Key Events in 2015

January
The Company announced the appointment of Dr Eddy Fong Ching as an Independent Non-Executive Director.

The Company awarded the tender for LOHAS Park Package 6 Property Development to Great Team Development Limited, a subsidiary of Nan Fung Group Holdings Limited.

To thank passengers for 35 years of support and to celebrate the extension of the Island Line to Western District, the Company offered two days of fare discounts on the second and third days of the Chinese New Year.

February
The tender for the Tin Wing Stop Property Development was awarded to Best Vision Development Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sun Hung Kai Properties Limited.

March
The Company awarded a HK$3.3 billion contract to replace the signalling systems for six MTR lines and the Airport Express.

The Company’s UK joint venture, London Overground Rail Operations Limited (“LOROL”), received the “Rail Operator of the Year Award” at the “2015 London Transport Awards”.

The Board appointed Mr Lincoln Leong as Chief Executive Officer with effect from 16 March for a term of three years.

Sai Ying Pun Station entered service on 29 March, marking the full opening of the Island Line extension to Western District.

MTR Express, a new intercity train service that connects Stockholm and Gothenburg in Sweden, commenced operations.

April
Mr Hon Chi-keung joined the Board as Non-Executive Director upon taking over the post of Permanent Secretary for Development on 7 April from Mr Wai Chi-sing.

A topping-out ceremony was held at the site of Hin Keng Station, signifying the completion of civil works for the first Shatin to Central Link station.

May
On 31 May, LOROL successfully expanded services on the London Overground and MTR Corporation (Crossrail) Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, launched the first phase of the future Crossrail operation.

June
Mr Morris Cheung, formerly Human Resources Director, took up the role of European Business Director to oversee the Company’s business development in Europe.

The tender for LOHAS Park Package 7 Property Development was awarded to Ventures Smart Limited, a subsidiary of Wheelock and Company Limited.

A ground-breaking ceremony was held to mark the start of the main construction works for the Maritime Square Extension project.

A new wave of fare promotions including the five-month “10% Same-Day Second-Trip Discount” was launched on 21 June when new MTR fares took effect.

July
The Company awarded a contract for the purchase of 93 new 8-car trains to replace all of the older-generation trains now operating on the Kwun Tong, Tsuen Wan, Island and Tseung Kwan O lines.

A topping-out ceremony was held at Kai Tak Station to celebrate the completion of the civil structure.
August

The Company announced the appointments of Mr Lau Ping-cheung, Kaizer and Dr Allan Wong Chi-yun as Independent Non-Executive Directors on 11 August. Ms Christine Fang Meng-sang resigned as an Independent Non-executive Director with effect from the same day.

September

MTR Stockholm AB, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company was granted a six-year extension of its concession to operate the Stockholm Metro to 2023.

To reinforce the Company’s commitment to empowering young people to reach their full potential, the new “Youth Connect” identity was launched at the “Cross-Sector Summit on Pathways to Employment”.

Ms Linda So joined the Company as Corporate Affairs Director on 16 September to oversee stakeholder engagement, external communications and corporate responsibility.

About 1,500 race walkers participated in MTR HONG KONG Race Walking to promote healthy living. A record donation of HK$1.42 million was raised to support the Hospital Authority Health InfoWorld’s work.

October

The Company announced the award of the tender for the LOHAS Park Package 8 Property Development to Albany Investments Limited, a subsidiary of Cheung Kong Property Holdings Limited.

The Chief Executive of the HKSAR Mr C Y Leung visited London’s Crossrail to learn more about the Company’s leading role in its future railway operations.

November

The Company launched a “Trial Registration Scheme for Carriage of Oversized Musical Instruments”.

The 5-km tunnel stretching from Hin Keng to Kai Tak for the Shatin to Central Link project was broken through.

A 5.7-km extension of Hangzhou Metro Line 1 successfully commenced passenger service. This extension is operated by our 49% owned associate in Hangzhou.

Our 49% associate Beijing MTR Corporation Limited (“BJMTR”) signed the Concession Agreement for Beijing Metro Line 16 with the Beijing Municipal Government.

The Company signed the Express Rail Link Agreement with the HKSAR Government on the further funding of the Hong Kong Section of Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (“Express Rail Link”) project.

December

MTR Nordic, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, was awarded the concession to operate and maintain the Stockholm Commuter Rail Systems (Stockholms Pendeltåg) for an initial period of ten years, starting from December 2016.

Excavation of the 26-km tunnel of the Express Rail Link project was successfully completed, marking a major breakthrough for the project.

Operated by BJMTR, the 16.6-km Phase 3 Middle Section of Beijing Metro Line 14 opened for passenger service on 26 December.

The Company awarded the tender for the LOHAS Park Package 9 Property Development to Ever Merits Investments Limited, a subsidiary of Wheelock and Company Limited.

Dr Raymond Chi’en Kuo-fung retired from the Board as Chairman on 31 December 2015. Professor Frederick Ma Si-hang was appointed as Chairman for a term of three years, effective from 1 January 2016.