

MEDIA RELEASE

David Campbell MP
Minister for Transport
Minister for the Illawarra



JOINT EMERGENCY SERVICES EXERCISE AT BONDI JUNCTION

Embargoed until 5am Sunday 18 October 2009

NSW Transport Minister David Campbell said RailCorp was today conducting a major joint emergency services exercise focusing on train evacuation procedures in the Bondi Junction tunnel between Bondi Junction Station and the Woollahra Cutting.

Mr Campbell said the exercise was part of a regular program of safety and security exercises conducted for public transport services.

“It is vital that we be well prepared in the event of accidents,” Mr Campbell said.

“Safety is our number one public transport priority, and the emergency exercise shows how seriously we take the wellbeing of our passengers and staff.

“This exercise involves personnel from NSW Fire Brigades, NSW Police Force and the Ambulance Service of NSW, with the NSW State Emergency Services participating as volunteers.

“Almost 200 participants, including about 100 RailCorp employees acting as passengers, will be involved in the exercise

“The exercise will help us review operational readiness with emergency services and manage the evacuation of passengers from tunnels.

“Participants will review the effectiveness of communication procedures to alert and activate RailCorp and Emergency Services personnel to respond to an emergency in a tunnel environment.

“Emergency personnel will also identify and become familiar with alternate evacuation routes if passengers cannot be evacuated through Bondi Junction station.

“The exercise will also test the effectiveness of the detrainment ramp available on board Oscar trains and familiarise emergency services with other emergency equipment available on these trains.”

The exercise will take place from 10am to 2pm on Sunday, 18 October.

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