

Shatin to Central Link Cross-Harbour Railway Tunnel Units Ready for Embarkation to Victoria Harbour

The Shatin to Central Link (SCL) celebrated another milestone at the former Shek O Quarry today (13 March 2017) with the completion of all the pre-cast units for the 1.7-km new cross-harbour railway tunnel. The new tunnel section will extend the East Rail Line across the harbour to a new station in Wan Chai North and terminate at Admiralty.

Witnessed by government representatives and working partners, water started to flow into the basin where eleven tunnel units have been fabricated. In two months' time, these pre-cast tunnel units will be floated and towed to the sea one by one for further immersion and connection on the seabed of the Victoria Harbour.

Mr TM Lee, General Manager - SCL and Head of E&M Construction of MTR Corporation said at the celebration today, "The water filling into the casting yard brings us a step closer to the delivery of the SCL cross-harbour tunnel. Our project team has geared up to prepare for the next challenge when the new cross-harbour tunnel units submerge under the Harbour which is targeted for completion by early 2019."

Extending the existing East Rail Line from Hung Hom Station, this railway harbour crossing will reach the Causeway Bay Typhoon Shelter and connect to the machine-bored tunnels towards Wan Chai North and Admiralty, to form the North South Corridor of SCL. To date, around 48% of the overall works for the North South Corridor have been completed and it is targeted for commissioning in 2021.

The SCL project also includes an East West Corridor which connects the Ma On Shan Line with the West Rail Line at Hung Hom Station via new stations in East Kowloon. The East West Corridor tunnels were broken through in August last year, and installation of tunnel railway systems is now underway. The East West Corridor is scheduled for commissioning for passenger service in 2019.

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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 ten commuter railway lines, a Light Rail network and a high-speed Airport Express link on which about 5.6 million passenger trips are made on a normal week day. Another 5.6 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 Captions:

1. (From left) Mr Akihiko Togo, Senior Managing Executive Officer of Penta-Ocean Construction Company Limited, Mr Jimmy Chan, Principal Government Engineer of Railway Development Office, Highways Department, Mr TM Lee, General Manager – SCL and Head of E&M Construction of MTR Corporation, Mr Aidan Rooney, General Manager – SCL Civil – NSL and Mr SJ Pan, Executive Director and Vice President of China State Construction Engineering (Hong Kong) Limited celebrate the completion of the civil structure works of the Immersed Tube Tunnel units.



2. Starting from today, the Immersed Tube Tunnel casting yard at Shek O is being re-watered. In two months' time, the pre-fabricated tunnel units will be floated and towed out one by one to the Victoria Harbour for immersion and connection.



3. Each of the Immersed Tube Tunnel pre-fabricated units will be lowered to the seabed of Victoria Harbour one by one, to form Hong Kong's fourth railway harbour crossing.

