James Blake appointed KCRC’s Chief Officer

(2 December 2007, Hong Kong) The Managing Board of the Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation (KCRC) announced the appointment of Ir James Blake, JP, to be the Chief Officer with effect from today, 2 December 2007 for a term of two years.

Prior to the merger of the KCRC and MTR Corporation rail networks, Ir Blake was the Chief Executive Officer of the KCRC from May 2006. In his new capacity, Ir Blake will report directly into the Managing Board and will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Corporation.

Following the merger the Corporation retains a wide range of responsibilities. These include the management and financing of its outstanding debts, for investing the $12 billion paid by MTR Corporation in return for obtaining the service concession and property package, for monitoring compliance with the revenue sharing and other arrangements set out in the merger transaction documents, and for managing its remaining 27 subsidiaries and a 22.1% shareholding in Octopus Cards Limited.

Ir Blake said, “I am honoured to be appointed to this important position and look forward to working closely with my colleagues in MTR Corporation and the Government in implementing the merger transaction arrangements.”

He was Senior Director, Capital Projects for the KCRC from 1997 to 2004, responsible for supervising the implementation of the Corporation’s railway expansion programme which included West Rail and the East Rail Extensions projects. Before joining KCRC in 1997, he was Secretary for Works in the Government between 1991 and 1995.

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