

MTR Resumes Dynamic Train Test for New Signalling System of East Rail Line

After conducting a comprehensive safety review and confirming that the safety requirements for the testing are met, dynamic train test for the new signalling system of East Rail Line will resume tonight (28 May 2019) during non-traffic hours.

The signalling system of East Rail Line needs to be upgraded to prepare for the future operation of the Shatin to Central Link across the harbour. An incident occurred during the testing of the new signalling system on the Tsuen Wan Line at non-traffic hours on 18 March, and the Corporation takes this matter very seriously. Although the new signalling system for the future East Rail Line is different from the new system of Tsuen Wan Line, to be prudent, all train tests relating to new signalling systems had been temporarily suspended since the incident.

Static tests, which do not involve train movements, have resumed gradually since early May and such tests have been smooth so far. The Corporation has requested the contractor to submit a detailed assessment to confirm that the system meets the safety requirements for dynamic testing. At the same time, an Independent Safety Assessor appointed by the Corporation has conducted a safety assessment, which has confirmed that the new signalling system meets international safety standards for dynamic testing.

After reviewing the information submitted by the Contractor and confirming that the testing plans are safe, the Corporation gave agreement to the resumption of dynamic train test for the new signalling system on East Rail Line starting from tonight (28 May). The test will be carried out during non-traffic hours for two to three nights a week to avoid impacting on normal train service.

“Safety is of utmost importance to the Corporation. Stringent and detailed review and investigation have been conducted during the past few months. We will continue to safeguard public safety, as well as the safety of our staff and contractors during the signalling replacement works,” said Mr Adi Lau, Operations Director of MTR Corporation.

During the dynamic test on East Rail Line, the Corporation will closely monitor the testing process and ensure safe railway operations. Comprehensive contingency measures have also been established to minimise any potential impacts to passengers.

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About MTR Corporation

Every day, MTR connects people and communities. As a recognised world-class operator of sustainable rail transport services, we are a leader in safety, reliability, customer service and efficiency.

MTR has extensive end-to-end railway expertise with more than 40 years of railway projects experience from design to planning and construction through to commissioning, maintenance and operations. Going beyond railway delivery and operation, MTR also creates and manages dynamic communities around its network through seamless integration of rail, commercial and property development.

With more than 40,000 dedicated staff*, MTR carries over 12 million passenger journeys worldwide every weekday in Hong Kong, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Australia and the Mainland of China. MTR strives to grow and connect communities for a better future.

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

*includes our subsidiaries and associates in Hong Kong and worldwide