coach manufacturer in North America announced the delivery of five 2016 MCI J4500 coaches to Premier Transportation. The delivery marks Premier's fast-paced foray into the large Dallas-Fort Worth group transportation market.



"Conventions, corporate, wedding and sporting events are very big in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area," said Eric Devlin, president and founder of Premier Transportation. "With MCI's luxury-line, high quality J4500 coaches, we are now equipped to meet this growing market demand."

According to a 2014 report from Resonance Consultancy Ltd., Dallas is America's third most desirable place to visit, offering attractions like the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Gardens, Perot Museum of Nature and Science and George W. Bush Presidential Center, along with the Bishop Art District.

In fact, the Dallas market has seen a 24 percent rise in convention business in 2015 from 2014 that brought an estimated \$900 million in economic impact during 2015. Add professional, collegiate and high school sports to the mix, and group transportation needs are only

growing, according to Devlin, who expects his coach business to increase by 30-40 percent in revenues in the next two years.

"We see a need for additional capacity in motor coaches for the Dallas area," said Jennifer Watson, Director, Special Events & Industry Relations for Dallas Convention and Visitors Bureau. "With Premier, I know that I have a reliable partner that's professional and provides superior customer service. I know they'll be available at any time."

Premier's MCI J4500 coaches arrived in sleek black to match the company's brand of providing comfortable and client-oriented transportation service that is safe and reliable. Two of the five coaches are equipped with a wheelchair lifts and also feature plush leather seating and safety belts for 56 passengers, hardwood floors, individual 110-volt charging stations, eight 15-inch LCD wide-screen HD monitors with satellite DIRECT TV, music connectivity and Wi-Fi capabilities. The coach comes equipped with a Cummins engine for optimal fuel economy and near zero emissions.

Another advantage for Premier's operation is its close proximity to the MCI Service Center in Dallas, where MCI has an extensive aftermarket parts warehouse, and MCI-trained technicians on hand to provide maintenance and repairs.

Founded in 1996, Premier Transportation has extensive fleet of more than 80 luxury, late model vehicles including limousines, sedans, SUVs, Mercedes Sprinter vans, limo and shuttle buses, and of course, their new coaches. A graduate of Baylor University and a transplant to Texas, Devlin built Premier with just two vehicles and three employees that at the time was "bare bones and all hands on deck," he said. Today, the company provides 24/7 service, 365 days a year with experienced staff and highly professional chauffeurs committed to exceptional customer service. In early 2015, Premier launched its own app for iPhone and Android smartphones, making it convenient for passengers to book reservations, access trip history, and secure real-time updates on chauffeur location. Premier is an award-winning provider taking a National Operator of the Year award for two consecutive years, and recognized as "Favorite Vendor of the Year" by the American Association of Wedding Planners, six years in a row. Devlin is also the NorthStar Award Recipient for Entrepreneurism and Philanthropy from the Entrepreneurs Foundation for North Texas.

LAKETRAN UPGRADES COMMUTER FLEET, TAKES DELIVERY OF 10 COMMUTER COACHES AHEAD OF SCHEDULE FROM MCI, WILL ADD 4 MORE

DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS, APRIL 28, 2016: (TSX:NFI) (TSX:NFI.DB.U) Motor Coach Industries ("MCI"), a subsidiary of New Flyer Industries Inc. (the "Company"),

the largest bus and motor coach manufacturer in North America announced today that Laketran, the regional public transportation system in Lake County, Ohio, received 10 new MCI Commuter Coaches three months ahead of schedule, and has exercised an option for four more coaches.



The 40-foot coaches will serve the weekday service operating 18 daily departures from nine Park-n-Ride locations connecting Lake County with downtown Cleveland, and operate in its Bus-on-Shoulder service on the I-90/SR-2 westbound and eastbound shoulders when traffic is traveling less then 30 miles per hour.

