



MTA Press Releases

[Select Language](#) | ▼

Press Release

October 11, 2013

[Metro-North](#)

IMMEDIATE

John Kesich to Lead Rail Operations for MTA Metro-North Railroad

Metro-North Veteran Will Keep Customer Service as Top Priority

MTA Metro-North Railroad President Howard Permut today announced that he has appointed John E. Kesich to oversee the railroad's daily train operations under the title of Senior Vice President-Operations. Kesich has been acting in that capacity since May.

Kesich, who holds a Master of Science degree in Engineering Management from Long Island University, has spent almost a quarter-century at Metro-North, most recently as Assistant Vice President-Chief Mechanical Officer. As CMO, he was responsible for providing direction and leadership to the department's 1,300 employees ensuring that Metro-North's railcars and locomotives are inspected, cleaned, maintained and repaired safely and with excellent customer service in mind.

"John has done an excellent job managing difficult challenges, and has always shown a keen understanding of the importance of safety for our customers and employees," Permut said. "He has proven his strong leadership to the Metro-North team to address these problems expeditiously."

As Senior Vice President-Operations, Kesich will lead efforts in attaining the overall safety goals and objectives of his division by promoting safe work practices. He will also oversee efforts to advance customer service priorities such as on-time performance and efficiency.

"I am honored to work with the hard-working and committed employees who diligently move riders each day on the busiest passenger railroad in the country,"

Kesich said. Kesich began his railroad career in 1990 through the MTA's Future Managers Program. While in the program, he worked rotational assignments within all major areas of Metro-North's Operations Division, including Maintenance of Equipment, Transportation, Power, Signal and Track.

After successfully completing the requirements of the program, John went to work in the Maintenance of Equipment department and began rising through the ranks. He initially served as a General Foreman and was promoted to Senior Equipment Engineer. Shortly after that, he became Director of Equipment Engineering and was promoted to Assistant Chief Mechanical Officer.

In his most recent capacity as Chief Mechanical Officer besides managing the day-to-day maintenance activities for 1,240 railcars and locomotives, Kesich oversaw development of long-range plans and projections of future needs for fleet maintenance and preventive maintenance.