Discount Cab Owner Named Operator of the Year by National Association

Craig Hughes recognized as "Taxicab Large Fleet Operator of the Year" by the Taxicab, Limousine & Paratransit Association

Discount Cab, one of largest cab companies in the Southwest, is celebrating its 25th anniversary with a prestigious honor for its founder.

Craig Hughes, CEO of Total Transit, Inc., the parent company of Discount Cab, was recently named the 2009 recipient of the "Taxicab Large Fleet Operator of the Year" award by the Taxicab, Limousine & Paratransit Association (TLPA), a non-profit association that includes more than 1,000 members.

Hughes, who started Discount Cab in 1984 with a fleet of just 15 vehicles, has seen his once-fledgling company grow into a full-service transportation company serving private, public and medical transit needs statewide. The company now counts more than 550 vehicles in its fleet.

"To be recognized by the TLPA is a tremendous honor for our company and our employees," Hughes said. "We've come a long way in 25 years and I think this award reflects that."

Hughes accepted his award on Oct. 5 during the TLPA's annual convention, held this year at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas.

TLPA CEO Alfred LaGasse said Hughes and his company had made a lasting impression on the group.

"We were deeply impressed by how Total Transit, through Craig's management and vision, is always looking to the future and always asking, 'How can we do this better?" LaGasse said in a prepared statement. "That's the kind of leadership we are so proud to have in this industry."

Hughes encourages his company to find new and innovative ways to serve their customer base. The company, which operates the largest fleet of Toyota Prius taxis in the nation, instituted its "Free Ride Back" program to keep inebriated drivers off the streets and developed the Total Transit Foundation to give back financially to worthy causes in the community.

"We feel as one largest taxi companies in the Southwest that we have an obligation to set a good example for other businesses and individuals," Hughes said. "If, through our actions, we can help raise awareness for worthy initiatives and causes, then we are all richer for it at the end of the day."

For more information on Total Transit and its companies – Discount Cab, ValuTrans and RideSource, please visit www.totaltransit.com