

PRESS STATEMENT

31 May 2018

**Independent Assurance on the Structural Integrity of
Platforms of Hung Hom Station Extension**

In the press statement dated 30 May 2018, MTR Corporation provided clarification concerning the detection and rectification of workmanship issues in the construction process of the Hung Hom Station extension works. As announced previously, there were some workmanship deficiencies in the steel works between the diaphragm wall and the platform levels slab structure detected during routine site monitoring and supervision. On discovery, immediate rectification actions were taken and the Contractor was instructed to make good the works which were also strictly monitored.

Concreting works were only allowed to proceed after the completion of all rectification works and verification by an MTR on-site engineer that such steel works are in compliance with the specifications and requirements in relevant drawings. This verification is evidenced by formal inspection records.

Construction works for the aforementioned platform slab started in mid-2015. During the construction, the on-site staff of both the Corporation and the Contractor identified instances of deficient workmanship in the steel works between the diaphragm wall and the slab structure during daily supervision and inspection. For works which did not fully meet the requirements of the relevant drawings and specifications, our on-site inspectors have requested immediate rectification by the Contractor and the subcontractor in accordance with established procedures. As with all construction activities, irregularities are identified and rectified as part of day-to-day supervision work.

In December 2015, having identified through regular inspection that some deficient coupling works had continued in construction of the platform slab, we requested the Contractor to enhance further their quality control process. At all times concreting works for the concerned slab can only take place after the verification process by the Corporation's engineer as noted above.

The Corporation fully understands the public's expectation on the construction quality of railway projects. Highways Department has written to the Corporation today requesting a report to demonstrate that any deficient works had been fully rectified to meet quality requirements, and an independent consultant be appointed to conduct a loading test to affirm the structural integrity of the aforementioned structures at the Hung Hom Station Extension. Professor Frederick Ma, Chairman of MTR Corporation, has instructed the management to follow up immediately on Highways Department's request. The findings of the independent consultant will be made public.

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“MTR Corporation is committed to upholding the highest quality standards in its railway projects and will always strive to maintain a high degree of transparency in information dissemination to the community in respect of all our railway projects including the Shatin Central Link and the Express Rail Link. It is unfortunate if my recent remarks may have created any wrong impression. As always, the Corporation will fully cooperate with the Government to address public concerns relating to the extension works at Hung Hom Station,” said Professor Ma.

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