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Lee County Earns Country's First Platinum Green Certification for Government Fleet

LEE COUNTY, FL (Jan. 9, 2012) – Lee County Fleet Management is the first government fleet in the United States to be recognized as a Platinum-certified Green Fleet by the international Association of Equipment Management Professionals (AEMP). The award honors Lee County's heavy equipment fleet for meeting all current governmental requirements for emissions.

Across the country, consumers are demanding green products and services. Fleets are often viewed by the public as leading contributors to greenhouse gas emission. Lee County Fleet Management is demonstrating its commitment to a cleaner America by proactively meeting ever-changing emission regulations.

"When we submitted our application, we hoped for the platinum status," said Fleet Manager Marilyn Rawlings, noting the award categories include bronze, silver and gold. "We knew we were close. We were pleased when AEMP confirmed our status at the highest possible level."

In addition to ensuring that more than 50 percent of the county's diesel equipment over 25 horsepower have higher emission controls, 10 percent of the fleet meets the highest emission standard. Lee County also has a "No Idle" policy that prohibits county diesel equipment—except emergency responders—from idling more than five minutes at a time. Many of the county's heavy trucks are even equipped with automatic shutdowns, which turn off the equipment after five minutes unless ancillary equipment is in use.

To date, only one other fleet—from the private sector—has been recognized as achieving platinum status. For additional information regarding the Green Fleet designation, go to www.aemp.org.

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