



MEDIA RELEASE

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DETAILED DESIGN COMPLETE FOR SYDNEY'S NEW TRAIN

RailCorp and Reliance Rail jointly announced that the final contractual design milestone on the NSW Rolling Stock Public Private Partnership (PPP) project had been achieved.

RailCorp Chief Executive Officer Rob Mason confirmed \$10 million had been paid to Reliance Rail for meeting the Critical Design Review (CDR) milestone, marking the completion of the detailed design phase for the train, maintenance facility and the train simulators.

Under the NSW Government's \$3.6 billion Rolling Stock PPP Project contract, Reliance Rail receives performance-based payments upon achieving agreed milestones such as the CDR. The bulk of the payments Reliance Rail receives will be for the availability of the trains for passenger service.

Reliance Rail is contracted to deliver 78 eight-car, double-deck trains (626 carriages) for use on the CityRail network and provide maintenance on the fleet for 30 years at a purpose-built facility at Auburn in Sydney's west.

Reliance Rail Chief Executive Officer Mr Terry Kearney said more than 100 new jobs had been created for the train design, project management and procurement activities over the past two years, mostly in NSW.

"These jobs were created within the Downer EDI Rail – Hitachi Joint Venture, which is designing and manufacturing the trains on behalf of Reliance Rail.

"A further 250 people were employed for the peak design and construction of the \$220 million train maintenance facility at Auburn and 100 new jobs will be created to maintain the fleet once it is operational.

"During the manufacturing phase up to 300 jobs are to be created in the Hunter region, including 29 apprenticeships, as part of the final assembly, testing and commissioning of the fleet that is due to begin next month at the Downer EDI Rail Cardiff manufacturing facility," Mr Kearney said.

Mr Kearney said Sydney's next generation trains would be progressively available for commuter services from late 2010.

In late July, a pre-production vehicle will arrive for final assembly at the Downer EDI Rail manufacturing facility in Cardiff, near Newcastle. It will be used for tuning of key train systems on Sydney's CityRail network early next year, which will assist in the smooth introduction of the new trains into passenger service from late 2010.

Mr Mason said RailCorp was ready to place the new trains into passenger service as soon as they were available.

“This project is on a scale never seen before in Australia and the acquisition will be equal to about half of CityRail’s existing suburban fleet in a single order,” Mr Mason said.

“Safety, reliability and value for money are key priorities for RailCorp in this project and we are confident that Sydney’s next generation air-conditioned trains will improve the travel experience of Sydney commuters.”

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For more information about the PPP Rolling Stock Project visit: <http://www.railcorp.info>

FOR MEDIA INQUIRIES CONTACT:

RAILCORP PUBLIC AFFAIRS (02) 8202 2228