

Service contract on track

Bombardier signed a \$77 million maintenance contract for its Melbourne Metro Tunnel Project rail controls.

The Dandenong-based manufacturer announced the 10-year deal on Thursday 19 April and said it included an option for five extra years.

"Bombardier's range of signalling services will enhance rail network performance and greatly improve the passenger experience," managing director Andrew Dudgeon said.

Last December Bombardier, as part of the Rail Systems Alliance (RSA), won the contract to install its high-capacity rail control solution for the \$11 billion Metro Tunnel Project.

P3 23⁰⁰ APRIL 2018 Jarewac

Gender diversity on track

By Casey Neill

"Even as an award-winning manufacturing engineer, Anne Koopman worries about the impact that starting a family will have on her career.

She was a guest speaker at the Australasian Railway Association Women In Rail Luncheon at RACV City Club on Thursday 15 March.

The event followed following International Women's Day on Thursday 8 March and attracted about 400 guests, up from 300 last year.

Ms Koopman was last year's Victorian Young Manufacturer of the Year and is head of quality and LEAN manufacturing at Dandenong's Bombardier Transportation Australia.

She's pregnant with her first child and will start parental leave in June, and said she was starting to worry about what the time out will mean for her career.

Ms Koopman also spoke about some of her male mentors.

"They gave me the push I sometimes needed to put my hand up for the next challenge," she said.

She said men applied for jobs when they believed they met 60 per cent of the criteria. For women, it's 80 per cent.

"We need to equip women with the confidence," she said.

Bombardier's Loulou Hammad told the event that she started in the industry three and a half years ago.

At her first ARA event, "I was really overwhelmed by the lack of female representation in the room".

Then she met TrackSAFE executive director Naomi Frauenfelder, who helped her forge connections.

"I now see more women at these types of events," she said.

"When you see role models that look like you..."

Ms Hammad officially launched Bombardier's #leadwithme campaign, to encourage

women in leadership within the organisation.

Bombardier hopes to expand the project to other organisations.

Ms Hammad said the aim was to attract more women to the rail industry, and to support the women who are already there.

ARA chair Bob Herbert launched the organisation's gender diversity report card.

"The rail industry has identified a base on which to build," he said.

The report found that 21 per cent of the Australasian rail workforce were women.

Mr Herbert said this was up from 17 per cent four years ago.

"I believe we are making some quite good progress," he said.

He said that 30 per cent of new appointments were women, and women received 33 per cent of promotions.

But of 113,710 active rail industry worker card holders, only eight per cent are female.

"That's a challenge for all of us," he said.

"Making genuine progress is the responsibility of each individual company.

"The buck stops with you."

Diversity Council of Australia CEO Lisa Annespoke about increasing workplace gender diversity as a win-win proposition.

"Men gain when women gain," she said.

In relation to quotas, she said people should challenge comments relating to merit as it was a biased selection method defined by the group that was in charge.

Transdev Australasia CEO Rene Lalande is a Male Champion of Change.

"It's important to have male voices taking part," he said.

"Being a Male Champion of Change is about stepping up beside women."

He said gender equality was crucial for the future of the rail industry, so it could attract the brightest people.

"We need to disrupt the status quo," he said.



BUSINESS SOUTH-EAST

She's the brightest of smart set

By Casey Neill

Dandenong engineer Anne Koopmann is the state's top young manufacturer.

The Bombardier Transportation employee took home the Young Manufacturer of the Year award from the Victorian Manufacturing Hall of Fame Awards, held at the Palladium at Crown on Tuesday 9 May.

She doesn't remember much about the moment MC Kerry O'Brien read out her name.

The 33-year-old gasped and put her hand to her mouth, tears welling up in her eyes.

"I didn't really expect it so it was really a bit surreal," she said.

Ms Koopmann started working at Bombardier seven years ago in her homeland, Germany, and has called Australia home for the past five years.

She successfully applied for its Global Graduate Trainee program, which involved an 18-month stint with Bombardier split between three countries.

"I love that we do produce products that are helping everyone everyday moving around," she said.

"I think it's something that everyone can relate to.

"Even though my friends don't quite understand what I do, they still understand that I build trains and trams and it's something that everyone has used at least a few times in their lives.

"I think it's the future.

"With the growth of the cities and urbanisation, I think we need public transport solutions now more than ever."

Ms Koopmann said she'd use her \$10,000 prize for more training.

In a fireside chat with Mr O'Brien after receiving her award, she said the key to success was to always look for improvement.

"I can be quite stubborn so I never give up if I believe that something should be changed



Anne Koopmann, front and centre, celebrates her award win with Dandenong MP Gabrielle Williams and Bombardier colleagues Andrew Dudgeon, Loulou Hammad, David Evans, Ben Phyland, Michael Schmidt and Peter Harris.

for the better," she said.
"I push until it happens."

Bombardier Transportation Australian managing director Andrew Dudgeon said the award was a proud moment for the company.

"But proud for her because she's an amazing young lady, an exceptionally talented engineer, and more importantly she's an outstanding leader of people," he said.

"The men and women of Bombardier are going to be so proud to wake up tomorrow morning and see that one of their own has been given this incredible award."

Ms Koopmann was among only two female winners on the night. Mr Dudgeon said

that number should have been higher.

"I'm actually pleased that the young manufacturer of the year was a woman because I think it's a sign of things to come," he said.

"It was wonderful to see Anne standing up there as a female and as a minority in the manufacturing world.

"She is a unique person in her own right."

Mr O'Brien, the former host of ABC current affairs show 7.30, said manufacturing was "a part of us".

"Victoria has always been at the heart of Victoria's manufacturing output and still is today," he said.

The awards were established in 2001 and were

this year themed 'growing advanced manufacturing'.

"The future of manufacturing in Victoria is very bright," Industry and Employment Minister Wade Noonan said.

"These award winners are the benchmark of innovation in advanced manufacturing - and Victoria has cemented its place as the country's leader in this field."

Victoria's manufacturing industry contributes about \$26 billion to the state's economy each year and employs more than 270,000 people.

Last year, employment in manufacturing grew by about 40,000 jobs.

2 Signal for new line contract

Bombardier Transportation has been shortlisted for a \$1 billion signalling and communication systems contract as part of a consortium with CPB Contractors.

The other shortlisted bidder for the Metro Tunnel Rail Systems Alliance (RSA) is the MetroConnect consortium of John Holland, Siemens and UGL.

They'll be asked to submit a formal proposal by early next year, with a contract expected to be awarded later in the year.

The successful bidder will install high-capacity signalling (HCS) on the new Sunbury to Pakenham line that will run through the Metro Tunnel.

It will be the first roll-out of HCS on an existing network anywhere in Australia as part of the largest public transport project in Victoria's history.

"The world's best have been shortlisted to deliver the biggest and most advanced signalling package in Victoria's history," Public Transport Minister Jacinta Allan said.

"The successful bidder will install next generation signalling, which will allow safer, more frequent and reliable services in and out of the city in peak hour."

Ms Allan said the advanced technology would allow up to 30 services an hour to run, with the potential to create the two-minute services experienced in some of the biggest cities in the world.

A Centre of Excellence will be established in Victoria as part of the project to support skills, jobs and opportunities in the rail signalling and communications industry.

"The Centre for Excellence will provide skills, jobs and opportunities to local workers in the growing rail signalling industry," Ms Allan said.

BUSINESS SOUTH-EAST



Lost order risks region's jobs

By Casey Neill

There's a question mark over thousands of jobs in the south-east after Dandenong manufacturer Bombardier missed out on the state's single largest train order.

On Monday 12 September the State Government announced that the Evolution Rail consortium - including Downer Rail, CRRC and Plenary - would build 65 new high capacity metro trains (HCMT).

It prompted the south-east business community to encourage lobbying of local MPs and promotion of the region as a key manufacturing centre.

South-east Melbourne Manufacturers Alliance (SEMMA) said the decision to award the \$2 billion-plus contract to a "foreign, state-owned company" was "a major blow to the local existing supply chain".

"We are convinced that this is not a good decision for neither the retention of skills in Victoria nor the employment outlook," the statement said.

"With local content currently at 70 per cent delivered from the south-east suppliers, the decision to move to a company who will reduce this to 60 per cent local content is actually a step backwards.

"The outcomes from this decision will be very similar to the impacts the south-east has already endured from the automotive industry closures.

"Well over 3000 people may be concerned by this decision."

SEMMA questioned whether the carriages would be supplied from China.

"If this is the case, what then happens to the local supply chain that currently supplies the majority of components for the carriage assemblies?"



Bombardier Transportation's Dandenong team.

the statement said.

"How will the government control and monitor a new company achieving the reality of local content promises?"

Committee for Dandenong chairman Gary Castricum said suppliers from the south-east should be a critical partner to achieve the promised 60 per cent local content.

"Bombardier - which directly employs 400 plus staff including a vital engineering team - has 629 local Australian suppliers 45 per cent of which are located in Melbourne's south-east," he said.

