

# **BC Transit**

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## **BC Transit Tests Methanol Fuelled Bus**

BC Transit has been exploring the use of alternative, environmentally friendly fuels for its buses. As part of this program, transit is testing a methanol-fuelled bus. The 1990 MCI accessible bus will be evaluated by BC Transit for two weeks beginning March 23, 1992. This is the first time a methanol-fuelled bus has been tested in the Lower Mainland.

The test, which is being conducted from the Burnaby Transit Centre, will enable BC Transit drivers and mechanics to familiarize themselves with the vehicle's performance, as it is evaluated on a variety of routes in the municipality of Burnaby.

Methanol-fuelled vehicles are environmentally friendly, producing fewer nitrogen oxide and particulate emissions in their exhaust than a diesel powered bus. The fuel is produced in Kitimat and is supplied by Methanex of British Columbia.

The test is being sponsored by the Canadian Oxygenated Fuels Association (COFA), Energy, Mines and Resources Canada, Detroit Diesel Limited and Motor Coach Industries. Transit properties across Canada are participating in the methanol bus demonstration program.

Canada is one of the world's largest producers of methanol, producing 10 per cent of the world's supply. Methanol is produced from natural gas, coal, wood waste, and municipal waste.