

## Flex Fuel Vehicles Arrived in Time to Support the New Energy Economy



This spring, the first group of more than 192 Flex-Fuel vehicles arrived for inspection and check-in. Colorado's State Fleet Management has over 5,000 vehicles, all with an eight to ten year average life-span. As additional ethanol and diesel car and truck models become available, State Fleet is first in line to purchase them.

More than 14 Colorado car dealerships participate in competitive bidding process, just as the new makes and models are announced. These vehicles are financed up to 96 months, which keeps asset depreciation rates fairly consistent from year-to-year. Approximately 12% of the fleet is replaced annually or between 600-700 vehicles.

Flex-fuel or E-85 vehicles come standard with a fuel tank that will burn either gasoline or a corn-based ethanol (85%) gas (15%) blend, called E-85. A flex-fuel (or alternative fuel) engine is manufactured with a stainless steel gas tank and fuel injection system to prevent corrosion to the engine parts.

In addition, new ethanol processing plants have recently opened around the state providing a steady supply of the alternative E-85 fuel. Governor Bill Ritter is working cooperatively to expand the number of independently owned gas stations that will offer ethanol to the general public as well as making it available for state vehicles. Colorado is slated to triple the number of locations providing this environment-friendly alternative.

### The State Fleet vehicles currently available in a flex-fuel or E-85 model include the following:

- 2007 Chevy Impala, sedan, four-door model
- Dodge Durango SUV, V-8, with 4.7L engine, E-85 option
- Dodge Caravan Mini-Passenger Vans
- Dodge Caravan Mini Cargo Vans
- Ford 1/2 Ton Pick-up, 4 x 4 with 5.4L V8
- Chevy 1/2 Ton Pick-up, 4 x 2 with 5.3L V8
- Chevy Tahoe Police SUV with 5.3L V8
- Chevy 1/2 Ton Cargo Van w/5.3L V-8

Other alternatives to 100% petroleum fuels include hybrids and diesel vehicles, which can be fueled with diesel fuels (B-20) or bio-diesel (100% corn oil) once slight modifications are made. Diesel fuels emit fewer toxins into the air and have low repair rates.

### The State Fleet purchases for diesel vehicles in 2007 include:

- Eight 5500 Chevy Duramax
- Nine Ford F250, 6.4L Power-stroke Turbo engine
- One Dodge, T-1 (one ton) 6.7L Cummins Diesel engine, cab, and chassis

### Hybrid vehicles for the FY2006-2007 fiscal year include:

- Eight Ford Escape, SUV, Hybrid (Gas/Electric)
- Five Toyota Prius (Gas/Electric)
- One Toyota Camry Hybrid

Many of these vehicles are part of the motor pool, so that when you rent a car for the day, be sure to ask for a flex-fuel model and do your part to reduce harmful greenhouse gases and our State's dependence on foreign oil.

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## Outstanding Achievements...

### Travel Management

The Society of Government Travel Professionals (SGTP), a national organization for both federal and state travel-related procurement, awarded the State of Colorado Travel Management Program its **Certificate of Achievement**, one of two awards given annually to state government entities that provide travel-related services. Lenora Kingston, Manager of the program, received an award from the SGTP two years ago for best state government travel management program in the United States and will be awarded this year for her **Power of Partnership** collective action initiative. Ms. Kingston competed against the U.S. Department of the Treasury, the U.S. Department of Justice, and 50 other states for this prestigious honor. The award presentation took place, this spring in Alexandria, Virginia. Overall, the State Travel Management Program saves our State approximately \$6.5 million each year in avoided costs.

Lenora Kingston oversees 11 travel agencies statewide, contracts with four major rental car agencies and has agreements with major hotels chains nationwide. She remains vigilant about controlling price increases to the program members, which include other state agencies, institutions of higher education and participating political subdivisions, an estimated 20,000 members. The total funds managed through this program are estimated at \$30M annually.

Among the many business travel partners who contribute to the success of the travel program are 11 travel agencies who participated in a competitive bid to provide services to State personnel.

These travel agencies support state employees as they travel world-wide, across the nation or within Colorado.

