

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD Investigative Hearing



Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Metrorail train 302 that encountered heavy smoke in the tunnel between the L'Enfant Plaza Station and the Potomac River Bridge on January 12, 2015

Agency / Organization

Title

Randall Grooman

Acting Assistant General Manager
Department of Transit Infrastructure and Engineering Services
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Mr. Grooman has over three (3) decades of transit experience in the maintenance of facilities and mechanical equipment systems at the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority. He began his career in 1981 as a track laborer and was promoted to progressively more responsible positions to his current role as Acting Assistant General Manager, Department of Transit Infrastructure and Engineering Services.

In his current executive level position, Mr. Grooman is responsible for managing and providing daily oversight of complex responsibilities for engineering services, railcar maintenance, systems maintenance, track and structures, facilities maintenance, vertical transportation, supply chain operations, personnel administration, intermodal strategic planning and operating and capital budgets. He directs the implementation of plans for daily coordination of communication, maintenance and repair activities that have direct impact on WMATA customers. In addition, Randall provides direction and oversight for the orderly transition from construction through start-up operation of new facilities; and the design, fabrication and delivery of new rolling stock. Mr. Grooman oversees a \$490M operating budget; \$1.1B in capital projects; and nearly 5,000 employees.

In his previous position as Director, Office of Plant Maintenance, Randall provided leadership and daily oversight of system-wide facilities maintenance, maintenance of mechanical equipment systems (including fire/life safety systems) and a wide variety of service contracts that supported Authority-wide maintenance and operations activities. Responsibilities included management of a \$97M operations budget, \$18M capital budget and over 950 employees.

During his tenure in this position, Randall directed efforts to develop and implement a maintenance management plan, standard operating procedures and work instructions. He established a system to identify reported problems with fire/life safety systems and automatically notify designated managers; directed efforts to convert controls for drainage pumping stations and tunnel ventilation system from electro/pneumatic to state-of-the-art programmable logic controls; implemented remote monitoring capabilities for several critical equipment systems; and oversaw efforts to develop and implement technical training classes for employees.

Mr. Grooman holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer and Information Sciences from the University of Maryland.