

Milestones 2001

january

- A new shareholders' agreement was signed for Creative Star Limited (now Octopus Cards Limited), removing its non-profit making restriction. MTR continued as majority shareholder.

february

- The Company was selected as operations and maintenance consultant for the metro systems in Bangkok and Kaoshiung, signifying continued growth in our external consultancy business.

may

- MTR was one of only three companies presented with "The General Secretariat Award for Innovation in Public Transport" by the International Association of Public Transport (UITP) World Congress – the only Asian award winner.

- Installation of platform screen doors commenced at Choi Hung Station, as part of a programme to retrofit all underground stations by 2006.

- Weekday evening peak service was enhanced for all three Urban Lines, providing increased capacity, greater convenience and a more comfortable travelling environment for passengers.

june

- A ceremony was held at Tseung Kwan O Depot to mark the completion of all civil engineering works for the Tseung Kwan O Extension, on schedule for public opening in August 2002.



- On 1 June, MTR became one of the constituent stocks in the Hang Seng Index and the MSCI Provisional Index Series.

july

- MTR submitted a competitive project proposal to Government to build, operate and finance the Shatin to Central Link. The Company also tendered for the construction and operation of a cable car linking Tung Chung with Ngong Ping, the site of the Po Lin Monastery and the Big Buddha statue, and submitted a proposal on the Island Line Extensions, comprising the North Island Link and the West Island Line, which are natural extensions of the MTR system.

- The tender for the Choi Hung Park and Ride Development was awarded to Chun Wo Holdings Limited. The development will provide an improved environment for transport interchange while meeting demand for quality residential and commercial property in the area.



- MTR commenced operation and maintenance of the Automated People Mover at the Hong Kong International Airport.

september

- North Point Interchange opened, reducing interchange time between the Kwun Tong Line and Island Line to just one minute via a new platform screen door-fitted, air-conditioned interchange.



- The Train Modernisation Programme was completed three months ahead of the original schedule. The modernised trains feature improved lighting, ventilation, handles and poles, wheelchair and baggage space, maps and InfoPanels.

october

- The estimated project outturn cost of the Tseung Kwan O Extension was further revised down to HK\$18 billion, a reduction of more than 40% compared to the original estimate. New rolling stock for the Tseung Kwan O Extension – MTR's first Asian-built trains – arrived from Korea for testing and commissioning.

- The Company raised HK\$6 billion through two club loan facilities on very attractive terms, completing a financing programme during 2001 totalling HK\$16 billion obtained at historically low interest rates.

november

- The Ride 10 Get One Free programme – a six-month fare concession bonus scheme was launched for all Octopus cardholders – to help MTR passengers face difficult economic conditions, and to stimulate ridership.

- Paradise Mall previously the Heng Fa Chuen Shopping Centre, opened after some HK\$80 million spent renovating the shopping centre, bringing the concept of shoppertainment to new heights.

december

- MTR was voted "Number One in Hong Kong" in Review 200, a poll of Asia's leading companies conducted by the *Far Eastern Economic Review* in 2001.



- The Company invited tenders for Area 55b, the first property development tender along the new Tseung Kwan O Extension.