

MEDIA RELEASE

23 December 2011

New lift and escalator at Central Station in time for Christmas

A new lift and escalator have been unveiled at Central Station in time for Christmas as part of a \$15 million Easy Access upgrade to the Devonshire Street entrance of the station.

New escalators are now operating at the eastern end of the Devonshire Street Pedestrian Subway, providing access between the street and station concourse levels.

RailCorp has also installed a lift at the northern Chalmers Street entrance to Central Station to connect the paid concourse for the Eastern Suburbs and Illawarra Line with the paid concourse for the other suburban platforms.

Acting Chief Operating Officer Tony Eid said while there are still some elements of the Easy Access upgrade to be completed, RailCorp has managed to finish two key accessibility features ahead of schedule and in time for the Christmas and New Year period.

“The new lift will provide a great benefit for those customers with a wheelchair or pram, as they can now use the Eastern Suburbs and Intercity platforms without having to leave the paid area of the station,” Mr Eid said.

“I am also pleased to see the new Devonshire Street escalators open early to provide improved access for customers entering Central Station from Surry Hills.

“When the Central Station Easy Access upgrade is fully complete, a new lift and ramp will operate from the Devonshire Street entrance to connect customers with wheelchairs, prams and limited mobility to the Eastern Suburbs concourse and platforms,” Mr Eid said.

“I expect these final improvements at Central Station to be complete in February 2012.

In addition to accessibility upgrades, throughout the year RailCorp has been improving the Devonshire Street façade and concourse area.

“The concourse already has a new look and feel thanks to more open space, a new wood paneled entrance roof at street level, refurbished and widened stairs, new acoustic ceiling in the unpaid area, modern red wall tiling and glass walls to let natural light into the station for the first time,” Mr Eid said.

“Customers entering from Surry Hills and the Devonshire Street Tunnel are also benefitting from seven additional ticket gates installed to reduce congestion, bringing

the total to 18.

“When the upgrade of Central Station is complete, people using the station who need lift access will be easily connected to the wider CityRail network,” Mr Eid added.

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