



裝載你我·映照生活
Carrying our culture and life stories

Immediate release

Hong Kong Tramways Celebrates its Milestone: 110 Years in Service

“Carrying our culture and life stories”

*Presenting Long Servicing Staff Awards and “We all grow up with Ding-Ding”
Photo and Story Competition Awards*

(18 July 2014) Hong Kong Tramways (HKT) hosted a reception at the Asia Society Hong Kong Centre to celebrate its 110th anniversary tonight. The event, attended by nearly 200 guests including policy-makers, business partners and community leaders, marked the crescendo of the six-month long celebratory activities. Since founded in 1904, HKT has been serving the community as the greenest and most economical mode of transportation.

The ceremony of the reception was officiated by Mrs. Carrie Lam, Chief Secretary for Administration, Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung, Secretary for Transport and Housing, HKSAR Government, Mr. Arnaud Barthélémy, Consul General of France in Hong Kong and Macau, Mrs. Ingrid Yeung, Commissioner for Transport, HKSAR Government, Mr. Jean-Marc Janailac, Chairman & CEO, Transdev, France, Mr. Cyril Carniel, Vice-President of RATP Dev, France, and Mr. Emmanuel Vivant, Managing Director of HKT.

Speaking at the ceremony, **Mrs. Carrie Lam**, Chief Secretary for Administration, said, “To those who were born and brought up in Hong Kong like me, the tram is indeed part of our lives – we all grow up with Ding-Ding. In operation since 1904, the tramway has all along been an important player in the daily commute on Hong Kong Island. It has been, and will continue to be, part of our heritage and collective memory. Every day, about a fifth of a million of our public transport trips are made on the 30-kilometer long tramway. The tramway, with a more relaxed pace, is highly affordable and good for air quality. There is no road-side emission from the system all the way from Shau Kei Wan to Kennedy Town.”

Mr. Emmanuel Vivant, Managing Director of HKT, spoke at the ceremony, “*Proud of our heritage while striving to meet the expectations of the 21st century passengers*” is how we define our mission. To that end we are implementing an improvement plan to enhance our services. The new “Signature Trams”, the new Trams Positioning and Dispatching System, the NexTram real-time passenger information system and the new track maintenance methods are some of the most visible elements.

“Just a few weeks ago, a smartphone app has been deployed and LED panels are under test to better inform the public of the tram service. Today, we continue working on new initiatives to optimize tram dispatching, better serve the passengers’ demand and improve onboard comfort. Beyond carrying people, the trams also

carry our culture and the life stories of many Hong Kong citizens, which is the theme of our anniversary campaign. "

Sharing the joy and fun with the public

At the joy-filled ceremony, HKT launched a book entitled "***The Tram. Its People. Its Parts. Its Stories***" which features stories that chronicled the development of the company as told by staff members. To raise public interest in the book, a public seminar will be held on 2:00-3:30PM, 20 July at the Hong Kong Book Fair. Local collector Mr. Cheng Po-hung will talk about how tram has evolved over the years, Ms. Stella So will share her experiences in creating illustrations for the book, and members of HKT staff will tell their vivid stories. The book is available for sale in bookstores.

Furthermore, 30 July – HKT's birthday– and the following day will be Open Days of the Whitty Street tram depot; 110 families will have the rare opportunity to tour around the home to the tramcar fleet and see "behind-the-scene" stories of trams on both days.

Award presentation

As the highlights of the ceremony, HKT presented prizes to the winners of the "***We all grow up with Ding-Ding***" ***Photo and Story Competition***, which called on members of the public to share their experiences with tram through photos and stories. The top two winners won round trip air tickets to Paris and Seoul respectively with accommodation, plus a trip on RATP and Transdev's Paris tramway and Seoul's Metro 9.

In recognition of the contribution of the members of the HKT family, HKT presented ***Long Servicing Staff Awards*** to seven HKT staff members who have served the company for over 35 years.

The celebration of the 110th anniversary kicked off on 18 February this year with the launch of the memorial tram no. 110, ***free film screenings in Whitty Street Tram Depot and Moving Film Libraries*** (30 trams were installed with stills from Hong Kong cinema classics).

For more details of the HK Tramways 110th Anniversary Celebration, please go to www.hktramways.com

(End)

Photo captions:

1. Officiating at the ceremony in celebration of the anniversary are Chief Secretary Mrs. Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, GBS, JP, Secretary for Transport and Housing, Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung, Consul General of France in Hong Kong and Macau, Mr. Arnaud Barthélémy, Commissioner for Transport, Mrs. Ingrid Yeung Ho Poi-yan, Chairman & CEO, Transdev, France, Mr. Jean-Marc Janailiac, Vice-President, RATP Dev, France, Mr. Cyril Carniel and Managing Director of HKT, Mr. Emmanuel Vivant. The ceremony symbolises that the company is moving forward to serve the community with excellent services.



(Left to right) Managing Director of HKT, Mr. Emmanuel Vivant, Commissioner for Transport, Mrs. Ingrid Yeung Ho Poi-yan, Chairman & CEO, Transdev, France, Mr. Jean-Marc Janailiac, Chief Secretary Mrs. Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, GBS, JP, Secretary for Transport and Housing, Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung, Consul General of France in Hong Kong and Macau, Mr. Arnaud Barthélémy, Vice-President, RATP Dev, France.

2. All officiating guests toasted to celebrate HKT 110th Anniversary

(Left to right) Under Secretary for Transport and Housing, Mr Yau Shing-mu, Managing Director of HKT, Mr. Emmanuel Vivant, Commissioner for Transport, Mrs. Ingrid Yeung Ho Poi-yan, Chairman & CEO, Transdev, France, Mr. Jean-Marc Janailac, Chief Secretary Mrs. Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, GBS, JP, Secretary for Transport and Housing, Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung, Consul General of France in Hong Kong and Macau, Mr. Arnaud Barthélémy, Vice-President, RATP Dev, France.



3. The Secretary for Transport and Housing, Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung, presented awards to HKT Long-servicing staff



(Left to right) Mr Kong Siu-man, Mr Ho Chun-wing, Mr Lin Sin-tak, Mr Fung Kam-shing, Secretary for Transport and Housing, Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung, Mr Yau Hung, Mr Yip Woon-cheong, Mr Tsui Yuk-lam,

4. HKT's new book - The Tram. Its People. Its Parts. Its Stories - available for sale in bookstores.



Managing Director of HKT, Mr. Emmanuel Vivant(Left); Chairman & CEO, Transdev, France, Mr. Jean-Marc Janailac (Right)

For media inquiries and interviews:

(News and International Media) - C. K. Lo & S. Lam Ltd
Sarah Lee 9028 3619 sarah.lee@hkcg.com.hk
Carol Chau 9349 9358 carol.chau@hkcg.com.hk

(Lifestyle and Entertainment) - Say It LOUD Company
Venus Wong 9225 7116 venus@sayitloud.com.hk
Crystal Chan 9468 6388 crystal@sayitloud.com.hk