"Further new-build rail contracts are desperately needed to sustain the south-east's diversified train manufacturing supply chain.

"We understand that a decision for supply of upgraded regional trains is imminent early next year."

Mr Castricum said there were many auto component manufacturers in the south-east already hard-hit by the Toyota and Ford factory closures.

He urged local MPs to "stand up and fight for business and employment".

"The prospect of train manufacturing also going overseas represents a very real threat to many businesses and jobs in the south-east," he said.

"With the demise of auto manufacture in Australia, it is critical to sustain the heavy rail design and manufacturing capacity that exists in Dandenong and the south-east."

Greater Dandenong Council's business group manager Paul Kearsley said the council was calling on the business community to lobby local MPs "to ensure the importance of this region is recognised and rewarded".

"The news that the contract was awarded to someone outside of Greater Dandenong was extremely disappointing," he said.

"More work and investment now needs to be done in promoting the industry and the performance of this region.

"We must ensure the supply chain companies receive access to the HCMT contract and Bombardier receives additional contracts for V/Locity trains and the new trams from the State Government.

"This region has the largest number of supply chain companies and we must maintain that status, not only for the benefit of the region but for Victoria as a whole.

"The promotion of this region as a key manufacturing centre for the state is vital at this time."

Australian Workers' Union Victorian secretary Ben Davis said that if Bombardier had won the contract "there would have been something like 400 more jobs created than 1000 estimated under the deal with Evolution Rail".

Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union (AMWU) state secretary Steve Dargavel said the decision provided "security and certainty to hundreds of workers and their industry, it also commits to long-term jobs and training opportunities for a new generation of highly-skilled workers".

The Journal contacted Bombardier but the manufacturer declined to comment.

Signal achievement for region is worth \$1 billion

By Casey Neill

Bombardier will play a key role in a \$1 billion contract for rail works.

Premier Daniel Andrews and Public Transport Minister Jacinta Allan announced on Tuesday 18 July that the Dandenong-based manufacturer and CPB Contractors would deliver the Rail Systems Alliance, which includes the first roll-out of a high capacity signalling (HCS) and communications system on an existing rail network anywhere in Australia.

The 55 kilometres of HCS is part of the Metro Tunnel project and will allow trains to safely run closer together.

The State Government will build dedicated control centres in Dandenong and Sunshine to support the new technology, which will enable trains every two to three minutes.

Mr Andrews said high capacity signalling meant more trains, less waiting and "services so often you don't need a timetable - you just turn up and go".

"It's cutting edge technology that will get people home safer and sooner, every day," he said.

Bombardier declined to comment on the announcement at this time, because it's officially the "preferred proponent" at this point in time.



Premier Daniel Andrews attended for the official launch.

VLocity's making tracks

By Casey Neill

The 200th VLocity car is headed for Victorian tracks, fresh from Dandenong.

Bombardier Transportation has been building the V/Line vehicles at its Dandenong facility since winning the State Government contract in 2001.

The first three-car system went into service in 2005.

Bombardier celebrated the latest milestone with partner Cummins at Middleman Functions in Scoresby on Friday 21 July.

"Having produced 200 of these magnificent engines, it's a real feat," Mr Dudgeon said.

"None of this is possible without strong, committed partnership with our customers, but especially our local supply chain."

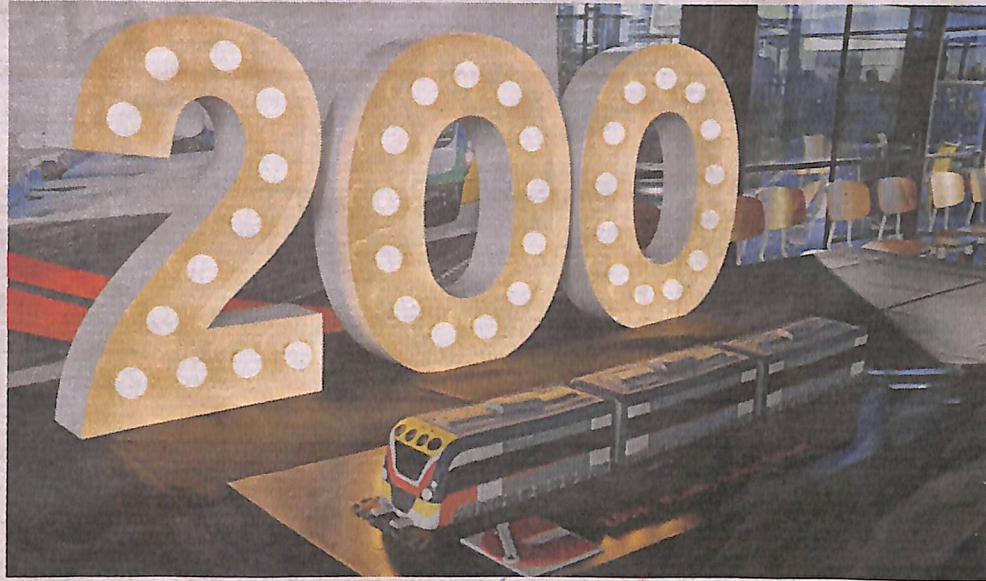
The VLocity train project supports more than 600 Victorian jobs and has peaked at 69.5 per cent local content - the highest in rolling stock manufacture in Australia.

"That truly is a locally-made train," Bombardier managing director Andrew Dudgeon said.

The trains can travel at up to 160kph and carry more than 200 passengers. The fleet moves more than 1.2 million Victorians each month.

Mr Dudgeon said patronage along regional train lines was growing.

He said the State Government's order in its



A VLocity-shaped cake at the celebrations. 171282

May budget for another 39 VLocity cars was testimony to the fleet's reliability and the partnership between government and local industry.

A 750 horsepower Cummins QSK19 diesel engine powers each train, and each car also has an 85 kilowatt Cummins genset.

Cummins produces and assembles the propulsion and electrical power generation modules at its South Pacific headquarters in Scoresby.

Each module is designed for quick replacement with a standby unit.

Som BARDIER
Pic 17th August 2017
Journal

CUTTINGS No 5 - TRAMS
No 5
12346 - TRAINS - BOMBARDIER.

P42

21st MAR
2016
JOURNAL

1

TRAIN ORDER TO BOOST JOBS IN DUNDONG
A NEW ORDER FOR 28⁰⁰⁷ CARRIAGE SETS
TO BRING A TOTAL OF 65 NEW TRAINS
BY 2018

P14

26th MAR
2016
LEADER

2

\$2 BILLION PROJECT

NEW TRAIN ORDER - THE LARGEST EVER
MADE IN VICTORIA'S HISTORY
NEW TRAINS WILL BOOST CAPACITY ON
DANDENONG CORRIDOR BY 40% TO
ALLOW 11000 EXTRA PASSENGERS IN PEAK HOURS

P30

13th JUNE
2016
JOURNAL

3

BOMBARDIER THE ONLY

MANUFACTURER OF BOTH TRAINS
AND TRAMS IN AUSTRALIA. WITH
22 LOCATIONS IN THE COUNTRY

P34

16th JUNE
2016
JOURNAL

4

DELIVERY OF 43 VLOCITY

CARRIAGES FOR THE REGIONAL RAIL
LINK 5 MONTHS EARLY
66.5% OF LOCAL CONTENT USED

STATE GOVERNMENT ORDER

20 EXTRA E-CLASS TRAMS
IN MAY BUDGET

30th NOV
2015
JOURNAL

5

19th SEPT
2016
JOURNAL

6

BOMBARDIER DISAPPOINTED ON LOSS
OF CONTRACT OF 65 NEW HIGH CAPACITY
METRO TRAINS



Dandenong company in running for train delivery

By **CASEY NEILL**

A TRAIN order boost could bolster jobs in Dandenong for years to come, industry insiders say.

The State Government announced on Tuesday 15 March that it would nearly double its high-capacity train order from 37 seven-carriage sets to 65.

Dandenong's Bombardier Transportation is in the running to deliver the project, with Eureka Rail and Evolution Rail the competition and an announcement expected late this year.

Greater Dandenong Council's business group manager Paul Kearsley said the announcement was a commitment to the local supply chains and would certainly assist in the transition from auto industry to other industries such as rail.

"We look forward to Bombardier being the successful tenderer at the end of the process," he said.

"Council looks forward to participating in any way it can to assist Bombardier and the State Government to ensure manufacturing stays in Dandenong South and the region."

Mr Kearsley said that Bombardier missing out on the contract was "not a matter that the region would really want to contemplate".

"The facility at Bombardier is the only Australian-based true manufacturing assembling facility for trains," he said.

"To lose that opportunity to expand its role within Victoria and Australia would be a really missed opportunity.

"Once you lose that facility, what you lose is all the skills.

"We would hope that the supply chain in the region would be able to assist either one of the two other parties."

South East Melbourne Manufacturers Alliance (SEMMA) executive officer Adrian Boden said the order was a "continuation of the long-term approach so needed by the manufacturing community".