"It's exciting. Now that (the 10 buses) have arrived, we must finish multiple internal inspections of the buses and then transfer our fareboxes, rangers and radios to the new buses before we can put them into operation," Laketran's General Manager Ray Jurkowski told The News-Herald. Laketran expects its newest coaches to be serving commuters by late spring, with a launch and ribbon-cutting ceremony planned at its headquarters in Painesville Township, Ohio on June 2.

The MCI Commuter Coaches replace buses purchased in 1998 and are funded with federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality grants and matching funds through local sales tax revenue.

The new commuter coaches feature plush, forward facing seating and overhead parcel racks with individual reading lights and airflow controls. Engineered to provide a comfortable, safe ride on express and highway routes, Laketran's new coaches are each equipped bike racks, a wheelchair lift, on-board security cameras, and the latest clean-diesel engine technology for near-zero emissions. The model, 2015's best-selling coach, also offers ease of maintenance and low total cost of operation.

"Laketran provides critical service for Cleveland commuters, and the transit operation has been serving Lake County for more than 40 years," said Tom Wagner, MCI Vice President of Public Sector Sales. "We are proud to be Laketran's commuter coach provider as the organization upgrades its fleet with the latest in commuter technology. Laketran and MCI have a common goal: convincing drivers in bumper-to-bumper traffic to join their fellow Lake County residents who see the many great benefits of riding in style on a new MCI Commuter Coach," he said.

Laketran coaches deliver 175,000 commuter express trips to and from Cleveland annually.

AJL INTERNATIONAL ENTERS CHARTER SERVICE WITH FOUR NEW MCI® J4500s

DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS, APRIL 27, 2016: (TSX:NFI) (TSX:NFI.DB.U) Motor Coach Industries ("MCI"), a subsidiary of New Flyer Industries Inc. (the "Company"), the largest bus and motor coach manufacturer in North America announced the delivery of four 2016 MCI J4500 coaches to AJL International Worldwide Chauffeured Transportation. The move marks a first in coaches for AJL that enhances its 20-year highly successful business in corporate ground transportation.



"We selected the J4500 due to the sleek look of the coach and its modern amenities," said Matthew Johnston, president of AJL International. "The J4500 lines up with everything AJL stands for: first class chauffeured transportation services."

A best selling intercity coach for 11 consecutive years, the J4500 offers premium curb appeal, reliability and excellent fuel economy for the transportation demands of the major Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area. Featuring a Bendix braking system, AJL drivers will notice its carlike control, and turning radius of 41 feet, 9 inches with standard passive rear tag for maneuvering tight city streets. Clients are sure to appreciate the J4500's BMW USA-designed looks and AJL signature additions including plush leather seating for 56 passengers, 110-volt outlets, USB plugs and Wi-Fi.

Beyond the coach's physical features, AJL is especially attracted to the MCI Service Center located in Dallas.

"With MCI coaches, we have confidence in knowing whatever we may need, service is nearby," said Johnston. "We're just getting into the coach business, and it's vital to maintain our company's reputation of professionalism, consistency and outstanding service to our customers."

Recently, MCI added an extensive aftermarket parts warehouse to its Dallas location to better serve nearby coach operators, and MCI-trained technicians are on hand to provide maintenance and repairs.

Based at DFW International Airport in Dallas, AJL International has provided premier, high quality ground transportation services, primarily to the corporate market

since 1995. Its founder, Matthew Johnston, grew up in the limousine business alongside his father, first working as a chauffeur for local Dallas-area businesses. Then, building on his father's work with the music industry. Johnston launched Johnston Limousine (later branded as AJL International after merging with Accent Limousine in 1999) and networked his way to serve the transportation needs of America's best-known musical talent and bands. While serving the music market, which is seasonal, Johnston grew the corporate side of his business, now accounting for 70 percent of AJL's sales. Today, AJL operates out of a 25,000 square-foot warehouse with more than 125 employees and staff available around the clock. Its jet-black fleet features the latest luxury models, including sedans, SUVs, eight sprinters, mini-buses and now, motor coaches which will serve both local corporate clients and long-distance charters. Learn more at www.ailinternational.com.

