

# THE ENGINEER'S BRIEF

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## Take a Number

ADA Compliance for  
Maryland Para-Transit Vehicles

Visual Marking Systems, Inc. was recently contracted by the Maryland Mass Transit Administration and Baltimore's Yellow Transportation to produce a customized ADA Compliant Tactile Vehicle Numbering Signage System for Para-Transit Vehicles.

VMS provided Vehicle Number Signs for 30 MTA vehicles and 104 Yellow Transportation vehicles. The two-piece vehicle markings were produced using VMS's unique TransGrafix<sup>®</sup>, a graffiti, vandal, and chemical resistant material designed to withstand the wear and tear of constant touching. The vehicle numbers, which feature embossed ADA Compliant Braille and Raised Letters and Numbers, mount on the inside of each vehicle. The final product, which allows a blind or visually impaired passenger to easily determine their vehicle's ID Number without having to ask the driver, is a signage breakthrough in the Para-Transit Industry, which provides both public and private transportation services to the physically-impaired population.

Sharon Crenchaw, Director of Para-Transit for Yellow Transportation, is extremely pleased with the new product. "In the past, customers have been very interested in being able to identify their card number for various reasons. These interior numbers allow our customers, particularly those that are sight-impaired, to take note of their vehicle number without having to feel uncomfortable asking the driver. This is especially true



in cases in which the passenger wants to make a complaint," states Crenchaw.

Visual Marking Systems, Inc. hopes to maintain its close relationship with both Yellow and MD MTA (Globe has worked with MD MTA through the past 10 years) as a consultant on ADA Signage Standards and

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- Sharon Crenchaw

Director of Para-Transit for Yellow Transportation

as a manufacturer of ADA Compliant signage products.

VMS is the leader in quality signage for the transportation industry with an exceptional aptitude in ADA Compliance and Accessibility. In addition to tactile signage with Braille and raised features, VMS produces safety signage, station / shelter signage, HPPL Photo-Luminescent emergency signage, Contra



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