

**Jim Stennet**  
**Physio-Control**



Jim Stennet carpooled for almost 2 years, and spent one of those years trying to form a vanpool to work. After a year of efforts to make the vanpool a reality, Jim's vanpool started this month, April 2008. Your perseverance, Jim, has finally paid off.

It was the traffic on 520 that first got Jim into a carpool. Jim lists three factors that have contributed to his ability to fill the van: 520 traffic, people choosing to be more green/more socially responsible, and gas prices hitting \$3.50 a gallon. Part of his selling of the vanpool to riders involved his showing the route the van would take, the HOV lanes available, and the limited drop-off points in Seattle.

Jim's van has three drop-off points in Seattle to avoid a lengthy "milk run" at the end of the commute. He made a map to show potential riders and visually communicate exactly how it would work.

Jim has seen vanpools experience difficulty when there aren't enough back-up drivers. Jim's van got started with 3 drivers, and within the next month or two he expects to have five of the seven riders qualified as drivers. Jim cites the many City of Redmond incentives for vanpool riders as an expected benefit.

Jim's perseverance in getting his vanpool started and his imaginative methods of helping people see how easy it could be are the reason Jim is one of this year's Commute Champions.