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Dean Transportation Obtains School Bus Industry's Only Green Certification Endorsed by the EPA's Clean School Bus USA

Lansing, MI – Dean Transportation has earned the National School Transportation Association's (NSTA) Green School Bus Fleet Certification – GOLD LEVEL. This certification recognizes Dean for their commitment to improving the environment through cleaner school bus fleets and company-wide practices to reduce engine exhaust emissions and conserve fuel.

NSTA recently launched this program to recognize school bus operators who have taken steps to ensure their fleets are 'going green' through the use of idle reduction programs, emission control technologies, and the purchase of newer, lower emitting buses. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reviewed and approved of the program as well as the use of its Clean School Bus USA logo on certification materials.

NSTA expects that Green School Bus Fleet Certification program will be a valuable tool to demonstrate the school bus industry's commitment particularly that of private school bus companies, to ensure the cleanest school bus fleets possible and to educate local communities on why it's green to take the yellow school bus.

Dean Transportation achieved the NSTA Green School Bus Fleet Certification – GOLD LEVEL because:

- 50% of their school bus fleet that is model year 2004 or newer. School buses that are built starting in 2004 or later emit six times *less* pollution than those built prior to 2004.
- 30% of the Dean Transportation's school bus fleet is compliant with the EPA's 2007 engine emission requirements. School buses built to meet the 2007 engine standards emit *sixty times less* pollution than older, non-compliant models.
- Dean Transportation has retrofitted 41.6% of its fleet to reduce pollution emissions of particulate matter, hydrocarbons, and carbon monoxide.
- Dean Transportation has programs in place to conserve fuel and reduce idling. Idle reduction programs reduce the amount of unhealthy diesel exhaust that can affect children and fuel consumption.
- Dean Transportation uses ultra low sulfur and bio-diesel fuel in its school buses. Using cleaner fuels reduces the output of harmful particulate matter, hydrocarbon, and carbon monoxide emissions.

Patrick Dean of Dean Transportation says, "We're so proud to have earned this certification! Not only is the yellow school bus the safest way for children to travel to and from school; it is also one of the greenest. Dean is doing its small part to make school transportation more eco-friendly."

Dean Transportation, headquartered in Lansing, Michigan is a family owned business with over a 50 year history. Dean Transportation is a proud Michigan business serving over 80 School Districts, Intermediate School Districts and Public Transit Agencies throughout the state. Dean Transportation currently employs approximately 1,000 people and operates approximately 800 vehicles across Michigan. It is with a highly caring and well trained staff that Dean is able to build successful partnerships with its customers across Michigan.

The National School Transportation Association is a trade organization representing school bus contractors; that is, private companies that own and operate school buses and contract with school districts to provide pupil transportation. For 40 years, it has been dedicated to safe, secure and efficient transportation of children, and works to foster improvements in all areas of pupil transportation. Members range from small one- or two-bus companies to larger corporate entities operating more than 1,000 school buses in multiple states. Learn more at www.yellowbuses.org.

Clean School Bus USA is a program of the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The goals of Clean School Bus USA are to reduce children's exposure to diesel exhaust and the amount of air pollution created by diesel school buses. Clean School Bus USA brings together partners from business, education, transportation and public-health organizations. For more information, visit their website: www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus.



Patrick Dean accepts Dean Transportation's GOLD Level Certification from (Pictured left to right) Donnie Fowler, NSTA's President, Bob Pudlewski, NSTA's Technology Consultant and Jim Blubaugh of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

***The plaque states:** The National School Transportation Association proudly awards Dean Transportation with Gold Level Green Fleet Certification for your company's effort of working toward a cleaner environment through use of technology and environmentally responsible practices. Your efforts serve as an inspiration to the entire industry and will be appreciated by the generations to come. The NSTA Green Fleet Certification Program is endorsed by the EPA's Clean School Bus USA Program.*