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# Light Rail Mail

Tuesday 5 March 2013



The regular newsletter is our way of keeping you informed about what's happening with the Gold Coast light rail project.

## Gold Coast light rail is upskilling for the future

[Helping to fill a Queensland skills shortage](#)

GoldLinQ is helping to fill a skills gap in Queensland with the project producing vocational rail and civil construction graduates.

Workers are currently completing both a Certificate II Rail Infrastructure and Certificate II and III Civil Construction, equipping them with valuable rail and construction skills not only relevant to the current works for the Gold Coast light rail, but also transferable to heavy rail and other light rail projects across Australia.

Project Director, Simon Bradbury, said rail is a skills shortage area across Queensland, and the Gold Coast light rail is the perfect project to address this shortage.

“We’ve recently had 20 workers complete vocational qualifications in rail infrastructure and another 39 workers are undertaking civil construction traineeships on the project,” Mr Bradbury said.

[Education, Training and Employment Minister John-Paul Langbroek](#) recently visited one of project's construction sites to inspect the progress and congratulate the first rail graduates of GoldLinQ's up-skilling initiative.

"It is wonderful to see a project of this scale employing local workers and providing opportunities for those workers to gain qualifications that will serve them into the future," Mr Langbroek said.

"Industry-led training initiatives like this are an important part of the Newman Government's plan to grow a strong four pillar economy and reduce the state's unemployment.

"The next 12 months will be a critical time for the light rail project and skilled workers will be needed to get the job done quickly, safely and with minimal disruption to the local community."

The Gold Coast light rail project is committed to contributing to local industry participation. With over \$74.19 million spent with local businesses and 90.6% of goods, services and employees sourced locally, contributing to the training of Gold Coasters is one way the project positively impacts on people's lives now and well into the future.



News in brief



More News in brief



Message from the project team

## Surfers Paradise fast-tracked

A fast-tracked plan for [Surfers Paradise construction](#), which was activated by GoldLinQ early last month, has seen works rapidly progress through the precinct.

GoldLinQ CEO, Phil Mumford, said "the shortened construction plan was designed following feedback from businesses and residents in Surfers Paradise wanting GoldLinQ to complete works as quickly as possible.

"Fast-tracking construction through Surfers Paradise Boulevard means the most complex works for the Gold Coast light rail will be completed by June 2013," Mr Mumford said.

During construction, large excavation equipment and heavy vehicles need

## Bombardier Transportation works visible on corridor

The 13-kilometre Gold Coast light rail corridor continues to transform into a functioning tram system as Bombardier Transportation (BT) ramps up activities to deliver this critical piece of infrastructure.

As part of the GoldLinQ Design and Construction Joint Venture (D&C JV) team, BT has commenced installation activities of the first visible over head line electrification poles and slinging of wires.

BT's subcontractor Balfour Beatty Australia will erect approximately 470 poles and 30 kilometres of catenary (wire) along the corridor, with Southport to be the first area to witness these activities. Other major works to be achieved by BT include the installation of:

## GoldLinQ's driver trainers in training

GoldLinQ's [Operations and Maintenance partner](#), KDR Gold Coast Pty Ltd (KDR), has commenced recruitment for the team which will operate the Gold Coast light rail.

Training is currently being planned for our operational management team at various tramway systems overseas, which are similar the Gold Coast system.

The group will be trained to drive light rail vehicles, work in the operations control centre and understand operating procedures of light rail systems.

They will also see how inter-modal public transport can work as an integrated system in Bordeaux and



access to excavate and make deliveries of fill, pipes, conduits and rail. Project Director, Simon Bradbury, said these trucks and equipment need enough room to reverse and perform u-turns to work in, enter and exit the site.

“A larger construction area is safer and more efficient, allowing for many vehicles to access sites and complete construction activities concurrently, significantly improving efficiency, while ensuring the highest level of safety for our staff, surrounding businesses and residents,” Mr Bradbury said.

The fast-track approach seeks to minimise disruption to traders and visitors to the precinct with the aim to complete the most complex works prior to the Christmas school holiday period 2013-2014.

- Pre-assembled traction substations, which will convert electrical power into the form required to run the trams;
- Fibre optic network and communication systems;
- Tram signalling system; and
- Major vehicle maintenance equipment at the depot.

BT is the global leader in the rail equipment manufacturing and servicing industry. Its wide range of products include passenger rail vehicles and total transit systems. Having supplied more than 2,400 light rail vehicles worldwide, BT possesses a well-proven expertise in the execution of rail Public Private Partnerships and specifically, light rail Public Private Partnerships.

With a sizeable presence in the Australian rail industry, BT has been successful in supplying rail vehicles to Queensland, Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia and Western Australia. Stay tuned for further updates from BT, especially the arrival of the first tram.

will travel to the manufacturing facility in Bautzen, Germany to see the trams bound for the Gold Coast firsthand.

The team will bring back best-practice methods and knowledge and train our drivers and operational staff as they begin to come on board towards the end of 2013.

If you want to work with the most exciting project team on the Gold Coast [click here](#) for further information.



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