"Obviously it would be hugely important to the area if the contract was awarded to Bombardier and that the current workforce was not only maintained but increased over time, as well as the considerable flow-on effect to the supply base," he said.

"The 50 per cent minimum local content is already well established within Bombardier and I am sure that, with the increased purchase commitment, it will be that much easier for Bombardier to improve on that level.

"We can only hope that other State Governments recognise the opportunity to purchase their transport needs in Australia and support and sustain our industries with long-term commitments."

Premier Daniel Andrews said the new trains would start arriving in 2018 and immediately reduce congestion on the Cranbourne Pakenham line, Melbourne's busiest.

They will be longer and able to carry more people with each trip.

Train company uncouples win

By CASEY NEILL

Bombardier's big year has continued with a Victorian Manufacturing Hall of Fame award nomination.

The Dandenong-based business was a finalist for the Large Manufacturer of the Year title but lost out to Broadmeadows-based CSL Behring at the 9 June awards ceremony.

Bombardier is the only manufacturer of both trains and trams in Australia, has more than 22 locations across the country, and designs, engineers, manufactures and maintains its vehicles in Victoria.

The company has cemented its place in the state's manufacturing landscape over the past 60 years and works directly with more than 600 Victorian suppliers across its projects.

Its FLEXITY E-Class trams have more than 50 per cent local content, its VLocity DMU trains 66.5 per cent, and the Adelaide A-City EMU trains 68 per cent.

Bombardier now employs more than 700 people in Victoria alone.

The Journal last week reported that Bombardier Transportation celebrated delivering the final 43 VLocity carriages for the Regional Rail Link - five months ahead of schedule.

The manufacturer also marked completing the Refresh Program with an event at its Dandenong plant on Thursday 2 June.

Refresh introduced new intermediate carriages to convert the VLocity trains from two to three-carriage sets.

The State Government's 2016-17 budget included 27 additional VLocity cars on top of a 21-carriage order the previous year.

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Bombardier is in the running for the contract with Eureka Rail and Evolution Rail the competition.

An announcement is expected late this year.

P30 13th JUNE 2016
JOURNAL

P34 6th JUNE 2016
JOURNAL

Trains arrive ahead of time

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The manufacturer also marked completing the Refresh Program with an event at its Dandenong plant on Thursday 2 June.

Refresh introduced new intermediate carriages to convert the VLocity trains from two to three-carriage sets.

Dandenong MP Gabrielle Williams spoke at the event, praising the work Bombardier did in Dandenong and for the Victorian manufacturing and transport industries.

Bombardier's Australian CEO Rene Lalonde said the VLocity milestone could only have been achieved as a partnership between Bombardier, the State Government, Public Transport Victoria, V/Line and the local supply chain.

He asked everyone who had worked on the project since it was first awarded in 2001 to raise their hands and gave them a special thank-you for their long-term commitment.

The carriages were designed, manufactured and delivered locally, with 66.5 per cent local content.

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Trams are on order

BOMBARDIER has officially received the State Government order for 20 extra E-Class trams announced in the May budget.

But the Opposition says it's not enough, after pledging on 9 November to order 75 new E-Class trams from the Dandenong manufacturer if re-elected.

Bombardier is currently building 50 E-Class trams, the last of which is due to enter service in May 2017.

The first trams of the new order are expected on the network in June 2017 and all 70 should be in service by late 2018.

Prior to this year's State Budget, the Journal reported that Bombardier needed a new work order by November to secure supplier contracts and avoid having to reduce its 30-strong workforce.

The State Government said the former Liberal Government did not order a single tram in its four years in office, putting jobs at Bombardier and related suppliers at risk.

Bombardier Transportation Australia managing director Rene Lalande welcomed the order.

Record train order

THE State Government has nearly doubled its order of high-capacity trains, making it the biggest single order of trains in Victoria's history.

The 65 new trains will begin arriving in 2018 and aim to reduce congestion on the Cranbourne Pakenham line — Melbourne's busiest.

Three firms, including Dandenong's Bombardiers, are tendering for the rail project that is expected to create up to 800 local jobs.

Work will involve the removal of nine level crossings, rebuilding of five stations and new power and signalling infrastructure.

The new trains will boost capacity on the Dandenong rail corridor by more than 40 per cent, allowing 11,000 extra passengers in the peak hours. The \$2 billion project to improve rail services will include high capacity signalling on every train and an expanded train depot in Pakenham.

714
26
MARCH

2016

LSA/EA

Train manufacturer gets the job done

BOMBARDIER Transportation workers and suppliers have celebrated a major milestone.

The Dandenong manufacturer has completed its contract to produce A-City electrical multiple unit (EMU) trains for South Australia.

It invited customers and suppliers to sign a poster commemorating the occasion on Wednesday 14 October, and acknowledged the local supply chain's significant contribution to the project.

Bombardier operations director Stuart Inglis said the South Australian planning, transport and infrastructure department awarded the Adelaide A-City Train Project in March 2011.

It was for 22 three-car electric trains, including 10 years' maintenance at Bombardier's Dry Creek facility in Adelaide.

The department this year awarded a three-year fleet maintenance extension.

Mr Inglis said the A-City combined

two rail vehicles known for their performance and reliability - the Perth B Series EMU and the Australian Design Award-winning VLocity diesel multiple unit (DMU).

The trains include about 60 per cent local content.

"Bombardier is proud to have designed and built this vehicle locally right here in Dandenong," he said.

"We are also extremely proud that this project has not only supplied robust, high-performing vehicles for the South Australian transportation network, but has done so utilising up to 600 local suppliers and, at peak, employed a workforce of 150 direct employees on the project."

Mr Inglis said the project's success had not been without challenges.

"But we have worked together through these challenges with the experience and dedication of the Bombardier workforce at Dandenong," he said.



Workers and guests sign the project completion board. 145178

He also thanked the South Australian Government's unwavering support, the extended Bombardier family's global expertise and capabilities, industry partnerships, and "our accomplished local suppliers".

City of Greater Dandenong mayor Sean O'Reilly and South Australian planning, transport and infrastructure department project director Phil Agnew also spoke at the event.

Journal 19 Oct 2015

P53

P29
25 Nov
2016
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OPEN DAY FOR CHARITY

TO SHOW THE PUBLIC WHAT IS MADE
IN DANDENONG.

60 YEARS OF BUILDING SUPPLY AND DESIGN
OF 2000 TRAMS AND TRAINS

A ... FROM STATE CUSTOMERS AND
P29 28 Nov 2016 Journal

BUSINESS SOUTH-EAST

Bombardier is next stop for the visitors

More than 800 people took a look at what's being made in Dandenong and raised cash for charity.

Bombardier Transportation hosted an open day for staff and families, suppliers, customers and industry partners on Sunday 20 November.

Jumping castles, mini Jeeps, train rides, face painting, a balloon artist and an animal petting zoo kept kids entertained.

There were food stalls and trucks, Melbourne SKA band Shanty Town, tours of a new VLocity train and the space where it's made, and 85 per cent of the suppliers used for the open day were from Melbourne's south-east.

A raffle raised \$1150 for the Track-Safe Foundation which was established by the Australian rail industry to reduce near collisions, injuries and fatalities on the rail network resulting from suicide and reckless behaviour.

Bombardier Transportation Australia managing director Andrew Dudgeon told staff it was "important for your sons, daughters, wives, husbands, mothers, fathers, all of your loved ones, to get to see where you come to work every day and what you do, to see how we build the



Ella Doerfuss in the driver's seat of a Bombardier-built train.

trains and trams that make up a vital part of Victorian, and Australian, infrastructure."

"This open day has been a way for us to thank our customers and industry partners who have worked with us over many years to deliver some of Victoria's most reliable and iconic trains and trams into passenger service," he said.

"With their support we look forward to strengthening our ongoing partnerships and delivering the products and

services our state needs and deserves."

Bombardier Transportation has been in Dandenong for more than 60 years and from that site designed, engineered, built and delivered more than 2000 train and tram carriages.

The company has more than 700 employees across Victoria, and 1000 across Australia, which produce trains and trams from design and engineering through to testing, delivery, maintenance and signalling.

P11 LEADER 26th Oct 2015 TRAINS. SURVEY ABOUT TRAIN TRAVEL

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

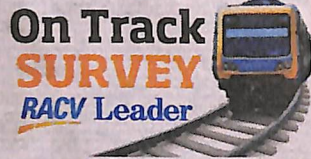
Get on board to help improve your commute

Rebecca David

OVERCROWDED trains? No parking at stations? Infrequent services?

The RACV and Leader Newspapers want commuters to talk about the issues which derail their train trips – along with the aspects of train travel you enjoy.

You can share your views as part of the On Track sur-



vey, which starts this week and runs until November 30.

And it's not just for regular public transport users – if you opt out of catching trains, tell us why.

RACV public transport and mobility manager Thanuja Gunatillake said the organisation used the results of the biennial survey to help lobby decision-makers for improvements to Melbourne's rail system.

