



Ministry of
Environment

NEWS RELEASE

Fraser Basin Council Awards Vancouver and Delta Canada's First-Ever Gold Ratings for Fleet Excellence

For immediate release

Vancouver, BC (September 30, 2009) The City of Vancouver and the Corporation of Delta are the first municipalities to earn Gold Ratings from E3 Fleet, a national program that recognizes excellence in fleet management and environmental performance, the Fraser Basin Council announced today.

"Vancouver and Delta can take pride in achieving Gold Ratings," said Dr. Charles Jago, chair of the Fraser Basin Council, which manages the E3 Fleet Program. "They are showing exceptional leadership and a serious commitment to improving air quality and reducing the greenhouse gas emissions that drive climate change."

"Greening our fleets will be a key part of reducing transportation emissions in B.C.," said Minister of State for Climate Action John Yap. "By securing Canada's first Gold E3 fleet rating, the City of Vancouver and Corporation of Delta have achieved a major milestone in reducing their transportation emissions as they move towards being carbon-neutral cities."

Under the E3 Fleet Program, public and private sector fleets can seek formal ratings, which are based on several criteria. These include a fleet action plan, staff training, idling reduction practices, vehicle purchasing practices, fuel data management, fleet operations and maintenance, trip and route planning, fuel efficiency and greenhouse gas performance.

"The E3 Fleet rating is both exciting news and a tremendous encouragement to us as we strive to become the greenest city in the world," Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson said. "Our Engineering Services staff are to be congratulated for taking multiple steps to improve fleet efficiency by 4% and cut overall emissions by 0.4% between 2006 and 2008. These include employing the right vehicles for each fleet function, assessing the full lifecycle costs of each vehicle purchased, testing alternative fuels, adopting new technologies and piloting such practices as nitrogen tire inflation and engine control module reprogramming."

Vancouver has also recently purchased medium-duty hybrid electric trucks, which are cleaner, more energy-efficient vehicles and new to Canadian roads.

The Corporation of Delta has cut its corporate fleet emissions dramatically, even in the face of increasing demands for service. The Corporation improved its fuel efficiency by 6% for every kilometre travelled, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 1% overall between 2007 and 2008. The municipality's E3 success can be attributed to several key fleet initiatives, including: a fuel-efficient fleet purchasing strategy that replaced 16 conventional vehicles with 16 hybrid vehicles over a two-year period, a successful anti-idling campaign, a vehicle right-sizing program and the installation of GPS and idling auto shut-offs units for Delta's larger vehicles. Delta also uses biodiesel in all of its diesel engine vehicles and has launched a fleet training program that is driven by a newly appointed fleet trainer.

"I am thrilled that the Corporation of Delta has been able to achieve one of the country's first Gold E3 fleet ratings," said Mayor Lois E. Jackson. "Reducing the environmental footprint created by our corporate fleet has been a huge effort on the part of a lot of people - the Engineering and Climate Action Departments, our corporate policy analysts and upper level management, everybody. It's a municipality-wide commitment that's paying off."

Launched in 2006 as an initiative of the Fraser Basin Council, the E3 Fleet Program is designed to assist trucking, utility, urban delivery, courier, government and other fleets increase their fuel efficiency, reduce emissions, manage expenses and incorporate new technologies. The E3 Fleet Program, the first such program of its kind, offers fleets the opportunity for a comprehensive fleet review, as well as an opportunity to receive ratings for fleet performance. For more on the E3 Fleet program, visit www.e3fleet.com.

For more information, contact:

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