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## PPP PROJECT MARKS ANOTHER SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE

The NSW Rolling Stock PPP Project marked another significant milestone today, with the unveiling of four partially-complete carriages which will undergo final manufacture in the Hunter to form a pre-production test train.

Unveiling the partially-complete carriages at Newcastle Port, the NSW Minister for Transport, David Campbell also announced that the name of Sydney's next-generation train fleet was the "Waratah".

The delivery of the pre-production train carriages marks the beginning of the Hunter manufacturing phase of the PPP project. It will continue until 2013 with the final manufacture and assembly, testing and commissioning of a total of 626 carriages.

Reliance Rail Chief Executive Officer Terry Kearney said the pre-production train would rigorously test the train's key systems and their integration with the Sydney CityRail network from early 2010.

"This test train is a key initiative to support the smooth introduction of Sydney's next generation fleet into service," Mr Kearney said.

RailCorp Chief Executive Officer Rob Mason said Sydney's next generation of air-conditioned suburban passenger trains would provide customers with improved security, safety and accessibility features.

"The Waratah trains will be the most technically advanced on the network, improving reliability, safety and the travel experience of Sydney commuters, as well as providing additional capacity for the CityRail network," Mr Mason said.

The partially-completed carriages will undergo various inspections at the Newcastle Port before being hauled on the CityRail network to Downer EDI's Cardiff rail manufacturing facility.

At Cardiff, they will be fitted with a suite of technical testing equipment, traction inverters and electrical auxiliary power supply. Two carriages will also be fitted with driver's cabs.

The pre-production test train will not be fitted out internally, nor be used for passenger service whilst trialling on the CityRail network.

Reliance Rail is contracted to deliver 626 carriages for use on the CityRail network from late 2010 and to provide maintenance on the fleet for 30 years at the \$220m maintenance facility at Auburn in Sydney's west. Reliance Rail has contracted the design and manufacture of the trains to the Downer EDI Rail – Hitachi Joint Venture.

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