More than a third of respondents to the 2013 survey said it was tough finding parking spots at their station, while the second big-

gest complaint was overcrowded trains.

"There has been some investment in more carpark spaces at a number of stations, including South Morang and works underway at Syndal," Ms Gunatillake said.

She said it would be interesting to see whether the rollout of Protective Services Officers at stations

would lead to a change in safety perceptions in the 2015 survey.

"We also want to hear about the good things on your train trip," Ms Gunatillake said.

You can access the survey online or obtain a paper copy by calling 9790 3323 or visiting racv.com.au/ontracksurvey



RACV's Thanuja Gunatillake at Balaclava train station.

A train-led recovery

By CAM LUCADOU-WELLS

IN THE throes of the local auto industry's demise, Dandenong's manufacturers are seeking government guarantees that Victoria's next train and tram fleets won't be built overseas.

The State Government did not respond to rumours last week that 25 new trains for the Dandenong rail corridor project could be largely built overseas under minimum 30 per cent local content levels.

Bombardier Transportation, which employs 430 staff at its Dandenong factory, is in the running for the train contract.

It also wants the State Government to exercise an option for a further 100 Dandenong-built trams. The project – so far comprising 50 Bombardier-built trams – has a supply-chain of 350 Australian and New Zealand businesses.

Andrew Spink, director of Bombardier Transportation, wouldn't comment on the company's quest

to build the Dandenong rail corridor fleet.

However he said the company was seeking extension of its tram-building contract from the government before November's state election.

"The trams have proven to have fantastic quality. Our Vlocity (diesel train) vehicles are one of the best for reliability in the world.

"It's not as though we're desperate, but we're looking for long-term sustainability.

"We need to know for next year if we can continue production beyond those 50 trams."

Bombardier is also currently building 43 Vlocity train carriages for V-Line and 66 electric train cars for Adelaide lines.

Mr Spink said the factory was "Dandenong's biggest employer", creating specialised welding schools for the tram project.

"We'll never be a direct replacement for the car industry.

"But if we have a long-term rail manufacturer, it will go a long way to making a dent into the (departing) auto industry."

Jill Walsh, of Dandenong-based Actco Pickering Metal Industries, said "time had gone past quoting local content percentages".

"Hopefully the government mandates for the train shells to be built here. That is the key to the whole train being built locally and for the value-adding down the supply chain.

"We make great trains in Dandenong - among the most reliable in the world. We just need the opportunity to do it."

Australian Industry Group state director Tim Piper said a 30 per cent local content level could deny local suppliers "a run at it".

He said manufacturers bringing in overseas parts and assembling them locally could meet 30 per cent local content.

"By buying in Australia, governments make sure skills are retained

here, jobs are kept here and social infrastructure is given a positive boost.

"The income tax, payroll tax and WorkCover payments stay here. They don't have to pay as much social welfare."

Opposition manufacturing spokesman Adem Somyurek said a Labor Government would lift local content for rail rolling stock above 30 per cent.

"We will be using government procurement to create jobs.

"In principle, we believe in local content and \$15 billion of State Government purchasing is a powerful way of driving the local economy."

He said the rail stock-making industry was important because it had crossover in skills and technology with the departing auto industry

A spokeswoman for Manufacturing Minister David Hodgett did not respond before deadline.

Group makes sure careers are on track

By CASEY NEILL

RAIL young guns are sharing their skills to grow interest in the industry.

Bombardier Transportation Australia (BTA) Dandenong employees Nhan Tran and Abhishant Pursawalkam helped to establish the Young Transport Professionals (YTP) Network in October last year.

YTP now has more than 200 members from 30 different organisations and last month held a tour at Bombardier.

"We felt that there was a need for an organisation willing to help the development of young rail professionals to step forward and take on the challenge," Nhan said.

"We all agreed that, sadly, there is a general lack of advertising for the rail industry and information about careers in rail.

"Students need to know what a great industry this is to work in.

"YTP aims to bridge this gap and spread this message.

"This will in turn attract young talent."

Nhan said the industry would also benefit from cross-organisational communication.



Young Transport Professionals Network tours Bombardier Transportation Australia.

"YTP brings together people and retains talent within the industry."

"The group is a means for explor-

ing opportunities, knowledge and lessons learnt across the industry.

"This benefits everyone - the

members, their respective employers, and ultimately the wider network."

JOURNAL 5TH OCTOBER 2015

P.50

YTP YOUNG TRANSPORT PROFESSIONALS



JOURNAL. MONDAY 13 APRIL, 2015

Jobs waiting for new tram order to arrive

By CASEY NEILL

GREATER Dandenong jobs are on the line while Bombardier waits for the State Government to order more trams.

The warning came last week ahead of manufacturing showcase Dandenong on Wheels, to be held in Dandenong Civic Square this Friday 17 April and featuring trains and trams from the rail company.

Bombardier is halfway through delivering 50 new E-Class trams for a State Government contract that finishes in December next year.

The contract had the option for a further 100 trams and Bombardier hopes an order for at least some of these will be in next month's State

Budget. If not, its contracts with suppliers will be in danger.

Greens MP Nina Springler last week called for an immediate order for 50 trams, in line with Public Transport Victoria advice on tram network needs.

"Dandenong's Bombardier factory is one of the manufacturing success stories in Melbourne and is vitally important to the people who work there, their families and the local economy," she said.

"As well, 90 of the 300 businesses that supply parts to Bombardier are also based in Dandenong - and these businesses and workers also face uncertainty until the government commits to a new tram order."

A spokesman for Public Trans-

port Minister Jacinta Allan refused to commit to the order and said a Labor government had ordered the trams currently being built.

"The previous Liberal Government did not order a single tram in the last four years," he said.

He said the State Government had already announced major investments in new trains for Victoria, including 30 new Xtrapolis carriages from Alstom's Ballarat workshop and 37 new high-capacity trains.

"These new trains will be built by local workers, with at least 50 per cent of their manufacturing to take place here in Victoria," he said.

The spokesman said this was part of the government's Rolling Stock

Strategy, which would be released in next month's State Budget and incorporate regional train rolling stock - and trams.

"The strategy will end ad hoc procurement of trains and trams, give certainty to manufacturers, and ensure the number of trains and trams on the network keeps pace with patronage increases," he said.

Bombardier has become a key employer in Greater Dandenong, alongside manufacturers producing buses, caravans, trucks, off-road camper trailers, defence vehicles and more.

These vehicles will be on show in Dandenong Civic Square throughout 17 April thanks to a partnership between the City of Greater Dandenong,

Committee for Dandenong and the South East Melbourne Manufacturers Alliance (SEMMA).

Mayor Sean O'Reilly said the event would showcase the city's manufacturing talent.

"We are going to let people know that manufacturing in Dandenong and in south eastern Melbourne is very much alive and well," he said.

"We want young people to see the extensive future career opportunities in the manufacturing sector.

"It takes a broad spectrum of education and skills to design and build these wonderful transport vehicles, and companies within our region are truly leading the world."

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2014

TRAINS

Trains / TRAINS

BOMBARDIER

TRAINS ON TRACK FOR ELECTION

PHASE OF FUNDS FROM LABOR
GOVERNMENT IS ELECTED FOR
30 NEW TRAINS - EMPLOYMENT FOR
THE DANDENONG AREA RESULTING

Connecting people and communities

JOURNAL News

Page 12 Monday, 3 November, 2014

BUSINESS SOUTH-EAST



Trains on track for election

By CAM LUCADOU-WELLS

LABOR has pledged to roll out 30 new metro trains and 20 V/Line carriages as part of an \$800 million state election pitch.

During a tour of Bombardier's Dandenong train factory on Wednesday, Opposition leader Daniel Andrews said that if elected his government would

devote \$350 million in its first budget to the program.

He said without such a commitment soon, Victorian-based train manufacturers such as Bombardier faced an uncertain future.

For each of the 250 workers employed at Bombardier there was another four flow-on jobs locally, Mr Andrews said.

"These are jobs worth fighting for."

In a statement last week, the ALP encouraged companies to "start preparing their bids" for the rolling stock building tenders, which should include at least 50 per cent local content.

"In making orders for new rolling stock, Labor will preference bids that will employ the

most Victorian workers," the statement said.

Mr Andrews said the program, staged over four years, would be a balance between a "steady flow of work" and "what Victoria can pay for".

"The industry has been crying out for a long-term rolling stock strategy to give the industry scale and certainty, and that's

what Labor will deliver." Stuart Inglis, operations and projects manager at Bombardier, said the company was looking for more projects after it finished building 22 three-car Adelaide trains in the middle of next year.

He said the company had yet to hear if a Chinese-led consortium - which will partner with Bombardier - had won a bid

to supply 25 new trains for the Dandenong rail corridor.

It also wants the State Government to exercise an option for a further 100 Dandenong-built trams.

The project - so far comprising 50 Bombardier-built trams - has a supply-chain of 350 Australian and New Zealand businesses.

