



Certification for Sustainable Transportation
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Peoria Charter Coach Completes Green Certification Programs

[Peoria, Illinois] - Local charter bus company, Peoria Charter Coach, and The Certification for Sustainable Transportation at the University of Vermont (CST) have announced that 98% of their Professional Motorcoach Operators have completed the CST's EcoDriver and Idle Free Certification Programs! And, 91% of their bus equipment have qualified for an eRating certification at the e2 level. Company President/Owner, Bill Winkler, expressed his enthusiasm for the program, saying "We are proud to provide equipment and drivers that share our commitment to leaving a smaller carbon footprint across the four million miles that we transport 500,000 passengers each year."

In 2016, Peoria Charter began putting their drivers through the CST training courses. Since then nearly 100 drivers have completed the EcoDriver and Idle Free trainings, teaching drivers an array of EcoDriving practices, as well as how to avoid unnecessary idling. These programs can help drivers save fuel, minimize wear and tear, and reduce the environmental impacts of their vehicles.

"We were very pleased with the level of commitment Peoria Charter made to incorporating EcoDriving and Idle Free practices into their day-to-day operations!" said Dave Kestenbaum, Director of the CST. "They invested in our programs from the top down," he continued, "and reduced their environmental impacts considerably. We're excited to see that nearly the entirety of Peoria's fleet qualified for certification at the e2 level – a few vehicles that were too old to qualify were the only exceptions. This is not an easy certification to get, and it shows that they can move people in their community extremely efficiently!"

Peoria Charter is celebrating their 76th Anniversary as a family business this year. As members of the International Motorcoach Group (IMG), which is an invite-only group with many of the largest charter bus companies in North America, Peoria Charter connected with this University of Vermont program, and was challenged to receive the Certificate for Sustainable Transportation. Now that Peoria Charter has completed the certification program, they will continue to work with the CST to promote efficiency internally.

The Certification for Sustainable Transportation is a mission-driven, not-for-profit program housed at the University of Vermont. Its mission is to reduce greenhouse gas and other harmful emissions; increase energy efficiency; and to promote the use of alternative fuels and new technologies in the transportation industry. The CST accomplishes its work largely through its eRating vehicle certification, Eco-Driver certification course, and Idle-Free certification course.

If you would like more information, please visit www.PeoriaCharter.com or www.erating.org. Also, feel free to contact Jake Winkler.