

First Pair of Automatic Platform Gates Installed on Ma On Shan Line

The installation of Automatic Platform Gates (APG) for the Ma On Shan Line (MOL) has commenced on 18 November 2014 and the first set of APGs is now in place on Platform 4 of Tai Wai Station. Other than Tai Wai Station, similar works will gradually begin at City One, Sha Tin Wai, Che Kung Temple and Shek Mun Stations.

"It is always challenging to carry out modification works on an operating railway. In order not to disturb normal passenger service and regular maintenance works, we can only work for two hours overnight after the last passenger train of the day. For installation of APGs, the construction team has to finish precise electrical & mechanical works and conduct a series of tests to ensure a highly accurate operation of the gates before we return the platform to railway service in the morning," said Mr T M Lee, Acting General Manager – SCL of MTR Corporation. "To fully utilize the limited time we have, the works programme has to be carefully designed and devised to account for how every minute is to be used."

Once installation is completed in existing service areas, the operation of APGs will commence. "During the retrofitting works, we will deploy additional station assistants to alert passengers to the APG operation when boarding and alighting trains to ensure safety. Passengers will be informed of the related works arrangements through various channels including station notices and broadcasts," said Mr Allen Ding, Operations Manager – East Rail Line and Ma On Shan Line, "Understanding passengers' desire for APGs, we are committed to bring forward the completion of APG installations in MOL in 2017, one year earlier than planned."

The new APGs are designed and manufactured in Switzerland. A total of 720 APGs will be installed on 18 platforms at 9 stations.

Upon the commissioning of the Shatin to Central Link East West Corridor, MOL will change from the existing 4-car train operations to 8-car trains. The modification works include platform and roof extension at MOL stations. APGs will be retrofitted at both the existing service area and the extended platform area.

- End -

Photo Caption:

Automatic platform gates will be retrofitted at all MOL stations with first gate installed at Tai Wai Station platform.