When the major airlines announced a fare increase that would be imposed on each leg of a travel itinerary, but offered a discounted increase for tickets booked through travel agency vendors, it became necessary for the state-contracted vendors to re-negotiate their agreements. This ticket increase of \$3.50 per travel segment (or leg of a trip, that includes a take-off and a landing), on average would increase a single ticket by \$14.00, with two connecting flights each way. Given the number of tickets the travel program books, the fee increase could have cost the State as much as \$840,000 annually. Through a collective effort with the travel agency vendors, Kingston negotiated the fee down to \$.80 per travel segment savings to the state an estimated \$648,000 in a single year.



### Integrated Document Solutions

IDS Design has begun to enter their quality work in national design competitions. The first competition the design team entered was the 2007 Print Media Communicator Awards, and brought a prestigious award to the division.

Rick Ciminelli entered the re-designed Governor's Mansion booklet, *Queen of the Hill*, which won a coveted Print Media Design Excellence Award. The booklet details the history of the Governor's Mansion through the Owens' administration. A copy of the publication can be purchased at the Governor's Mansion.

Designer Darren Eurich was also recognized with an Honorable Mention for his design of an issue of the *Colorado Heritage Magazine*. This is the first of many honors expected for this team, and DPA is proud to have such a talented group working for the Department.

## DCS Annual Event Recognizes Top Performance

### “Good Government Starts Here”

The Division of Central Services recognizes the top performance of its employees each year. This past January, over 150 employees gathered at the Division of Wildlife’s Hunter Education Building to recognize their fellow co-workers in an inspiring, motivational event for the FY2006 Recognition Awards. Keynote Speaker, Rich Gonzales, DPA’s Executive Director, delivered a speech on the topic of Good Government. He began his talk without any public announcement system, walking among the employees of DCS and stating his view of Good Government.

In the second part of the program, each business unit manager presented their group’s yearly accomplishments, also recognizing the work teams that made these goals possible. A slide show of employee photographs showed the entire division from the Pueblo IDS Southern Region offices to the drivers who deliver state mail.

### Employee FY2006 Recognition Awards

#### Rick Ciminelli Takes Top Award

Nominations for the top FY2006 Customer Recognition Award were solicited from the DCS customer list, garnering 29 nominations, for both individuals and teams. Rick Ciminelli was the recipient. Rick is a twenty-one year veteran of the IDS Design team, led by Mike Lincoln, Manager of IDS Northern Region. Mike has worked with Rick for over five years and knows him to be the consummate professional, both with his design talents, and his infinite patience with work order changes, short deadlines, and print requirements. Rick is the lead designer for a team of four people (including himself).

Rick was completely taken by surprise and graciously accepted his award, in front of his peers and supporters.



“I had no idea that I would be recognized and that people thought so highly of me,” Rick commented.

#### FY2006 Winners

The following are the winners of the other division award nominations. Unless otherwise noted, award categories are for individuals only:

- Customer Service, **Terry Sisneros**
- Merit Award (individual or team), **IDS Imaging & Microfilm Team (John Alonzo, Beatriz Arce, Lupita Archuleta, Sandra Justus, Andrew Vrell, Neal Patton, Larry Ryan, Sandi McGoff, Diane Alfonso, Kay Jenkins, Mike Sexson)**
- New Employee, **Dan Zamora**
- Production Award, **Sandra Justus**
- Quality of Work, **Vickie Thordsen**
- Supervisor Award, **Mike Sexson**
- Team, **IDS Design Team (Rick Ciminelli, Barb Novak, Darren Eurich, Teddy Abad)**

### Congratulations to All!

**This year’s event is  
right around the corner,  
November, 2007.**



## Expanded Recycling Program Includes Plastics

# Recycling Tip of the Month

Coffee Cans, whether they are plastic or metal can be recycled. These five-pound plastic or metal cans are great for:

- Containing smaller quantities of food items bought in bulk (beans, rice, flour, sugar etc.)
- Portioning economy-sized powdered laundry detergent
- Keeping an emergency kit in your car (especially the Folger's red plastic containers)
- Making one into a coin jar or a "job" jar at home (idea from Michael Martinez, State Fleet)
- Organizing kids' toys, like legos or blocks—anything that has many small parts
- Putting together a "get well" package, with several food items inside
- Dog Toy, if you have a "chewer" breed
- Dog Food Scoop or "Pooper Scooper"
- Organizer for cleaning products for the home or office
- Travel-sized charcoal container for picnics in the park

Recycling containers were placed in the Capitol building earlier this year as part of Governor Ritter's initiatives to promote green government with bio-renewable products and ecologically sound practices. Many energy saving steps have already been taken—recycling of white paper and now with the addition of mixed containers, all levels of plastics, one through seven, may also be recycled along with the existing aluminum can recycling.