BOMBARDIER



Picture: GARY SISSONS

PROMISES

JOBS

Liberals: Boost train and tram stock order with Bombardier. VLOCITY rail cars order increase from 43 to 67 and E-class trams from 50 to 75.

ALP: Will buy 30 trains and 20 VLOCITY carriages – open to bidding from local companies such as Bombardier.

FAMILY VIOLENCE

ALP: Establish a Royal

Commission into family violence. \$22m package, including \$2.5m for support such as crisis accommodation and transport. Coalition: \$150m family violence package, including unspecified number of extra refuges for women and children.

ICE

ALP: Ice Action taskforce in first 100 days, plus \$15m for drug/booze buses

Liberals: Tougher legal measures such as mandatory drug tests for ice users on community correction orders.

LEVEL CROSSINGS:

Both parties have promised to remove three level crossings in Noble Park.

ALP also pledged to remove crossings at Abbots Road, Dandenong South, and Thommes Road, Ivnhurst.

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NEWS 13

DANDENONG



Bombardier in Dandenong has built 22 electric trains bound for Adelaide.

Ready to hit the tracks

THE first of 22 new electric trains has rolled off the assembly line of Bombardier Transportation's Dandenong factory as part of a contract that has created about 100 local jobs.

The electric three-carriage train was last week bound for Adelaide, where it will be made ready for track and driver testing over the coming months.

Bombardier spokesman Andrew Spink said the Dandenong factory employs 350 people, including about 100 jobs created by the contract to produce the A-City trains. He said further employment was created throughout the local supply chain.

"Valuable experience has been incorporated in the design and development of these trains, which are man-

ufactured locally using reliable and service-proven technologies to create a product that is cost effective, comfortable and most of all safe," he said.

Bombardier is also manufacturing Melbourne's E Class trams and more VLocity diesel multiple units for regional Victoria.

The A-City contract has another 18 months to run.

Tram support rolls on

By Laurie Finco

A PUBLIC forum to support Australian-made trains and trams will be held at Springvale next week.

The Mayor of Greater Dandenong, Councillor Naim Melhem, said thousands of Victorian jobs and millions of dollars in manufacturing activity were under threat should privatised transport operators sign deals to manufacture rollingstock components overseas.

Greater Dandenong council has formed the Rollingstock Alliance to pressure private transport operators to continue using

Australian-made components when building trams and trains.

The alliance also includes the Victorian Trades Hall Council, Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union, Rail, Tram and Bus Union, Electrical Trades Union, Australian Workers' Union, Australian Industry Group, Australian Foundry Institute, and the Public Transport Users' Association.

The forum, planned for next Thursday, is expected to draw several hundred people from across the State including train and tram industry groups,

unions and workers, public transport users and representatives from state and local government and private transport operators.

It will provide an opportunity for key stakeholders to indicate how the issue is impacting on them.

"Australia's three levels of government and the Rollingstock Alliance are united on this issue," Cr Melhem said.

"We are determined to save Victoria's train and

tram industry, acknowledged as the best in the world, from falling into the hands of foreign-owned companies and being wiped out forever.

"People from all walks of life are realising the potentially bleak future the industry faces."

The forum will be held from 9.30 to noon next Thursday at Springvale Town Hall, 397 Springvale Road. Details, Ms Ros Weadman. 9239 5100.

DECEMBER 3, 2012 P10

Rail deal a win for jobs

BY CAMERON LUCADOU-WELLS

ABOUT 70 manufacturing jobs have been “secured” after the state government ordered new V/Line carriages from Bombardier Transportation Australia’s Dandenong South factory.

In a welcome boost for the region’s manufacturing hub, the government will buy 40 VLocity carriages to expand its regional rail fleet.

The carriages are set to roll onto tracks from 2014, adding to 130 VLocity carriages on the network. The last of 40 is expected to be finished in late 2016.

Bombardier overhauls team leader Mark Scholten, of Blind Bight, has worked at the factory for 10 years and said the contract should secure his job for almost another 10.

The fitter-and-turner was pleased for not only his future but for his three apprentices at Bombardier, including Cranbourne’s Cory Brinkley. Both men are married, and with daughters.

“It’s absolutely exciting. It’s good for Bombardier and good for local content suppliers as well,” Mr Scholten said.



On track: Mark Scholten and Ted Baillieu next to VLocity carriages at Bombardier’s factory last week.

Picture: Cameron Lucadou-Wells

Bombardier managing director Dan Osborne said the decision reinforced “the excellent performance” of the VLocity fleet. “These vehicles are designed and built in Australia using local expertise and the local supply chain.”

The factory is also building 50 trams

for the government and 22 three-car electric train sets for South Australia.

Premier Ted Baillieu, who visited the factory last Monday, hailed the announcement of the \$200 million-plus contract as “great news for manufacturing jobs in Victoria”.

New fast trains bombard the rails

DANDENONG'S Bombardier Transportation will manufacture 28 new fast train carriages as part of a \$236 million State Government rail spending.

Bombardier, which manufactures the V/Line VLocity train sets, will continue manufacturing carriages for the fast rail, thanks to last week's announcement that the State Government required three new train sets.

Victorian Premier John Brumby said the investment would expand the fleet and increase space on trains travelling on the state's busiest routes.

"This is not only great news for regional train travel but for the industry and the Dandenong area as well, with all of the carriages to be built here in Victoria," Mr Brumby said.

Bombardier is a world leader in rail equipment manufacture and servicing and Dandenong is its regional headquarters in Australia.

Mr Brumby said trains had been built on the Dandenong site for more than 50 years, with the latest order of 28 new VLocity carriages a great boost for the company and the local economy.

"Bombardier is one of the great success stories of Victorian manufacturing and this new order will secure local workforces and the skill base in Dandenong," he said.

"Last year Bombardier completed a contract for two-carriage VLocity trains for regional Victoria, so it is well placed to deliver this latest order for V/Line carriages, to be progressively delivered from next month through to mid 2012."

Mr Brumby said the new VLocity train sets would be added to the existing order for 22 VLocity carriages to meet projected growth on regional rail services.

"Today's announcement comes on top of the 22 carriages already under construction, which have a seating capacity of 1760, bringing our total commitment to 50 carriages and over 3800 seats – this will make a major difference to people using our popular regional rail network," he said.

Dandenong MP John Pandazopoulos said the announcement was a great result for the local economy and community.

"This latest order for Bombardier shows that the Brumby Government continues to ensure that Victorian companies get a fair deal and are given every chance to thrive," Mr Pandazopoulos said.

"It also further demonstrates Dandenong's growing status as the capital of Melbourne's south-east and a great place to work, live and invest."

BUSINESS SOUTH-EAST

Fresh state train order saves Bombardier jobs

By CASEY NEILL

DANDENONG'S Bombardier will receive an order for 21 new train carriages in next week's State Budget, securing 64 jobs.

Dandenong MP Gabrielle Williams said work on the VLocity order was expected to start in the middle of next year.

The first carriages will be serving V/Line passengers by late 2017, she said, and the order will be completed by the end of 2018.

"This investment of more than \$250 million will secure a pipeline of work for the Dandenong manufacturing industry and help create 64 jobs," Ms Williams said on Friday 1 May.

The new carriages form part of the State Government's Rolling Stock Strategy, which is to be released with the 2015-16 Budget on Tuesday 5 May and set out a long term plan for delivering Victoria's trains and trams.

Bombardier managing director Rene Lalonde said the VLocity was the "regional train Victorians deserve".

"We welcome the government's announcement for the 21 new VLocity cars with more than 60 per cent local content



A Bombardier VLocity train.

and world-class reliability," he said.

Last month The Journal reported that jobs were on the line while Bombardier waited for the State Government to order more trams.

The company is halfway through delivering 50 E-Class trams for a State Govern-

ment contract that finishes in December next year.

The contract had the option for a further 100 trams and a spokeswoman said Bombardier hoped an order for at least some of these would be in the 2015-16 State Budget.

She said the rail giant needed a new work order by November to secure supplier contracts and its existing team in order to avoid having to reduce its 430-strong workforce.

South Eastern Metropolitan Region MP Nina Springle called for an immediate order for 50 trams, in line with Public Transport Victoria advice on tram network needs.

"Dandenong's Bombardier factory is one of the manufacturing success stories in Melbourne and is vitally important to the people who work there, their families and the local economy," she said.

"As well, 90 of the 300 businesses that supply parts to Bombardier are also based in Dandenong - and these businesses and workers also face uncertainty until the government commits to a new tram order."

A spokesman for Public Transport Minister Jacinta Allan refused to commit to an order but said the Rolling Stock Strategy would "give certainty to manufacturers".

"The strategy will end ad hoc procurement of trains and trams, give certainty to manufacturers, and ensure the number of trains and trams on the network keeps pace with patronage increases," he said.

Trams could be built locally

DANDENONG could soon be the hub of tram manufacturing in Victoria if the State Government is true to its word.

