

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE AND VENTILATION ASSESSMENT METRO TRANSIT GARAGE, HALIFAX, N.S.



OCL Group was retained to undertake detailed industrial hygiene and ventilation assessment of the main bus repair and service section of the Metro Transit Garage (Burnside Industrial Park). The study was conducted in support of worker complaints related to diesel bus engine fumes.

The study within the bus service area consisted of an assessment of the ventilation system and measurements for NO_x, respirable particulate, CO, CO₂ and diesel exhaust (elemental carbon analysis). Monitoring was conducted at various times (particularly the 5 am to 8 am preparation period) to represent workloads and emission quantities, as well as during the four seasons to account for open garage doors and other dispersion factors. A series of reports were prepared and presented to the Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee and garage workers. Additional monitoring of the adjacent office area was also undertaken to assess fume transfer. Report recommendations have been implemented, with a significant reduction in fume concentrations. Recommendations also addressed work practices. Follow-up monitoring is being conducted.

*Client: Halifax Regional Municipality,
Metro Transit*