

MEDIA RELEASE

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TasRail Marks Successful Commissioning and Delivery of New Wagon Fleet

TasRail marked the successful conclusion of its new wagon procurement project with an official ribbon cutting event at its Brighton Transport Hub today with key customers, stakeholders and project partners from CNR China.

The wagon project followed an exhaustive public tender process that saw the final construction contract awarded in late 2012 for the delivery and commissioning of 209 new wagons; consisting of 18 cement, 54 bulk ore, 17 coal in and 120 intermodal rolling stock units.

TasRail CEO Damien White stated the project had been no small undertaking given the complexity of the four bespoke wagon types, designed to operate in the unique terrain of Tasmania's rail network.

"Once active in the network, these assets will deliver TasRail significant efficiency and productivity gains across several key indicators, including maintenance and fuel savings, plus a decrease in track wear and reduced risk of derailments through greater stability."

An increase in customers and freight volumes mean that the wagons will be put to work as soon as they arrive, Mr White said.

"Last year we averaged 115 train movements per-week and moved 2.6m tonnes of freight across the network.

"This demonstrates the increasing confidence customers have in putting their freight on rail, underpinned by TasRail's renewed reliability, capacity and customer focus.

"The greater capacity we can offer to existing and new customers to get their freight on rail, the greater role TasRail can play in the future of freight, enabling our key industries and emerging ones to grow the Tasmanian economy."

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