Manufacturing Industry Minister Rob Hulls last week launched a rail industry strategy which aims to generate more than \$800m in manufacturing activity and create 600 jobs in Victoria.

“The strategy aims to make Victoria a major world player in light rail manufacturing by ensuring that manufacturers get a fair share of the work involved in the upgrading of Melbourne’s world-famous tram fleet,” he said.

Bombardier Transportation in Frankston-Dandenong Road has been boosted by the Government’s announcement of the strategy but sales and marketing co-ordinator John Ince said the Government had set nothing in concrete.

“The announcement is great news for us if it decides to spend the money on manufacturing trams locally — we would have to go through the tender process to win the contracts

News

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“The announcement is great news for us if it decides to spend the money on manufacturing trams locally — we would have to go through the tender process to win the contracts but we will be in there.”

“The Government touted it will buy 400 trams over 18 years but the only concrete thing they promised is the policy to create more manufacturing in Victoria, there was no time frame mentioned in placing orders.

“But in general, it’s fantastic that the State Government has committed to buying trams on an ongoing basis and we will do all we can to get as much business as possible — Dandenong could soon be manufacturing trams again.”

Mr Hulls said at least 400 new trams would be purchased for Melbourne’s public transport system between now and 2020 in order to meet disabled access requirements.

Overseas sales bid for trams

25/2/1985

A DANDENONG company could provide future trams for some major cities around the world.

Dandenong link

The Metropolitan Transit Authority is working in partnership with Comeng (Vic) of Frankston Rd, to investigate current potential export contracts in Hongkong and Mexico City.

Comeng general manager Graeme Phipps, said the MTA was providing advice on track works, the overhead supply, the design of the depot, operation and maintenance and personnel for the Hongkong project.

Comeng had formed a consortium with Leightons to tender for a total project to provide a light rail system in Hongkong.

Mr Phipps said: "We are in competition with four major consortia world wide and it will be a prestige contract to win because the job involves the total system including tracks, substations, depots as well as the vehicles. The MTA is acting as adviser in the partnership. Comeng is designing and making the trams and the contract for Hongkong will involve 110 trams."

Referring to Mexico City, Mr Phipps said this was a possible business where there was a need to upgrade one of the busy and huge cities existing tram networks. Success in this area would obviously help with other business elsewhere.

Mr Phipps said the Hongkong Government has already called tenders and these had to be completed by mid-April. Comeng would expect to know in July/August this year which of the five consortia was the successful tenderer.

The traction and traction

control equipment would be made by AEG in West Germany but AEG manufactured about 35 per cent of that equipment in Victoria.

Mr Phipps said: "The fact we are successful with AEG means as well as Dandenong and district people being required for jobs, employment will also be available elsewhere in Victoria."

Locally, Comeng has won a \$100 million contract for 130 "two-in-one" articulated light rail vehicles for Melbourne use.

The Transport Minister, Mr Crabb, announced the contract last week.



"SPECIAL OFFER"
From
JOHNSON'S
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OCTOBER 18, 2010

P.5

Good news rolls on

BOMBARDIER Transport last week celebrated its second win in a month.

In September the transport company secured a \$300 million contract to build 50 Melbourne trams in its Dandenong plant and on Wednesday opened a new overhaul centre on the Dandenong site.

The \$2.4 million heavy maintenance workshop, funded by the state government and V/Line, has been fitted with a service pit, 12 heavy lifting jacks and other equipment necessary for the maintenance of trains and trams.

Bombardier will now be responsible for the maintenance, repair and management of V/Line rolling stock including Sprinters, locomotives and locomotive-hauled carriages.

Bombardier will continue construction of 32 VLocity carriages and has rolled out more than 100 now in service.

Bombardier's Dandenong site operations manager Stuart Inglis said workers would gain a "better understanding" of the carriages as they took on the added responsibility of repair and maintenance.

"It increases the sense of ownership we have over the vehicles."

Mr Inglis said the overhaul centre created new



At work: Bombardier employees Mark Scholten and Arron Rickard.

Picture: Ted Kloszynski

skills for workers and continued job opportunities. "We are able to retain that workforce we otherwise didn't have work for."

Opinion

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Investing in locals

RE Bombardier: fantastic news and great to see the government giving more local works out. Awesome.

Having our government back a locally based group in this way (and one who has already invested so much) is a real step in the right direction.

We have world-class expertise, can manufacture to the best of standards and should be considered our own supplier of choice.

The initial costs may be a little more, but in the long run we gain so many returns at all levels.

Bill Rendall, East Bentleigh.

Deserving contract

I CONGRATULATE Dandenong tram manufacturer Bombardier for being awarded the tender to manufacture 50 of Melbourne's new trams.

Bombardier Australia had been shortlisted for the tender to construct the new trams when I raised the matter in parliament for the attention of the Minister for Public Transport that the Dandenong-based company was well suited and that there was a strong skills base of unemployed manufacturing workers in Greater Dandenong who had suffered from the loss of manufacturing jobs in the region.

With the local unemployment rate of 13.6 per cent, it's great that Bombardier will be manufacturing these trams here in Dandenong.

**Gordon Rich-Phillips,
Liberal South Eastern Metropolitan MP.**



Bombardier employee John Dodrell at the Dandenong plant, which will start rolling out Melbourne's trams again from 2012.

Dandenong Leader



Pop to it

WHY ARE THESE KRUMPERS CLOWNING?
SEE STORY, p3

dandenongleader.com.au

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2010

\$1 Incl. GST

BOMBS AWAY



- Bombardier's \$303 million contract involves:**
- 50 Flexity Swift low-floor trams (\$6 million each) to take to the streets in 2012
 - The 33m-long trams to carry up to 210 passengers
 - Maintenance of the trams until 2017
 - An option for a further 100 trams

Transport | Gilbert Gardiner

\$303m tram contract for Dandy plant

MORALE is soaring at Dandenong's Bombardier plant, which has won a \$303 million contract to build 50 trams for Melbourne.

Already a manufacturer of V/Line's high-speed VLOCITY trains, Bombardier Transportation beat a conglomerate of France's Alstom with Ballarat's United Group to secure the lucrative contract from the State Government.

The \$303 million contract is expected to create 500 jobs at the factory and in related industries when production is at its peak.

The 33m-long, low-floor trams will start rolling out in 2012.

Bombardier will service the trams until at least 2017 and has an option to build another 100.

Bombardier panel

beater Garry Hee, 56, of Cranbourne, said morale was at an all-time high - from senior management to the "guys on the floor".

"At my age, job security is everything, just like everyone else with families and mortgages to pay," he said. "For me it was nerve-racking waiting for the decision.

"Now, with a bit of luck I know

what will happen next year and the year after!"

The Flexity Swift trams, to carry up to 210 passengers, will be air-conditioned and fitted with security cameras. The low-floor will enable wheelchair-bound and elderly passengers to board.

Berlin-based Bombardier Transportation is one of the world's

largest rail and tram manufacturers. It will build the tram shells at the Frankston-Dandenong Rd factory, with other components to be made overseas.

The Dandenong plant will continue its roll-out of 32 VLOCITY regional trains, a \$148 million contract it won in February.

►Workers buoyant, p8-9

To see more of the tram plant, go to our picture gallery at dandenongleader.com.au

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NEWS WWW.DANDENONGJOURNAL.COM.AU

MONSTER TRAM ON TEST TRACK

TRANSPORT

Bombardier's first 210-passenger, three-section tram has finally rolled off the assembly line in Dandenong South.

Overnight on Thursday, June 27, the first of 50 new 33-metre-long trams was carefully trucked to Preston by Dandenong South firm Membrey's Transport for its 6000-kilometre testing program.

Managing director Craig Membrey said planning the 2½-hour trip took a year and included route surveys and removal of trees.

"It is fantastic to see Victoria building something and it is awesome that a local company won the contract," Mr Membrey said. "I was honoured to be involved. I never miss action like that."

The trams have easier access to tram stops,

slip-resistant floors, airconditioning and state-of-the-art audio and visual technology.

The tram will join Melbourne's fleet this year. Over five years, all 50 new trams will boost passenger capacity on the Yarra Trams network by 10,500 people at any one time.

Premier Denis Napthine, who visited Preston with Transport Minister Terry Mulder to inspect the tram, said the E class vehicles would be the most comfortable, safe and high-capacity trams in the fleet.

"These 50 trams represent a \$300 million component of an overall \$800 million investment in Yarra Trams infrastructure, which also includes track upgrades, tram stop improvements, depot redevelopments and upgrades to power infrastructure," he said."

ALECIA PINNER

apinner@mmpgroup.com.au



On the move: Melbourne's new tram leaves Bombardier's Dandenong South depot. (SUPPLIED)



Bombardier workers celebrate the completion of the 50th E-Class tram. 165488

Job is done: now more tram and train orders please

By Casey Neill

"It brings tears to my eyes to see us reach such a big achievement."

Bombardier welding co-ordinator Con Sakellaridis started working on the E-Class tram project in Dandenong in June 2011, "right at the beginning of the design stage".

