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Press Release

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IMMEDIATE

Metrocard Vending Machine Unveiled for Field Testing

MTA New York City Transit President Lawrence G. Reuter today unveiled the MetroCard Vending Machine (MVM) that will undergo customer field testing at two Manhattan subway stations starting next Monday.

The MVMs sell all forms of MetroCards including the pay-per-ride bonus card, seven and thirty day unlimited ride cards, the new one day "Fun Pass," and even a single trip MetroCard. President Reuter said, "The MetroCard Vending Machine has been designed to be easy to use, quick, and efficient. It is an interactive computer that can handle transactions in several languages and it accepts cash, credit, and debit cards. We will have 1,000 of these machines installed at key transfer points throughout the subway system over the next 18 months."

The MVMs touch-activated computer screen guides the user--one easy step at a time--through the purchase of any NYC Transit fare media. Buying a MetroCard or adding value to an existing MetroCard can be accomplished with cash, credit, or debit cards, and a receipt is available for every transaction upon request.

The MVM will accept change, the Susan B. Anthony dollar coin, and \$1, \$5, \$10, \$20, or \$50 bills for each transaction, and is able to provide up to \$6 in change. Therefore, a \$20 bill cannot be used to buy the \$4 one day "Fun Pass." However, if a \$20 bill is used to buy a seven day unlimited ride MetroCard that costs \$17, the MVM will issue the card, \$3 in change, and a receipt if requested. The MVM will use the Susan B. Anthony dollar coin to make change.

One thousand MVMs are on order with the Cubic Corporation, San Diego, CA, and cost about \$50,000 each. Two banks of five machines each will be field tested starting January 25 at 59th St./Columbus Circle and 68th Street on the Lexington Ave. line in Manhattan.