

## Bangkok Blue Line expands passenger service with Siemens Mobility metro trains

- **Key section of the Blue Line extension enters revenue service**
- **Features 14 new metro trains**
- **Greater availability and enhanced passenger experience**
- **Turnkey project includes metro trains, rail infrastructure, system integration, project management as well as service and maintenance**

Mass Rapid Transit Authority of Thailand (MRTA) Bangkok Expressway and Metro Public Company Limited (BEM) and CH. Karnchang Public Company Limited launched revenue service on a key section of the Blue Line Extension in late September. BEM is operating 14 new metro cars delivered by Siemens Mobility on the extension. This is the latest milestone of the turnkey project which include delivering 35 three-car metro trains, the signaling system, the traction power supply, passenger information system, SCADA, depot workshop equipment, system integration and project management as well as a 10-year maintenance contract for the line's expansion project. The full Blue Line extension will be commissioned in spring 2020.

"Bangkok is a prime example of an urban center that has both required and benefited from its public transit growth. With more than 360,000 passengers per day riding the Blue Line, this project is set to not only improve availability, but also enhance the passenger experience. We delivered on time, supporting BEM with the growing mobility demand," stated Michael Peter, CEO of Siemens Mobility. "The metro cars can carry more than 800 passengers and will help the city reach its goal of increasing urban transit riders from 40 percent of the population to 60 percent by 2021."

With more than 8 million residents, Bangkok is the largest city in and capital of Thailand. It is also Asia's sixth largest economy in terms of per capita income. With its continued growth, the city has put an increasing focus on enhancing its rapid transit system, including the expansion of the Blue Line, which originally opened in July 2004. Siemens Mobility provided turnkey solutions for the original line and then in 2017 was awarded the contract for the current expansion. In July, the Blue Line started passenger service on the first phase of this extension from Hua Lamphong to Tha Phra in honor of the king's birthday, which was three months ahead of the contractually agreed schedule. Now, the Blue Line extends to Lak Song station. The line encircles many of the city's core cultural and business districts.

The metro trains are an evolution of the ones used at the original Blue Line. They are being primarily manufactured in Vienna, Austria, and tested in Germany prior to being shipped to Thailand. They can operate up to 80 kilometers per hour.

In addition to the Blue Line, which has been operating since 2004, Siemens Mobility also delivered the Skytrain and the Airport Rail Link. In 2016, Siemens Mobility received an order for 22 four-car metro trains to operate on the city's Green Line. Delivery of the first trains was in August 2018.

For further information about Bangkok Rapid Transit, please see

<https://press.siemens.com/global/en/feature/bangkok-new-era-rail-bound-rapid-transit>

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