### Legislator Leads the Way

Majority House leader, Alice Madden led this initiative with a clear directive to the Division of Central Services Capitol Complex management team. Richard Lee, Energy Conservation and Safety Manager for the Capitol buildings placed the Blue Recycle containers near water sources, so that containers could be rinsed before being placed in the open blue bins. It takes a small effort to rinse plastic containers and the collective benefits are many. "Recycling is something that everyone can do to contribute to good government." Lee will monitor the success of this program in the coming months. "We have already had excellent participation with the placement of these containers in strategic locations around the Capitol."

Weyerhaeuser, Inc., the state contracted recycling company, agreed to pick-up the recycled materials at no additional cost to the state. This win-win business philosophy not only contributes to cost savings for the state, but also contributes to the goals of the current administration's Greening of Government.

### More Earth Friendly Products Replace the Old

In addition to the new recycling program, the Capitol Complex initiated other earth-friendly conservation efforts, including a new parking lot ice-melting product, made with a biodegradable corn-based ingredient. "This is a superior product compared to magnesium chloride, which was sprayed prior to the anticipated snowfall for the purpose of de-icing," Lee stated. This biodegradable product, called Caliber, is water-activated and works very effectively after an area has been plowed. There's no waste involved and the expense is comparable to the older magnesium chloride product, "plus it doesn't hurt your vehicles or the environment."

For more information on recycling efforts and conservation, please see [www.colorado.gov/energy/](http://www.colorado.gov/energy/) website.

# DCS Employee of the Month

**December 2006:** Tom Alderman and Paul Quaglieri created a new method to move the chiller system at the Capitol Complex.

By using recycled rollers from an elevator, they were able to utilize the existing rail system in the tunnels of the Capitol to push the chilling unit, rather than hoisting it, as before. This will be a much easier and safer method of transport and will extend the life of the chiller, as well. It was a great cost-savings to the state, with only \$35.00 spent for materials. A lot of ingenuity and creativity went into this concept as well as the successful implementation of it. Congratulations to you both!

**Kudos to:** Bob Giovanni, Terry Sisneros (Fleet), John Alonzo (IDS) Art Obregon, Jim Davis, Ben Martinez (Capitol Complex), who were also nominated.

**January 2007: (Snow Removal Crew)** Steve Ziemann, Damon McAnulty, Marcelino Spagnuolo, Jason Davis, Jeromy Duncan, Tom Alderman, Anthony Gallegos, Robert Abeyta, Greg Phillips, Jared Groves  
Nominated by Richard (Rick) Lee

"I'm nominating the snow removal crew for the "Employee of the Month for January 07." They have done incredible work in getting the snow removed from the Capitol Complex Grounds. They kept up with the 3rd largest snowstorm in Colorado history. Many of the crew worked on the Christmas weekend, all night Friday and Saturday, Christmas Eve. They were then hit the following week with another storm and worked all of the New Years weekend. What a great job they did. While many of us were at home warm and with our loved ones, they were doing back-breaking work. I want to take the time to thank them for a job well done. They have gone far above and beyond the call of duty."

**February 2007:** Richard (Rick) Lee for extra work involving the Federal Emergency Grant Application.  
Nominated by Leigh Olson

Rick, who works in Capitol Complex was nominated by Leigh Olsen: I would like to nominate Richard Lee, Safety Manager of the Capitol Complex, for his extra work involving the Federal Emergency Grant Application. On January 7, 2007, Denver and Jefferson counties were declared national emergency areas, qualifying the Capitol area for snow removal reimbursements. The grant application was tedious and detail-oriented, making it necessary for both Rick and myself to dig deep to obtain data from personnel, payroll, accounts payable, contracts and the Executive Office. Rick did an outstanding job of coordinating this effort despite his other duties and workload. We anticipate being able to recover some of the expense involved with grounds crew overtime, equipment rentals and contract labor relating to the snow removal in December 2006. Because Denver has never been declared a national emergency before, we had no experience with this process and yet, it all worked, thanks to Rick's extra efforts.

