

First West Rail Line 8-car Train Ready for Passenger Service from 2 January

Starting from this Saturday (2 January 2016), West Rail Line customers may find the train arriving at their station platform a little longer than usual, comprising of eight cars rather than the current seven cars. This will be the first 8-car passenger train to be converted under the Shatin to Central Link (SCL) project to serve the future SCL “East West Corridor”.

The 28 7-car trains now serving the West Rail Line will be converted to eight cars and put into service one by one in a 30-month programme. Upon completion, overall carrying capacity on the West Rail Line will be enhanced by about 14%. Other than a more comfortable travelling environment, customers will also enjoy new features in the 8-car trains, including dynamic route maps and gangway displays showing the names of the next stations in their journeys.

“As both 7-car and 8-car trains will operate on the West Rail Line over the next two-and-a-half years, we are focusing on ensuring our customers continue to enjoy smooth MTR journeys by providing enhanced information and putting in place visible new signage on station platforms,” said Mr Allen Ding, Operations Manager –East Rail Line.

The new arrangements include:

1. Signage in visible colours on West Rail Line station platforms at the 7th and 8th car locations.
 - At the end of the 7th car location, a pink sign on the platform screen door will indicate that the waiting zone for 7-car trains will remain unchanged.
 - At the front end of the new 8th car location, green signage on the platform screen door will show a giant number eight. Queuing arrangements will also be highlighted in green along the platform floor.
2. Enhanced Platform Information Display System will show the number of cars in each of the next arriving trains to direct customers to the relevant waiting zones.
3. Additional Platform Assistants will be deployed during peak periods to guide customers to the 7-car and 8-car waiting zones with eye-catching signs.

The first 8-car train to be introduced on the West Rail Line is a key milestone for the “East West Corridor” of the Shatin to Central Link project. Targeted for completion in 2019, the “East West Corridor” will link the West Rail Line directly with the Ma On Shan Line through a new section of railway currently under construction between Tai Wai and Hung Hom stations.

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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. Mr Allen Ding, Operations Manager –East Rail Line announces that the first 8-car train will be put into service on the West Rail Line on 2 January 216.



2. Tailor-made signage will be in place to help customers identify the queuing areas for 7-car and 8-car trains.