On Tuesday 28 February he joined his colleagues in celebrating the 50th E-Class tram completed for the Melbourne rail network.

"I'm very, very proud actually," Mr Sakellaridis said.

Bombardier needs more tram and train orders

30 DANDENONG JOURNAL Monday, 13 March, 2017

to secure work for Mr Sakellaridis and his 400 colleagues.

The State Government initially ordered 50 trams from Bombardier in 2010 and in 2015 extended the contract by 20.

The 70th tram is due to be finished mid next year, as is the final Bombardier V/Line VLocity carriage.

Bombardier Australia managing director Andrew Dudgeon told workers he was in negotiations with the State Government and hoped to announce more work soon.

In particular, he's pushing for a further order for 40 to 80 E-Class trams.

Mr Dudgeon said the vehicle's design was always evolving and that trams 51 to 70 would have a new driver cabin.

"All of you are responsible for what you see behind me today," he said, gesturing to tram number 50.

"It's a lot of hard work, but we have a very happy customer."

Each E-Class tram can carry more than 200 passengers when full and has state-of-the-art audio and visual passenger information, air-conditioning, a low floor, improved safety features and dedicated spaces for passengers with mobility aids or prams.

BOMBARDIER 50 E CLASS TRAMS COMPLETED

More tram orders in pipeline as Premier flags buy-in

By Casey Neill

A little patience will pay off for Bombardier in the May State Budget, Premier Daniel Andrews has hinted.

He visited the Dandenong manufacturer on Tuesday 21 March to inspect the 51st E-Class tram to roll off the production line. It has new features, including a driver cabin designed with input from drivers and more handles and rails for passengers.

The tram was the first of a \$295 million State Government order for 20 trams, made in 2015 and following its previous order for 50 trams.

"This project is 500 jobs. That's the best way to look at this," Mr Andrews said. "Five hundred livelihoods depend on these orders."

He said the final 20 would be finished by the end of June next year.

"There's a State Budget in just a few weeks' time, and if everyone is just patient, I know a really strong future for this business, a strong future for these workers and the outstanding quality product that they have been turning out and will continue to for many, many years to come," he said.

"Bombardier are actually exceeding the local content requirements that we wrote into the contract, creating jobs and skills and opportunities along the way and creating a much better experience for the travelling public.

"You can't get a better outcome than that."

Dandenong MP Gabrielle Williams said she'd been working very closely with Bombardier over the past two years.

She's also worked closely with the Premier, Mr Noonan and Transport Minister Jacinta Allan "to make the case for more work going to Bombardier".

"The work continues, and hopefully we'll get some good news in the budget," she said.

Industry and Employment Minister Wade Noonan said Bombardier was supporting displaced automotive industry workers, as well as supporting



Premier Daniel Andrews speaks at Bombardier.

supply chain businesses across the South-East.

He said the trams contained about 60 per cent local content.

"We're talking about the glass, the seats, the flooring, obviously the shell are all built here in Victoria by Victorians for Victorians," he said.

Mr Noonan said Bombardier was a great demonstration of Victoria's "manufacturing capacity that has been growing in real terms over the past two years".

Bombardier Transportation Australia managing director Andrew Dudgeon said the next-generation E-Class trams were about delivering for purpose.

"These trams are made in Melbourne, for Melbourne - so we work hard to understand the require-

ments of our customer and passengers," he said.

"We've worked closely with our customer, special user groups and the public to collect important feedback which informed the design and functional enhancements of the trams."

Mr Dudgeon said Bombardier tapped into a partnership with Swinburne University and used a virtual reality mock-up.

"The enhancements on Tram 51 will cascade not only to Tram 70 and beyond, but the initial fleet will be retrofitted with the various changes and benefits," he said.

"From design all the way through to the build, our team in Dandenong manages the entire process and could not be more proud of these vehicles."

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Trams on way

New extra-large trams built in Dandenong are making their way to the city. Premier Daniel Andrews last week inspected the first of 20 E-class trams put together at the Bombardier Headquarters on Frankston-Dandenong Rd. The trams, which carry more than 200 passengers, were all due to be finished by the end of next year. The 20 new trams cost \$274 million, which covered manufacturing, operational preparation and network support.

State's tram order trickles down

By Casey Neill

It's not only Bombardier hoping for a new tram order in the May State Budget.

Committee for Dandenong's Jill Walsh said a new tram order would keep the Dandenong manufacturer going with a level of confidence to sustain and grow highly skilled jobs in the region.

"It is vital for the tram extension and it needs to be a substantive number," she said.

"It needs to keep that site alive."

Ms Walsh is a partner at Actco-Pickering Metal Industries in Dandenong South, which is a major supplier of welded components for the trams.

"We rely on that ongoing work to keep our skilled workforce engaged and to keep employing apprentices and so on," she said.

South East Melbourne Manufacturers Alliance (SEMMA) executive officer Adrian Boden said an order for more rolling stock from Bombardier would flow on to the manufacturer's supply base.

"If the work at Bombardier dries up, then the position of the supply base across the South-East would be critical," he said.

During a visit to Bombardier on 21 March, Premier Daniel Andrews said the final 20 E-Class trams in the State Government's 70-tram order would be finished by the end of June next year.

"There's a State Budget in just a few weeks' time, and if everyone is just patient, I know a really strong future for this business, a strong future for these workers and the outstanding quality product that they have been turning out and will continue to for many, many years to come," he said.

"Bombardier are actually exceeding the local content requirements that we wrote into the contract, creating jobs and skills and opportunities along the way and creating a much better experience for the travelling public.

"You can't get a better outcome than that."

Mr Andrews inspected the 51st E-Class tram to roll off the production line. It was the first of a \$295 million State Government order for 20 trams, made in 2015 and following its previous order for 50 trams.

"This project is 500 jobs. That's the best way to look at this," Mr Andrews said.

"Five hundred livelihoods depend on these orders."



Premier Daniel Andrews speaks at Bombardier last month.

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Trams take to the tracks in CBD

DANDENONG-BUILT trams hit tracks in Melbourne last week.

Bombardier's E-Class trams started running on Route 11 between West Preston and Docklands, the first time they've ventured outside Route 96.

The E-Class trams are 33 metres long and can carry more than 200 people - Melbourne's biggest trams.

They have a low-floor design, wide doorways and dedicated spaces for wheelchairs, scooters and prams.

Bombardier Transportation Australia managing director Rene Lalande said expanding the E-Class tram to Route 11 would enable more passengers to "enjoy the quality and comfort of the best tram ever built in, and for, Melbourne".

"At Bombardier, we are very pleased to see our locally made tram contribute



An E-Class tram in action.

to improving mobility in our city," he said.

Public Transport Minister Jacinta Allan said the former Labor State Government ordered 50 E-Class

trams from Bombardier and the new government this year ordered another 20.

"They are the biggest, safest and most accessible trams on our network, and

more and more people will get to enjoy them over the coming years as they come off the production line in Dandenong and into service," she said.

Minister launches future for rail research

THE rail industry's best and brightest are on track to achieve global growth.

Parliamentary Secretary for Industry and Science Karen Andrews officially launched the Rail Manufacturing Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) at Bombardier Transport in Dandenong on Tuesday 21 July.

Guests included representatives from CSIRO, government, universities and business, some who'd travelled from as far afield as Bendigo and Thomastown.

The Rail Manufacturing CRC stemmed from the On Track to 2040 - The Rail Technology Roadmap, which defined the industry's vision and identifies opportunities.

The Federal Government committed \$31 million to the new CRC and participants will contribute about \$53 million in cash and in-kind contributions.

Ms Andrews said Australia's rail industry was fragmented and had not previously collaborated effectively on technology development.

"The new CRC will create stability within the sector while also enabling Australia's rail manufacturing firms to expand into overseas markets and global supply chains," she said.

She said the CRC was also expected to boost Australia's highly skilled workforce by turning out at least eight PhD students.

Ms Andrews said domestic freight rail had doubled over the past 20 years and was expected to grow by 3 per cent each year until 2030.

"Likewise, passenger rail is starting to



At the launch, back, Rene Lalande, Keith McLean, Stuart Thomson, front, Karen Andrews, Paul Johnson, Lily D'Ambrosio, and, far right, Tony Carney.

return as a favoured mode of transport and cities like Canberra, Gold Coast and Sydney are all investing money in new light rail systems," she said.

CRC business development director Tony Carney said now was the time to revitalise and reshape the sector.

He said innovation was key to the sector's future and its challenges included reduced local content requirements in some states, the car industry departure and the need to globalise.

"The new CRC will help to create jobs, reduce supply chain costs and will also

play an important part in making Australian exports more competitive," Ms Andrews said.

CRC chairman Paul Johnson said the centre would co-ordinate collaborative research and foster partnerships and the key challenge was translating great ideas into market innovations.

"It's not an innovation until it's actually been used," he said.

CRC managing director and CEO Dr Stuart Thomson said the launch came at a critical time for the manufacturing sector.