**Kudos to:** Mike Maestas, David Russell, Claudia Stevens (Fleet), who were also nominated.

**March 2007:** Barb Novak and other members of the IDS team that worked with her on the design and publication of the DPA reference book for the DOC Management Team Presentation.  
Nominated by Jennifer Okes

"I would like to nominate Barb Novak and other members of the IDS team that worked with her on the design and publication of the DPA reference book for the DOC Management Team Presentation. Barb took a very "plain-Jane" power point presentation and quickly turned it into a professional looking reference book. The quality of end product was fantastic. She made DPA look GREAT. We received many compliments on the book—both internally and externally.

However, what may have been more impressive is the fact that Barb and the team did such high quality work under less than ideal circumstances. They were not given adequate lead time and were forced to put in extra efforts to get the job done in the time provided. Despite these stressful circumstances, Barb was wonderful to work with, doing her

## continued...DCS Employee of the Month

work with a smile. When I had to later call and request emergency copies for the Governor's visit, the employee that answered the general phone number quickly responded and had the extra copies delivered in plenty of time.

It was very impressive how this team effort consistently delivered services and products that exceeded even very high expectations!

**Kudos to:** Bob Giovanni, Mike Maestas, Robert Gramadzki, Sean Murphy, Elie Mardiros, and IDS Mail Drivers, Monique Moynihan, Bill Brown, John Helm, Valente Delgado, who were also nominated.

### **April 2007: Melissa Wilkerson and Gilbert Gomez of IDS Customer Service.**

Melissa nominated by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Mike Lincoln, Manager of the Integrated Document Solutions group writes: "IDS has an excellent customer service team. Melissa Wilkerson is a member of that team and recently I received a letter from Rhonda Webb and Fred Maxwell from CDPHE detailing Melissa's service." The following is from the letter:

Dear Mr. Lincoln,

I am writing in appreciation of the service our program has received from the staff at Integrated Document Solutions and one employee in particular—Mel Wilkerson, Customer Support Representative.

Due to a change in state regulations, our program—the Evidential Breath Alcohol Testing program at the Laboratory Services Division—is tasked with training over 200 law enforcement officers on new software to update Colorado's DUI enforcement program. These officers then return to their agencies and will train an additional 5,000 officers across the state. We have been teaching since February this year and are mandated to finish by June 30, 2007.

Mel Wilkerson has been our key contact at IDS throughout this project. It has been a pleasure to work with her. Mel is hard-working, personable, and poised. It is refreshing to know our materials will be reproduced accurately and in a timely manner. Of particular note is a test answer sheet that must be copied with extreme precision or it will fail to scan. To be officially certified, every officer in the state must take a test using this answer sheet. To date, these sheets have performed with 100% accuracy, which helps us provide efficient and accurate grading services for the certification process.

In addition, several times Mel has managed to complete projects with little notice without complaint. She has also orchestrated a few last-minute corrections due to our error. She has helped me load my car in the snow and even helped us workout a possible after-hours pick-up when we were very short on time and staff. Finally, when another IDS staff member misunderstood and called me for a pick-up before all jobs were complete, she stepped in to correct the situation and ensure timely delivery. We look forward to our continued relationship with IDS as this project continues.

Sincerely,

Rhonda J. Webb  
Fred Maxwell

Gilbert nominated by Darren Eurich

Darren writes:

"I sometimes over hear phone conversations between Gilbert and IDS customers. I've never heard him be anything but courteous and helpful. But what I admire most about Gilbert is his accountability. He doesn't make excuses or blame others for problems, he accepts responsibility and goes beyond the call of duty to fix them and make the customer happy. On numerous occasions I've seen him personally deliver jobs when it was too late to get them on the normal delivery schedule. Whenever I ask him for assistance, he's quick to respond, thorough, and I never feel the need to follow up. He is hard working and constantly gaining knowledge on IDS services and capabilities. Through his professionalism and work ethic he is continually building the respect of both customers and co-workers. It is pleasure to work with Gilbert.

**Kudos to:** Robert Abeyta, Perci Masangkay, Jose Esquibel, Maria Sandoval, who were also nominated.

## continued...DCS Employee of the Month

### May 2007: Youseff Dargahi of IDS Print Operations

Nominated by Steve Wilkerson

On the Wednesday evening of the CSMA conference, DoIT had run out of their information books. Mike Lincoln put a call into the IDS Production Unit that evening requesting and additional 250 books be produced and delivered the next morning. Youssef, on the 3rd shift, produced the "RUSH" DoIT books by himself, both printing and bindery. What makes this very impressive is that Tonya, his co-worker on the 3rd shift was on leave this night, leaving Youseff to not only do this rush job, but also take in CBMS jobs as well!

