



Media Release

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First Guided Electric Transit Vehicle starts Commercial Service in China

The first magnetically guided electric transit vehicle, using intelligent Digital Rail Technology (DRT), has gone into commercial service in the Chinese city of Lingang.

This follows a series of successful trials conducted in Lingang over the past few months.

Developed by CRRC and Shanghai Electric, eight vehicles are now operating on a 21.75 kilometre-long line from Hongyin Square Station to the Dishui Lake Metro Station in Lingang - a planned city located in the Pudong New Area of Shanghai.

The service currently operates from 6am – 9pm, with a departure interval of 15-35 minutes.

Each zero emission, battery-powered vehicle is 30.5 metres long and can carry up to 300 passengers – more than three times that of the regular bus services – guided by magnetic nails embedded into the road surface.

They run on 16 rubber wheels, all of which can be steered, operated by a driver and a steward, and supported by an advanced auxiliary driving system to ensure safety.

Carriages are equipped with double doors that open 1.6 metres wide, enabling quick entry and exit for passengers, particularly during peak times.

The customer experience is a priority, with each vehicle providing a designated area for wheelchairs, courtesy seats, a medicine box, and a convenience service bag.

Platforms feature intelligent information screens, displaying arrival and departure times, as well as speakers to transmit announcements to passengers.

The first batch of nine vehicles have been put into operation, including eight on the main line and one on standby.

Reports out of Lingang state that “...from the outside, the tall and broad lines of the vehicle look like a ‘subway’ running on the ground, with one-step doors for passengers to hop on and off.”

The intelligent DRT system involves the use of digital magnetic tags or nails, embedded into the road surface.... producing a type of virtual digital track.

Key features include track guidance technology for vehicle positioning, scene foresight, electronic mapping and switching, along with leading-edge vehicle management software.

A state-of-the-art control centre manages operations and the status of the digital tracks' health.

The technology provides excellent adaptability, enabling continued operation on rainy days, such as when there is snow cover, insufficient light and even darkness.

Infrastructure Technology Solutions Group (ITSG) – formerly known as Royale Infrastructure – has the license to bring this Digital Rail Technology (DRT) to Australia, New Zealand, and other regions.

ITSG Chief Executive, John Bartolotta, said he is delighted to see that the vehicle is now in commercial operation.

“It has been a long time coming, but we firmly believe that this is the new medium volume public transit system that the market has been waiting for,” Mr Bartolotta said.

“We now have a working example of an intelligent transit vehicle that delivers high safety, flexible scheduling, short construction periods and lower investment costs,” he said.

“We congratulate CRRC and Shanghai Electric on achieving this significant milestone,” he added.



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