He said the centre would link the in-

dustry with research providers, help each understand the other's capabilities and align their expectations.

CSIRO's manufacturing flagship director Keith McLean has contributed to the Vision CRC and the CRC for Polymer.

"Both have delivered world-leading technology to the marketplace," he said.

Mr McLean said Australia ranked poorly for innovation efficiency and collaboration.

He said the Rail Manufacturing CRC was in a position to make a profound impact on the rail sector, ensuring employment and exports.

Bombardier managing director Rene Lalande took the morning's wild wind as a symbol for the brainstorming that would take place at the CRC.

"Our industry mission is to move people," he said.

Mr Lalande said Bombardier's founder invented the snow mobile when he encountered transport issues in Canadian snow.

"Our company is built on innovation," he said.

State Industry Minister Lily D'Ambrosio said the centre would enhance the local rail manufacturing centre's capacity and competitiveness.

She said the State Government had provided the industry with certainty through a 10-year rolling stock strategy announced in this year's budget, which included \$2 billion in funding.

- CASEY NEILL

Open to job ideas

By Michael Randall

MORE than 1000 local students have been booked in for this Wednesday's Transport Manufacturing Careers Open Day at Dandenong rolling stock manufacturer Bombardier.

More than 15 schools have jumped on board the open day which, through local manufacturing giants Bombardier, Volgren and Jayco, is aimed to showcase local job opportunities available to local young people.

Hallam Senior College is one of the schools sending years 10, 11 and 12 students along.

Principal Anne Martin said the careers day presented an opportunity for students to see local training and job prospects first hand.

"Our students have very limited understanding of the wide range of work prospects available to them locally.

"The school is working hard to establish a culture of achievement for all, whether at university, TAFE, an apprenticeship or work."

Student groups will arrive in 45-minute intervals and will make their way through a trade



Hard work: Hallam Senior College student Matt Dunn, 16, works on an engine at the school's automotive centre. **Picture:** Ted Kloszynski

exhibition area of supplier displays and careers booths.

They will then go on a tour of the factory.

Following from the Bombardier production line, students will have the opportunity to gather information from Jayco and Volgren about their operations.

Partnership broker Simon Rickard of South East Local

Learning Network, which is marketing the event, said the day aimed to break down the idea that career options in manufacturing were "limited".

"What we're doing is showing school-leavers what careers there are in the transport industry, such as project management, finance, accounting and marketing as well as the traditional boilermaking and engineering."

Public transport E-class tram unveiled



MELBOURNE'S 50 NEW TRAMS

First tram in service	October 2018
Fiftieth tram	
Project cost	\$300 million
Length	33 metres
Capacity	210 passengers
Seats	64
Manufacturer	Bombardier, Dandenong South

On track: The first of 50 new E-Class trams being built at Dandenong was unveiled on Monday. Each tram will be able to carry 210 passengers.

New trams to beat the squeeze

Adam Carey
Transport Reporter

The first of 50 new trams capable of carrying more than 200 people was unveiled at the Preston tram workshop on Monday, about seven months behind schedule.

The new trams are the cornerstone of an \$800 million project to boost Melbourne's tram network. They were ordered by the former Brumby government and manufactured in Dandenong by Bombardier.

The new trams will be used on route 96 between East Brunswick and St Kilda, one of the city's busiest. But the first is not expected

to make its debut run until October, after it has completed about 4000 kilometres of test runs.

Four other E-Class trams will follow soon after, adding five new high capacity trams to the network by early next year. The last of the 50 new trams is due in 2018, by which time Melbourne's tram fleet will have the capacity to carry an extra 10,500 passengers at any given moment.

Ian Dobbs, Public Transport Victoria's chief executive, said the E-Class trams would give Melbourne's straining tram network much needed breathing space.

"The tram network, although it's iconic, has been under pressure for

some years and patronage has been growing at some 30 per cent over the last 10 years," Mr Dobbs said. "These trams are going to have an immediate impact when they're brought into service. They're much bigger than the trams we're replacing and it allows us to cascade newer vehicles across the system."

The government's contract with Bombardier contains an option to order a further 100 trams.

But Public Transport Minister Terry Mulder said the state government would observe the impact the 50 newer trams had before considering another order.

The 33-metre long trams can

carry 210 passengers, the most of any in Melbourne, and are the first to be manufactured here since the early 1990s. They will add to the 100 low-floor trams that already operate in Melbourne, mostly on routes 96 and 109.

The first tram was unveiled as a disability advocate said he was preparing to step up his case against Public Transport Victoria over its failure to stick to a schedule to improve disability access on Melbourne's tram network.

Fifty-five per cent of Melbourne's tram network was meant to be wheelchair accessible by 2012. But so far only about 21 per cent of the network meets the

standard. The government has committed \$70 million over four years to make tram stops wheelchair-friendly.

Ray Jordan, a wheelchair user who has taken the Department of Transport to the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission because the gap between low-floor trams and Melbourne's easy access tram stops does not meet national standards.

"There is no point having disability features inside the tram if you can't get in the damn thing in the first place," said Mr Jordan, who intends taking his case to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

AGE 2ND JULY 2013



Andrew Klaskan and Jakke Sudhakar with the life-size model of the new Bombardier-made Melbourne tram.

Picture: VALERIU CAMPAN N0905204

Future on track

Commuter groups have their say on new tram design

Public transport | Nicole Preceļ

THIS tram may look like it's off the rails, but it has been designed with passengers in mind.

Dandenong train builder Bombardier built the life-size model "tram of the future" after consultation with commuter groups.

Suggestions incorporated into the design for 50 new commissioned trams include changing hand rail positions, colour schemes that highlight doors,

seats and hand rails for the vision impaired and improved priority seating and wheelchair positions.

They would each carry 210 passengers - more than others on the network - which means the 50 new trams would be able to transport 10,500 passengers.

Low, slip-resistant floors, air-conditioning, audio and visual announcements about location and stops are also new features.

Public Transport Minister

Terry Mulder inspected the tram at Dandenong last week.

"We have involved tram drivers, elderly passengers, and passengers with a disability, including passengers who use scooters, wheelchairs, or those who have low vision," Mr Mulder said.

The first of the new trams will hit the streets next year.



To see more photos of the new trams go to dandenongleader.com.au

Business

Trams take all on board



Yarra Trams CEO Michel Masson, managing director of Bombardier Transport Dan Osborne, John Barry from the Department of Transport and Minister for Public Transport Terry Mulder inspecting the mock-up of Melbourne's new trams. 69469

Picture: Stewart Chambers

By Emma Sun

MELBOURNE'S new state-of-the-art trams will benefit disability groups, according to Minister for Public Transport Terry Mulder.

Mr Mulder, along with Yarra Trams CEO Michel Masson and John Barry from the Department of Transport, toured the Bombardier factory in Dandenong last Wednesday, to see the mock-up of the new fleet of trams.

"People who are vision-impaired, people who are in wheelchairs have an opportunity to have some say in the way that

these particular trams are going to be manufactured," Mr Mulder said. "There have been some design changes as a result of that consultation process."

Managing director of Bombardier Transportation Dan Osborne said the consultation and mock-up process has been invaluable. "I believe that it will deliver Melbourne commuters an excellent result," he said. "The quality of the mock-up and the design of the tram speak for themselves."

The FLEXITY trams can carry a total of 214 passengers, including 150 standing and 64 sitting.

They feature five double doors per side and large windows to make tram travelling comfortable and convenient for passengers.

"These new trams will be state of the art – they'll have all the onboard technology, information for people who are travelling onboard, and it's going to be a great ride for people who do use the tram network here in Melbourne. The \$300 million project will be complemented with upgrades to about 90 tram stops.

The first of the 50 new trams are expected to be delivered late next year.

Trams design brings protest

BY SARAH O'CONNOR

TRAMS built by Dandenong's Bombardier Transportation have come under fire for breaching federal anti-discrimination laws.

Bombardier was contracted by the transport department to manufacture 50 low-floor trams to be delivered across Melbourne next year.

But the trams do not meet Australian standards of a 12 millimetre step height because it was "not a feasible option" and use the European standard of 50mm instead.

Dandenong resident Sharon Harris, who uses a wheelchair, said trams in the city were already too difficult to board. She said a 50mm step height would make it "hugely difficult" for her to get around.

"You don't know how hard it is until you're in a wheelchair," Ms Harris said. "Already people are

struggling in wheelchairs to survive."

But a department of transport spokeswoman said accessibility trials of the 50mm mock-up trams had received positive feedback and the step height would reduce once passengers were on board.

"The 50mm design limit is a worst-case scenario which would only occur when the tram is completely empty," she said. "Bombardier is working to ensure that the tram has a significantly smaller step height when loaded with passengers."

She said the trams could become compliant with disability standards as long as a boarding divide was made available, something the department is investigating with Yarra Trams for E-Class trams.

But Ms Harris said bureaucrats should "come and hop in a wheelchair" to find out the effects of their decisions first-hand.