I am personally very impressed with his skill and dedication. Youssef takes great pride in his work and is always willing to go that extra mile to accommodate any requests large or small. The importance of this request was recognized by Youssef and he was able to accommodate DoIT with the important advertisement piece of their presentation at the conference. Youssef continues not only with this particular project but every job he deals with the customer in mind and completes his work in a timely quality fashion.

**Kudos to:** Dave Russell and Darrell Geist, who were also nominated.

### June 2007: No Nominations

### July 2007: John Alonzo of IDS Imaging and Microfilm

Nominated by Rick Malinowski

John led the team that set a record this year for the most number of images ever done by the Microfilm Unit. Leading a combination team of full time and temporary employees, John and group filmed over 9 million images this last fiscal year. Not only did he achieve record volumes, but his quality remained excellent and he met all due dates and turnaround times as well.

John provides outstanding leadership, commitment and customer service. He is a living example of what good government and dedicated public service really mean.

**Kudos to:** Audrey Aultman, Charlie Marquez, Janice Benton (DCS Admin), who were also nominated.

### August 2007: Jose Esquibel of Capitol Complex

Nominated by Ernie Atencio

On the 24th of August, Jose was close to quitting time but decided to check the chillers at 690 Kipling before leaving for the day, and fortunately for us he did. He found the water temp well above what it should have been and the two standby chillers had started as expected. Jose contacted the on call HVAC staff and assisted him in keeping the lone functioning chiller functioning, because we lost data to a communication panel vital to chiller controls. Without his diligence, we would have lost CBI Computer room and GGCC computers. Once again, Thank You Jose Esquibel.

**Kudos to:** Delaine Piontkowski (Capitol Complex) Mike Maestas, Renee Covard, Terry Sisneros (Fleet), Dan Zamora, Francisco Gonzales (IDS), All IDS Drivers Monique Moynihan, John Helm, who were also nominated.

**Email nominations to Maria Sandoval at**

**[maria.sandoval@state.co.us](mailto:maria.sandoval@state.co.us) or**

**Interoffice Mail to:**

**DCS Administration**

**1001 E. 62nd Ave., A-31,**

**Denver, CO 80216**

# DCS Staff Kudos

**Congratulations to Elie Mardiros in the DCS State Fleet Motor Pool**, who swore an oath of loyalty to the United States on March 21, 2006 as one of our newest American Citizens. Elie immigrated to Colorado on a fiancé visa, after having known his future wife for over 10 years. They met in Ghana, where Elie emigrated from his native Lebanon during the Lebanese War of 1982. He speaks fluent Arabic, French, and English and you will find him delightful to meet. In order to obtain American citizenship, one must have lived in the United States for at least five years and pass a rigorous 100-question test (which is now 140 questions). Elie previously worked for Denver RTD for two years as a bus driver, before obtaining his position within State Fleet’s Motor Pool.

**Monique Moynihan, IDS Mail Operations**, had always worn her hair long. But on the week of April 2nd, she suddenly cut her long curly ponytail. Monique’s hairdresser, suggested that “Moe” would make a great donor for **Locks of Love**, a charitable organization that helps children cope with the effects of cancer treatment.

Recipients of the **Locks of Love** program are children undergoing chemotherapy, suffering from alopecia areata, or recuperating from scalp burns. They face multiple hurdles. The ten-inch ponytails, which are turned into wigs, replacing the uncomfortable man-made wigs the kids suffered with before.

As Monique told us, “My hair will always grow back and as a mom, I understand a child’s pain.” It was an important lesson for Monique’s family to understand the needs of other children, too. For more information about **Locks of Love**, contact: [www.charityguide.org/volunteer/fifteen/locks-of-love.htm](http://www.charityguide.org/volunteer/fifteen/locks-of-love.htm).



# Pueblo Re-Grand Opening!

More details to come on the unveiling  
of the **New Facilities.**

## CONTACTS

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### State Travel Management Program (STMP)

#### Program Manager

303.866.3986

### State Fleet Management (SFM)

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### Capitol Complex

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