

MTR 35th Anniversary



1970's

1975 The Company was established on 26 September to build and operate a mass transit railway system for Hong Kong.

1979 The then Modified Initial System (Kwun Tong to Shek Kip Mei) commenced public service on 1 October and carried 285,000 passengers on the first day of operation.

1982 The Tsuen Wan Line was officially opened on 10 May.

1984 The Company and Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation ("KCRC") joined hands to launch Common Stored Value Tickets in mid-October.

1985 On 31 May, the Island Line operating from Chai Wan Station to Admiralty Station commenced service.

1989 The Eastern Harbour Rail crossing was opened on 5 August, providing passengers a much-needed alternative for crossing Victoria Harbour.

1980's



1997 The Company and other transport firms launched the Octopus Contactless Smart Card, which has since become the most popular payment method on public transport and for an increasing range of day-to-day expenses.

1998 The Tung Chung Line was opened on 22 June, extending MTR services to Lantau Island through West Kowloon and Tsing Yi.

On 6 July, the Airport Express began service, transporting passengers between the Hong Kong International Airport at Chek Lap Kok and Central.

1990's

In the 35 years since our service operations started, MTR has grown with the people of Hong Kong to become a critical component of the transport infrastructure, as well as the creator of new integrated communities above and near stations. From a single line that opened in 1979, we now operate ten lines, 220.9 km of route length that in 2014 carried over 1.9 billion passengers, together with a range of complementary businesses. Since 2007, we have been building a portfolio of railway operations in Europe, the Mainland of China and Australia. Publicly listed since 2000, we are held in high regard world-wide for our sustainable approach to public transport.

2000

In October, the successful MTR Privatisation Share Offer attracted an oversubscription of 17.4 times for a HK\$9.4 billion offering and created a shareholder base of over 600,000 at the time of listing.

2002

The Tseung Kwan O Line commenced service on 18 August.

2004

On 24 February, the Government announced its decision to invite the Company and KCRC to commence discussions on the Rail Merger.

2005

Disneyland Resort Line commenced service on 1 August.

2006

The Company signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government on 11 April, setting out the terms of the proposed merger of the rail systems of the Company and KCRC, together with the acquisition of a property package.

2007

London Overground Rail Operations Limited commenced the operations of London Overground in November.

The Rail Merger with KCRC was completed on 2 December.

2009

On 16 August, Austin Station commenced passenger service, which connected the West Rail Line with the East Rail Line.

Beijing Metro Line 4 commenced its trial operations on 28 September.

The Company took over the operation of Stockholm Metro and Melbourne Metropolitan Train Network in November.

2011

Full line operation of the Shenzhen Metro Longhua Line was commenced on 16 June.

2012

Hangzhou Metro Line 1 commenced full line operation in November.

2013

In May, the first phase of Beijing Metro Line 14 opened to serve commuters.

2014

Island Line service extended to Western District on 28 December.

2000's

