Metro Says Farewell to 2000-Series Fleet

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) said it is bidding adieu to some of its oldest trains after 40 years of service. Passengers, that means you can say goodbye (and, perhaps, breathe a sigh of relief) to the era of carpeting in train cars when Metro officially retires its 2000-series trains, DC News Now reports.

Since the trains’ introduction in 1983, WMATA said they have traveled nearly 200 million miles and carried more than 775 million passengers.

“These 76 train cars helped move millions of people across the Capital region for decades and we thank them for their faithful service over the years,” stated Metro General Manager and CEO Randy Clarke. “We recognize the rich history of these cars and they have certainly earned this well-deserved retirement. However, this will give riders a better experience and make way for the Fleet of the Future.”

Metro explained that the 2000-series trains are past their useful lifespan and experience issues nearly four times as often as WMATA’s newer 7000-series trains. In the coming months, WMATA said the cars will be decommissioned and crews will remove safety-sensitive parts and hazardous materials. Two of the cars will be saved for preservation as part of Metro’s history. Read more.

How DC Public Works, DC Water Drive Toward Clean Energy

The urgency to address environmental concerns has escalated, propelling cities around the world to explore sustainable solutions. Washington, DC, has not wavered in its commitment to climate action, with a goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2045.

Like balancing a checkbook, being carbon neutral means in any given year, the city cannot send more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere than it removes.
One significant stride toward that goal is the city’s initiative to increase the number of heavy-duty fleet vehicles capable of running on biodiesel fuel. During WTOP’s Energy Strategy Series 2024, we talked with leaders from DC government and their partners to learn more about these efforts. Those vehicles include enormous trucks such as garbage trucks and snow plows.

“Biodiesel fuel being utilized in a heavy-duty space is technology that is readily available,” said Jason Nordt, fuel management officer with the DC Department of Public Works.

Enabling the trucks to operate on biodiesel instead of traditional fuel reduces more than 80% of their greenhouse gas emissions. “It definitely improves air quality in the city, which is a good thing for everybody,” Nordt said. “We just want to make DC a cleaner place.” Read more.

Stay up to date on legislative issues through the NSPE Advocacy Center.

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Get Involved! NSPE Seeks Volunteers for 2024-25 Committees

NSPE’s passionate and dedicated committee volunteers are essential to our mission. Why serve? In addition to giving back to the professional engineering community, NSPE volunteers form strong connections with committee colleagues, learn new skills, enjoy networking with leaders or hone their own leadership skills.

Learn more and apply to NSPE’s 2024-25 Committees by June 3. (You must log-in with your NSPE credentials to submit an application.)

If you do not see an opportunity that interests you in the link above, check out Get Involved throughout the year to learn more about other areas of engagement, including short-term projects.

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NSPECon24 Keynote Speakers
NSPECon24 (Raleigh, North Carolina, August 7-9), the prime national event for professional engineers, will feature keynote speakers to provide inspiration and guidance to help elevate your career in addition to putting a spotlight on emerging issues within the industry. **Early-bird registration rates are available until June 27.** Access registration information and rates [here](#).
Paul Doherty, chairman and CEO of The Digit Group, will present the session “Unlocking the Metaverse: AI, Engineering the Future of Our Industry” to provide insight on emerging technologies and explore real-world solutions and projects that are challenging our industry.

Dan Heath, author and senior fellow, The Center for the Advancement of Social Entrepreneurship (CASE), Duke University, will present the session “RESET: How to Change What’s Not Working” to explore a framework for getting unstuck and making the changes that matter.

Access the preliminary NSPECon24 program for more details on the keynote speakers and session topics.

NSPECon24 also offers a variety of sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities to put your company or organization in front of senior executives and other decision-makers from across the industry. A special exhibitor discount is being offered to Research Triangle-based businesses.

Welcome to Our 2024 Sponsors!
Inaugural Leadership Institute for Women PEs
NSPE’s Women Leadership Program is sponsoring the Leadership Institute for Women Professional Engineers, a three-day program designed to support mid-career women PEs in confidently navigating their career path and leveraging their leadership skills.

The institute agenda is interwoven into the NSPECon24 program with participants attending pre-conference opening sessions on Wednesday, August 7, and sessions the mornings of Thursday, August 8 and Friday, August 9, in Raleigh, North Carolina. Attendees must register for NSPECon24 to attend the institute.

Access more information and register.