



inroads

July 2010

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Wethersfield Repair Facility
 60 State Street (rear)
 Wethersfield, CT 06109
860-529-0500

Norwich Repair Facility
 171 Salem Turnpike
 Norwich, CT 06360
860-885-2153

New Haven Repair Facility
 140 Pond Lily Avenue
 New Haven, CT 06515
203-397-4590

After Hours Emergencies
 Call **1-877-454-4204** (toll-free)
 Your call will be answered through the Department of Environmental Protection Dispatch Office, which will assist you.

Online
 Go to www.das.state.ct.us and click on **FLEET OPERATIONS** for additional information on fueling locations, accident forms and mileage reports.

We have developed a draft of the new *information envelope* that will soon be placed into the glove box of each DAS vehicle. It has been designed to serve a couple of purposes. First, it will be an easy-to-identify holder for vehicle registration. Second, printed on the face of the envelope is some information on what to do in case of an accident, insurance contact information, emergency numbers for Fleet Operations, and the statute number that exempts us from carrying insurance cards in our vehicles. Besides being a resource for some basic information, we hope that by showing the envelope to an officer (or reciting the statute number), any skepticism that he/she may have about why we cannot produce an insurance card will be eliminated.

Glove Box Info



just a reminder...

Toyota Recalls

Over the past few weeks we have been able to get in excess of 100 Prius vehicles to and from the dealer to resolve the recall items. We say thanks to all of you for working with our shops to get this necessary issue resolved. We expect to have this recall 100% completed by early fall. If you are not sure if all of the Prius vehicles in your agency have been through the recall check-up, just give the garage closest to you a call.

DAS maintenance facilities have adopted new hours. Our New Haven, Norwich and Wethersfield locations will be open from 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM (the Buckingham Street fuel station will continue to operate from 7:30 AM – 4:45 PM). If there is ever a question on hours, address, or phone number information for any of our locations it is all located on the Fleet Operations page of the DAS website.

We've been able to fill several open positions and are pleased to welcome some new faces to the Fleet Operations team.

- New Haven – **Bob Koehler** and **Nino Foschini** both had their first day as QCW's on June 14. They are ASE Master technicians with L1 certifications.

Welcome to Fleet!

Bob joins us from MJ Sullivan in New London where he has worked the past 17 years. In total, Bob has been working as a dealer automobile service technician for over 30 years. In addition to ASE certifications, Bob is also a GM Master Technician.

Nino joins us from D'Addario, a GM dealer in Shelton where he has worked for more than five years. Previously, Nino worked at Chrysler and Nissan dealerships, along with Yellow Cab during his 17-year technician career, which began after graduating from Porter & Chester.

- In Wethersfield, **Ivette Oliveras** came on board on June 28 as an Office Assistant. Ivette will help to support the Wethersfield team by working with customers to schedule and coordinate vehicle maintenance and repairs along with various related administrative functions. Ivette came to us from the Community Renewal Team, where she spent the past six years handling fleet and facility responsibilities.

- Although not new to Fleet, **Tom Caneschi**, a QCW and 23-year member of our department, has transferred from New Haven to Wethersfield effective June 14.

- **Yanira Segarra** joined our Hartford administrative office as an Office Assistant earlier this month. A four-year state employee, Yanira has been working for the Department of Agriculture where she began as a Clerk Typist before being promoted to an Office Assistant. She will provide support by handling customer service and administrative duties and assisting with the effective management and control of our 3,500 vehicle fleet.

Welcome to DAS!

Touch Screen – In case you were wondering, the touch screen that is mounted in the dash of each Prius and used to operate the radio and climate control functions is a **very** expensive piece of equipment. The replacement cost is \$4,500 for a reconditioned unit.

Careful with that Screen!

We bring this up because recently there have been two instances where touch screens have been broken and agencies had to be billed for the replacement. Although we aren't going to share the specific details of each situation, we determined that there have been instances of drivers mounting GPS units directly to the screen, and in some cases using pens and pencils to adjust settings. It is very possible that doing this can cause permanent damage to a screen.

We are asking that you alert all drivers within your agency who are assigned to drive a Prius either regularly or intermittently, of this situation. Please encourage them to exercise care with the touch screen, to never mount a GPS or other external items directly to it and to never use any objects other than their finger tip to make adjustments.