



Media Release

David Campbell MP

Minister for Transport

Minister for the Illawarra

TRIAL OF ANTI-VANDALISM WINDOWS A SUCCESS

The NSW Government has invested \$3.6 billion in 626 new rail carriages for passengers.

Embargoed until Tuesday 1 September 2009

Minister for Transport David Campbell today said a program to reduce the ability of vandals to kick out train windows would be expanded across the CityRail network.

Mr Campbell said a pilot program was part of the 2009 CityRail Customer Charter and was aimed at reducing delays caused by acts of vandalism to train windows on older style carriages.

“Every year there are around 150 incidents of window damage on trains across the network and each of these incidents cause delays for commuters,” Mr Campbell said.

“It’s bad enough that this sort of vandalism costs taxpayers money every time it has to be fixed, but the fact that it also causes delays on the network particularly frustrates me.”

Mr Campbell said the pilot significantly strengthened window casings against the impact of being kicked or forced.

“The pilot involved reinforcing 174 carriage and door windows and these windows were shown to be more resilient against excessive force used by vandals,” Mr Campbell said.

“During the pilot period no incidents of window breakages causing delays were recorded against those windows which had been reinforced,” Mr Campbell said.

“This technology means windows that have force applied are more likely to stay intact, enabling trains to continue on their journey, rather than immediately having to be taken out of service.

“Reliability on the CityRail network is currently above 95 per cent and while that is a great result, we want to do better and that’s what installing this sort of technology is all about.”

RailCorp will now expand the number of carriages with reinforced windows to 588, while a total of 658 cars will have the doors augmented. The newer carriages such as Oscars and Tangaras already have reinforced windows.

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