

Ma On Shan Line Train Service Enhancement Starts from early 2017 as 8-Car Trains Replace Existing 4-Car Trains in Phases

Passengers will soon find more convenient and comfortable journeys on the MTR Ma On Shan Line (MOL) starting from early 2017 when two converted 8-car trains commence service on the line. The fleet of 15 4-car MOL trains will gradually be replaced with 8-car trains over the following year. This represents another milestone to prepare for the future operation of the East West Corridor of the Shatin to Central Link (SCL) project where direct train service from Wu Kai Sha Station will run through the West Rail Line (WRL) to Tuen Mun Station.

“Apart from having a more spacious travelling environment, the 8-car MOL trains are also equipped with dynamic route maps and gangway displays which provide more information for passengers during their journeys. When the conversion programme is completed, the overall carrying capacity on the MOL will be doubled. With the success that we have achieved in the ongoing WRL train conversion programme, we are ready to extend train conversion to MOL,” said Mr Nelson Ng, Head of Operating – North and East Regions of MTR Corporation.

“As 8-car trains will be operating alongside 4-car trains on MOL over the coming year. To allow a smooth transition, we are enhancing our communication with the travelling public to make sure that they continue to enjoy smooth MTR journeys,” added Mr Ng.

The tailor-made arrangements include:

1. An enhanced Platform Information Display System to show the number of cars in each of the next arriving train.
2. Giant sharp colour signage on station platforms to help passengers easily find the queuing zones for 4-car trains and 8-car trains.
 - At the end of the stopping location for the 4th car, a brown sign on the Automatic Platform Gates / platform floor will indicate the direction of the queuing zone for 4-car trains.
 - Between the stopping locations for the 5th car and 8th car, green signage will be posted along the platforms to indicate the extended queuing zones for 8-car trains.
3. Additional platform assistants will be deployed with directional signs during peak periods to guide passengers to the 4-car and 8-car waiting zones.
4. Station notices and broadcasts will inform passengers of the relevant arrangements

(more)

To ensure a reliable train service with the launch of 8-car train service in early 2017, the first two 8-car trains will conduct dynamic tests on the MOL after normal train service hours starting from late November this year for around three months. To facilitate the train testing, stopping position for all trains on the MOL including the 4-car trains and 8-car trains will be aligned from late November. Additional platform assistants will be deployed with station notices and broadcasts will be made to advise passengers of the new arrangements.

“During the conversion period, passengers may need to walk a bit farther on the platforms to board a train during the transition period with the changed stopping position. We would like to appeal for passengers’ understanding if this causes any inconvenience. We would also like to remind passengers on safely travel on platforms,” added Mr Ng.

The existing MOL will be integrated with the Tai Wai to Hung Hom Section of the SCL and WRL to form the future East West Corridor, providing direct railway service between the eastern and western New Territories. Targeted for completion in 2019, the East West Corridor will significantly enhance the connectivity and travel convenience of the entire railway network of Hong Kong as part of Rail Gen 2.0.

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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 5.5 million passenger trips are made on a normal week day. Another 5 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. Mr Allen Ding, Operations Manager – East Rail Line announces that 8-car trains will start serving the Ma On Shan Line from early 2017



2. Tailor-made signage will be in place to help passengers identify the waiting zones for 4-car trains and 8-car trains

