## MTR ACADEMY

The MTR Academy ("MTRA") has continued to develop as a railway management and engineering centre that offers high quality programmes which extend the Company's rail expertise from Hong Kong to the Mainland of China and "Belt and Road" countries. MTRA also offers accredited programmes and short courses to nurture the next generation of railway professionals for the community. In 2017, over 1,000 participants from Hong Kong attended MTRA programmes.

The Academy currently offers two accredited programmes, namely the Advanced Diploma in Railway Engineering and the Diploma in Transport Studies. There are over 100 part-time students studying these programmes. The first graduating class from the Academy will be in October 2018.

Railway companies in Indonesia, Macau and Qatar looked to MTRA for customised training and development support in 2017. Over 100 executives from 17 countries attended the MTRA's Corporate and Thematic Programmes to enhance their knowledge on pursuing operational excellence. Participants came from countries including Brazil, Denmark, India, Japan, Korea, Myanmar, Singapore and the United Kingdom.

MTRA has signed Memoranda of Understanding ("MoUs") with several tertiary institutions in Hong Kong and overseas, collaborating in the development of academic programmes at various levels. This year marks the launch of the pilot subject in Professional Master Programme in Rail System Engineering & Management with the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand and witnesses the continued partnership with the Hong Kong Polytechnic University in MSc in Electrical Engineering (Railway Systems).

The Academy supports the development and delivery of an Applied Learning subject "Railway Studies", hosted by the Hong Kong College of Technology. The programme was approved by the Education Bureau in September 2017 and has become one of the electives of the Senior Secondary School Curriculum. It is the first railway related Applied Learning subject approved for the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE). The subject will be first offered in the Secondary School Academic Year 2018/2019. Promotion of the course to secondary schools has commenced in November 2017.

Overseas, MTRA is gaining increasing recognition globally and provides professional support for organisations in various countries, such as MRT Jakarta, which is seeking support for its development of Indonesia's first mass transit system. In October 2017, MTR signed an MoU with Hangzhou Metro Group to set up a branch campus of MTRA in Hangzhou. The campus will deliver a high quality training curriculum for railway executives and professionals and conduct research in the rail transport field. Discussions are underway regarding the planning and detailed collaboration arrangements.

MTRA is also playing a key role in the Rail Transit Excellence Community ("RTEC"), a multi-faceted platform to enable railway operators of "Belt and Road" countries to network of which MTR is a founding member. It currently comprises seven other metro groups from Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Macau, Saudi Arabia and Turkey. RTEC facilitates collaborative efforts in pursuit of rail transit best practices, management systems and operational excellence. MTR hosted the inaugural forum of RTEC in October 2017.

