Citywide Administrative Services | Fleet

NYC FLEET NEWSLETTER

Bill de Blasio, Mayor
Stacey Cumberbatch, DCAS Commissioner
Keith T. Kerman, Chief Fleet Officer

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FLEET PRESENTS ON VISION ZERO TO FRESHDIRECT DRIVERS

MAHANTH S. JOISHY

On June 2, 2015 DCAS Deputy Commissioner Keith Kerman presented on Mayor de Blasio's Vision Zero Initiative and fleet safety to over 100 drivers and staff at FreshDirect, the online fresh food grocer.

FreshDirect operates its fleet in NYC and has been partnering on various safety initiatives with NYC. FreshDirect presented at our Vision Zero forum on Fleet Safety in October 2014 and also at a Fleet Federation meeting on their successful use of fleet tracking to reduce collisions and unsafe driving behavior. NYC is currently rolling out one of the nation's largest versions of this effort. FreshDirect reports dramatic improvements in safety from this initiative.

FreshDirect is also working on additional safety efforts. June 2 was their Annual Driver Safety Day when they provide training and recognition of safe driving. At the event, FreshDirect committed to post the City's Vision Zero safety stickers on their vehicles and is testing its first truck safety side guard.

FreshDirect is also advancing fleet sustainability and showed off its fleet of Smith electric plug in delivery trucks. Vision Zero requires a partnership across NYC and we appreciate FreshDirect's role. Thanks to Tim Knoll, Mike Derrig, and Larry Scott Blackmon at FreshDirect for organizing the day.

SPOTLIGHT: FDNY MECHANIC GEORGE STOUPAKIS

ARMENOUSH ASLANIAN-PERSICO

This week, our spotlight is on FDNY Mechanic George Stoupakis. George has been with FDNY for six years and works at the Review Avenue repair shop. He primarily works on preparing new ambulances for service. He ensures that the new vehicles from the manufacturer meet specifications, and that all components are installed correctly. This includes electronic systems, communications equipment, oxygen systems for patients, and safety equipment. George and his crew have inspected all of the 230 new ambulances that FDNY has received since 2013.

In addition to inspections, George also helped incorporate FDNY's first "Stealth Unit," the ambulance with an anti-idling auxiliary power system. This battery system allows the ambulance to park and remain running without idling for up to four hours, while still providing power for medical systems, heat, air conditioning, and communications. George says the results have been positive so far, explaining, "It improves emissions, saves the city fuel, and reduces wear on the vehicle." FDNY is currently testing one unit and is considering more.

George has been in the industry since 1990 and also received technical training at Apex. Supervisor of Mechanics Mike McCann says George's experience has made him a valuable source of information. "He's my point man, and he also helps out the other mechanics," McCann said. George says he enjoys the diagnostic and electrical work and that the best thing about working for FDNY is "all the people." Thanks to George, Mike, and the team at Review Avenue for their role in our major upgrade of City ambulances and piloting of this exciting new technology.