

PRESS RELEASE



16 October 2017

Ricardo plc
Shoreham Technical Centre,
Old Shoreham Road,
Shoreham-by-Sea,
West Sussex,
BN43 5FG, UK

Ricardo helps prepare new Maglev line to serve the city of Beijing

It can be revealed that Ricardo expertise is playing a key role in the final preparations for Beijing's new maglev line. The S1 line will be first in the Chinese capital to operate with magnetic levitation, serving a 10km route through the western districts of Shijingshan and Mentougou

Appointed earlier this year as the Independent Safety Assessor of the line's signalling technology, Ricardo's Beijing team has been closely involved throughout the final stages of the project, making every effort to assure the new line's safety through a series of assessments and on-site audits. Under particular scrutiny has been the design, installation, testing and documentation of the system critical safety components such as the automatic train supervision and protection, automatic train operation, and the computer interlocking subsystem.

The unique characteristics of maglev technology – for example, the special track and switch layout, as well as axle counter configurations – requires specialist consideration. As such, the Ricardo team has hosted workshops with stakeholders to apply a risk-based approach, ensuring potential challenges are identified and resolved as the project moves towards completion.

“It was fascinating to watch the team at work on this unique and exciting project,” commented Ricardo CEO Dave Shemmans during a recent visit to Beijing to observe some of the team's on-site audits. “Projects like this show that maglev technology is becoming an increasingly viable option for major international cities like Beijing looking to reduce their reliance on car usage. Alongside conventional steel wheel/steel rail tram and metro systems, this is an area in which Ricardo is ideally placed to assist.”



Initial service trials of the S1 line commenced in the early autumn of 2017. Once launched, services will operate with an initial fleet of ten locally manufactured 6-car maglev trains, each with the capacity for around 1,000 passengers and capable of operating at speeds of up to 80 km/h.

Ricardo plc
Shoreham Technical Centre,
Old Shoreham Road,
Shoreham-by-Sea,
West Sussex,
BN43 5FG, UK

Ends



NOTES TO EDITORS:

Ricardo plc is a global, world-class, multi-industry consultancy for engineering, technology, project innovation and strategy. Our people are committed to providing outstanding value through quality engineering solutions focused on high efficiency, low emission, class-leading product innovation and robust strategic implementation. With a century of delivering excellence and value through technology, our client list includes the world's major transportation original equipment manufacturers, supply chain organizations, energy companies, financial institutions and governments. Guided by our corporate values of respect, integrity, creativity & innovation and passion, we enable our customers to achieve sustainable growth and commercial success. Ricardo is listed in the FTSE4Good Index, which identifies global companies that demonstrate strong environmental, social and governance (ESG) practices. For more information, visit www.ricardo.com.

Ricardo Certification has origins in the rail sector, where it has performed independent assessment roles on a range of high-profile projects. In Europe the company performs the Notified Body role on the central section of London's Crossrail and provides Assessment Body services for the migration of Denmark's national network to ERTMS operation and control. In Asia the company has supported the introduction of new signalling products to the market, including the first such technologies to be developed by domestic suppliers.

Ricardo Rail is the rail consultancy and assurance business of Ricardo. It provides expert independent assurance and consultancy services to help clients navigate the industry's operational, commercial and regulatory demands. Ricardo Rail has an international reach and presence through a network of 17 regional offices across Europe, Asia and the Middle East, with a team of over 500 rail engineers and specialists. Further information is available at <http://rail.ricardo.com/>.

Media contacts:

Andrew Foulkes
Communications Manager, Ricardo Rail
Tel: +44 (0)1235 753 683
Email: andrew.foulkes@ricardo.com

Anthony Smith
Ricardo Media Office
Tel: +44 (0)1273 382710
E-mail: media@ricardo.com

Ricardo plc

Shoreham Technical Centre,
Old Shoreham Road,
Shoreham-by-Sea,
West Sussex,
BN43 5FG, UK