DELAWARE EXPRESS "GETS THERE GREENER" ATTENDS DOT EARTH DAY FAIR IN ITS UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE MCI J4500; REPRESENTS AMERICAN BUS ASSOCIATION AND MOTOR COACH INDUSTRIES IN GREEN TRANSIT CAMPAIGN

DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS, APRIL 21, 2016: (TSX:NFI) (TSX:NFI.DB.U) Motor Coach Industries ("MCI"), a subsidiary of New Flyer Industries Inc. (the "Company"), the largest bus and motor coach manufacturer in North America, stands as America's greenest transportation option. And no one knows that better than Delaware Express.



Delaware Express arrived at the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Earth Day Fair in the 2016 clean diesel MCI J4500 it uses to carry the University of Delaware's 22 athletic teams to their competitions. With nearly zero emissions and generous hip-to-leg room for 56 passengers, Delaware Express removes more than 50 cars from the road.

And the Blue Hens ride in style — Delaware Express' specially designed J4500 features an REI Entertainment System with flat screen monitors, power outlets at each seat and Wi-Fi connectivity assuring athletes, coaches and other passengers a productive and comfortable trip. It's a safe ride, too — the MCI J4500 features include Electronic Stability Control and tire pressure monitoring systems.

"We consider it a privilege to transport these student athletes in such comfortable surroundings with the latest in green technology," said Gerry Frenze, president of Delaware Express. "Environmentally friendly transportation is really important to the university audience and we're very proud MCI has created a vehicle that can do it all — passenger comfort, state-of-the-art safety features and the greenest form of transportation on the road."

Motor coaches are the most fuel-efficient, perpassenger-mile mode of motor transportation, surpassing the car, plane or train. Plus, coaches can travel any road to entertainment, sports and vacation destinations. Increasingly, distance commuters are discovering coach transport for comfort, onboard electronics and express scheduling to their workplace with a clean-air option.

Delaware Express' commitment to the environment

The Newark, Delaware tour and charter company was founded by Frenze in the early 1980s fresh out of the University of Delaware himself. As a student, he noticed an opportunity for providing safe, economical and environmentally sound group transportation, so he started with airport shuttle vehicles.

Today, Delaware Express is one of the East Coast's major independent transportation companies, growing fast and going green. At 110 employees and 30 years in business, Delaware Express was the first to feature clean-diesel engine technology throughout its entire 24-coach fleet running from Canada to Florida. The company also has 51 vans, a mini bus and one limousine.

It continues to add new coaches featuring the latest in emission control, and also runs its fleet of vans and shuttle buses using alternative fuels. Its fuel conservation efforts include GPS systems on its fleet of motor coaches and a driver policy to limit unnecessary idling.

ABA's Getting There Greener report

The American Bus Association (ABA), an industry association representing motor coach operators, tour operators, tourism-related organizations and products and service suppliers, has issued a report from the Union of Concerned Scientists entitled "Getting There Greener: The Guide To Your Lower Carbon Vacation." The report recommends best vacation travel options for various demographics and endorses coach

transportation for "using the lowest carbon dioxide emissions per passenger mile" against all competing forms of road, rail or air transport. It's a helpful guide in planning carbon-efficient vacation travel.

INDIAN TRAILS Adds 10 Buy America Compliant PREVOST® Coaches

Section 5311 of the grant program allows the FTA, on behalf of the U.S. Secretary of Transportation, to allocate apportioned funds to each state. Funding is awarded for the purpose of supporting public transportation in non-urbanized areas in order to increase access to employment, health care, education, public services, etc. for rural residents. The program provides for the participation of private transportation providers such as Indian Trails.



A 106-year-old family business, Indian Trails is Michigan's first and largest privately owned bus transportation operator, carrying 1.2 million passengers more than 4.8 million miles annually. Indian Trails' daily runs connect directly with both the Amtrak and Greyhound national networks, which in turn connect with some 60 other bus transportation companies in the U.S. and Canada.

The company purchased its first Prevost X-Series® vehicle fifteen years ago and in addition to the ten commuter coaches, recently added five Prevost H3-45® models to their group charter and tour fleet. Like rolling billboards, the new X3-45 coaches are covered with giant photos of some of Michigan's most popular vacation destinations and largest cities—and they carry the Pure Michigan logo.

