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**Veolia Transportation Managed Light Rail Delivers Superior Service**

North County Transit District's SPRINTER achieves 99 percent average on-time performance and strong safety record since launch

**ESCONDIDO, Calif. – May 12, 2009** – Veolia Transportation announced that North County Transit District's (NCTD) SPRINTER light rail service has achieved 99 percent average on-time performance since its launch in March 2008. The line runs east-west along 22 miles of track between Escondido and Oceanside in San Diego's North County and serves more than 180,000 boarding each month with higher boarding levels in peak months.

Veolia Transportation operates the SPRINTER for NCTD on rails that once were part of the Santa Fe Railroad, on a rail line built in the 1880s. The SPRINTER serves area business people and students who attend three colleges located along the route. Committed to providing the best customer care, the SPRINTER team averages fewer than 15 passenger comments per month.

James Davis, Veolia Transportation's general manager for SPRINTER, attributes the SPRINTER's success to teamwork. Veolia Transportation, NCTD, and mechanical subcontractor Bombardier collaborate daily to ensure strong operational performance, safety excellence and a visible security presence.

"At Veolia, our philosophy is 'safety first,'" said Davis. "We are committed to fostering open lines of communication with all departments, giving our employees the tools they need to succeed and always doing the right thing for the right reason."

Recently, Davis' team implemented a Safety Liaison Program to facilitate greater communication between employees and management. All Veolia Transportation employees at the SPRINTER site meet regularly to discuss safety issues and employees are rewarded for their efforts to promote ongoing safety and best practices.

"Veolia Transportation has done an outstanding job managing the SPRINTER's train operation and dispatching, fare enforcement, and rail vehicle maintenance and cleanliness on behalf of NCTD," said Walt Stringer, Light Rail Manager, NCTD. "Together, our organizations have been able to deliver superior service and safety to rail passengers along the busy SR-78 corridor in North San Diego County and meet the need for efficient, light rail service in this growing corridor."

## **About North County Transit District**

NCTD moves more than 12 million passengers annually by providing public transportation for North San Diego County. Its family of transit services currently includes the BREEZE bus system, the COASTER commuter rail service, LIFT paratransit and the SPRINTER light rail. It is NCTD's mission to deliver safe, convenient, reliable and user-friendly public transportation services.

## **About Veolia Transportation**

Veolia Transportation is the largest private operator of multiple modes of transit in North America, including bus, rail, paratransit, shuttle and taxi services. The company has over 16,000 employees and operates some 150 contracts in multiple modes of transit for cities in the U.S. The company has over 150 years of operating experience and operates several major rail networks in the U.S., including Boston, San Diego, Austin and Miami.

Veolia Transportation is part of Veolia Transport, the world's largest private operator of multiple modes of public transit, including bus, rail, paratransit, shuttle, ferry and taxi services. Veolia Transport operates contracts for 5,000 city transit authorities in 27 countries, and transports 2.5 billion passengers per year. The Company operates some of the most sophisticated networks in the world, including Stockholm, Melbourne, Bordeaux, Rouen, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Denver and San Diego.

For more information, visit [www.veoliatransportation.com](http://www.veoliatransportation.com).

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