

New Trains for Shatin to Central Link Set to Arrive in Hong Kong from September

New trains for the future North South Corridor of the Shatin to Central Link (SCL), which will extend the existing East Rail Line (EAL) to Admiralty Station, will be delivered to Hong Kong in batches, starting from September this year.

The 37 new train sets, currently being manufactured by the Hyundai Rotem Company in South Korea, are equipped with new design features including LED interior lighting, 27" Liquid Crystal Display passenger information systems, custom-made dynamic route maps and improved grab poles. Upon arrival in Hong Kong, these new trains will undergo a comprehensive series of tests in the depot and subsequently on track.

"We are excited to start taking delivery of new trains for the SCL North South Corridor. To ensure that these trains provide smooth and efficient service to passengers, stringent integrated tests will be conducted including essential on-track dynamic testing," said Mr TM Lee, General Manager – SCL of MTR Corporation who recently inspected the production process in South Korea. "As we have to run a frequent service during our normal train service hours, the subsequent dynamic tests can only be carried out overnight after normal service hours."

Apart from the new design features, the new trains are slightly wider than the existing EAL trains. To facilitate the on-track dynamic testing, preparation has been carried out together with the platform improvement works to adjust the platform edges along the East Rail Line to accommodate the new trains. The works will start at University and Tai Wo stations from the end of July this year, to be followed at other stations progressively. As a result of these works, passengers are alerted to look out for any changes in the width of platform gaps.

"During the interim period, new LED lights will be installed to remind passengers of the changes. Passengers are advised to exercise extra caution in boarding and alighting from trains. As a further precautionary measure, additional station assistants in specially designed uniform will be deployed to remind passengers of the locations where the platform gap width have been changed. Reminder notices will also be posted at the relevant locations. Upon commissioning of the North South Corridor with new trains and signaling systems as well as the retrofitting of the automatic platform gates at all stations, passengers will be able to enjoy a better travelling environment with improved train services," said Mr Francis Li, Head of Operations – North and East Regions.

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The 17-kilometre SCL is a territory-wide strategic railway project with 10 stations, of which six will be interchange stations. The North South Corridor is an extension of the EAL from Hung Hom across Victoria Harbour to the Exhibition and Admiralty.

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About MTR Corporation

MTR Corporation is regarded as one of the world's leading railway operators for safety, reliability, customer service and cost efficiency. In its home base of Hong Kong, the Corporation operates nine commuter railway lines, a Light Rail network and a high-speed Airport Express link on which more than 5.4 million passenger trips are made on a normal week day. Another 4.9 million passenger trips are made on the rail services it operates outside Hong Kong in the Mainland of China, the United Kingdom, Sweden and Australia. In addition, the Corporation is involved in a range of railway construction projects as well as railway consultancy and contracting services around the world. Leveraging on its railway expertise, the Corporation is involved in the development of transit-related residential and commercial property projects, property management, shopping malls leasing and management, advertising media and telecommunication services.

For more information about MTR Corporation, please visit www.mtr.com.hk.

Photo caption:

1. MTR Projects team inspected the NSL new train production process in South Korea.



2. Additional station assistants are deployed to remind passengers of adjustment to platform gaps at East Rail Line stations.