"We invest in coaches with the latest safety, comfort, and eco-friendly features because of our commitment to our customers, our communities, and our environment," said Indian Trails President Gordon Mackay. "We're also excited about helping to promote Michigan travel in a big way. After all, we're a Michigan transportation company, and—partly with MDOT's support—we operate 38 daily, scheduled bus routes statewide, as well as into Chicago, Duluth and Milwaukee."

"These Pure Michigan buses are a wonderful reminder of the beauty of our state while at the same time they are providing vital connections to communities across the state," said Sharon Edgar, administrator of MDOT's Office of Passenger Transportation.

Each of the new Prevost X3-45 coaches is outfitted with a wheelchair lift to assist passengers with mobility issues and has been customized with assistive listening devices called hearing loops. Hearing loops transmit the audio from a PA system directly to telecoil-equipped hearing aids and cochlear implants. The telecoil functions as an antenna, relaying sounds directly into the ear without background noise just like Wi-Fi connects people to the Web.

"We are very happy to be awarded this First BAA Order from Indian Trails," says Prevost Public Sector VP, Jack Forbes. "The partnership we have built with Indian Trails is invaluable and we are excited about the new chapter this order adds in our history together".

Metra begins station improvement in Pullman

(June 16, 2016) – Metra started work this month on a project to revitalize its 111th Street/Pullman Station on the Metra Electric Line.

Planned improvements include replacement of the warming house (similar to the State Street Station warming house shown below), replacement of platform deck boards and removal of the unused portion of the platform, replacement of the stairway to the platform and repair or replacement of the roof over the stairway. The project will also include other cosmetic improvements such as painting.

"The 111th St. Station is a gateway to the Pullman National Monument and we are pleased to be able to move forward with this important rehabilitation work this year," said Metra Executive Director/CEO Don Orseno. "And, as a member the steering committee for the ongoing Pullman Transportation Plan, we hope to be able to do even more to help promote travel to this historic site."

Beginning Saturday, June 18, and continuing for two weeks, the north half of the platform will be out of service for rehabilitation. Customers can board trains from the south half of the platform. After completing the north half, the work will shift to the south half of the platform for approximately four weeks. Customers can board trains from the north half during this time. All work is expected to be completed in August.

The project is part of Metra's 2016 construction program, which includes approximately \$200 million in infrastructure improvements to 27 stations, 21 bridges and 24 road crossings and the replacement of 120,000 railroad ties to ensure safe and reliable service and maintain a state of good repair systemwide.

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Metra Board approves \$3 million contract to Renovate Calumet Station

(June 15, 2016) – The Metra Board of Directors today approved a \$3 million contract to fully renovate the Calumet Station on the Metra Electric Line.

John Burns Construction Co. of Orland Park was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for contracted work that will include renovation of the station buildings and warming houses, rebuilding the platforms, renovating the elevator, replacing the stairs at both ends of the station, adding new platform lighting and repairing masonry. The company has committed to ensuring that 20 percent of the contracted work will be performed by disadvantaged business enterprise firms.

The \$3 million Calumet Station renovation project is part of Metra's 2016 construction program, which includes approximately \$200 million in infrastructure

The \$3 million Calumet Station renovation project is part of Metra's 2016 construction program, which includes approximately \$200 million in infrastructure improvements to 27 stations, 21 bridges and 24 road crossings and the replacement of 120,000 railroad ties to ensure safe and reliable service and maintain a state of good repair systemwide.

"This is one of the most significant station renovation projects we will be doing at Metra this year and we are excited to have a contractor on board to begin this work," said Metra Executive Director/CEO Don Orseno. "We look forward to a new facility that will serve as a welcoming gateway to Metra and to the nearby community for many years to come."

Calumet Station, at Park Avenue and 174th Street in East Hazel Crest, serves about 1,200 Metra customers each weekday. Work will begin later this summer and is expected to take about one year to complete. The station will remain open during construction.