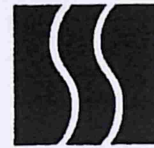


# All Staff Notice



**SWANSTON**  
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## New Tram and Train Contracts Announced

At a media conference today, Peter Strachan, Chief Executive of National Express Group Australia, will announce contracts for the manufacture and maintenance of new trains and trams and the maintenance of existing fleets.

Mr Strachan today said, "We want to attract more people to public transport and new trains and trams have a vital role to play. These contracts ensure that our passengers can look forward to faster, more frequent services and new levels of comfort, security and performance.

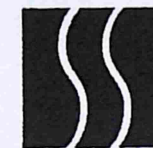
"The new trains and trams will really move our passengers into the future and I'm sure all our staff, along with Victorians and visitors, will be impressed.

"But we also depend on our existing fleets. The maintenance contracts aim to ensure we deliver the highest levels of service delivery and punctuality on all of our services."

### **59 new trams for Swanston**

Siemens has won the contract to manufacture and maintain 59 new trams for Swanston, for introduction from 2002. While many specifics around the design are still to be finalised in discussion with passengers and staff, the 'Combino' trams will bring a host of benefits.

- The sleek, modern design will complement Swanston's existing trams.
- Passengers with mobility difficulties such as the elderly, disabled or parents with prams will benefit greatly from the low floor design, wheelchair spaces and a ramp which will allow them to get on and off more easily.
- Passenger safety is enhanced with alarms and an intercom direct to the driver. The trams will also be lighter and brighter with large tinted panoramic windows down each side.
- Automatic visual and audio next stop announcements will ensure passengers always know exactly where they are. Even Melbourne's notorious weather has been accommodated with heating and air-conditioning throughout.
- The new Combino will also offer improved acceleration and control of speed in comparison to the B Class trams.
- There is automatic built in redundancy for operations, which means if a component fails there is always an equivalent part or system that will enable the tram to be driven a short distance out of the way. Existing trams have to wait for a tow to be pulled out of the way.
- The new models also have an internal diagnostic system for fault recording and management. Existing trams require an electrician or a fitter to diagnose a fault using driver reports. The new trams will be able to check their own systems and log fault conditions in their memory. The systems can also indicate potential faults and technicians will use this information to correct a fault.



**SWANSTON**  
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- Other features incorporated into the new trams include, fail safe braking system which operate with a 'hold brakes off to drive tram' mode similar to W-class; built in wheel lubrication to reduce wear and noise, with environmentally-friendly lubricant; and side impact protection bars.

### **V/Line and Bayside Trains**

Siemens will also manufacture and maintain 62 new, three-car electric trains for Bayside Trains.

It was also announced that Adtranz, in a joint venture with Clyde Engineering, would maintain V/Line's new diesel trains along with its existing train fleet.

### **Great news all round**

Local companies will receive a massive boost from the announcements as they guarantee business worth around 825 million dollars in Australia.

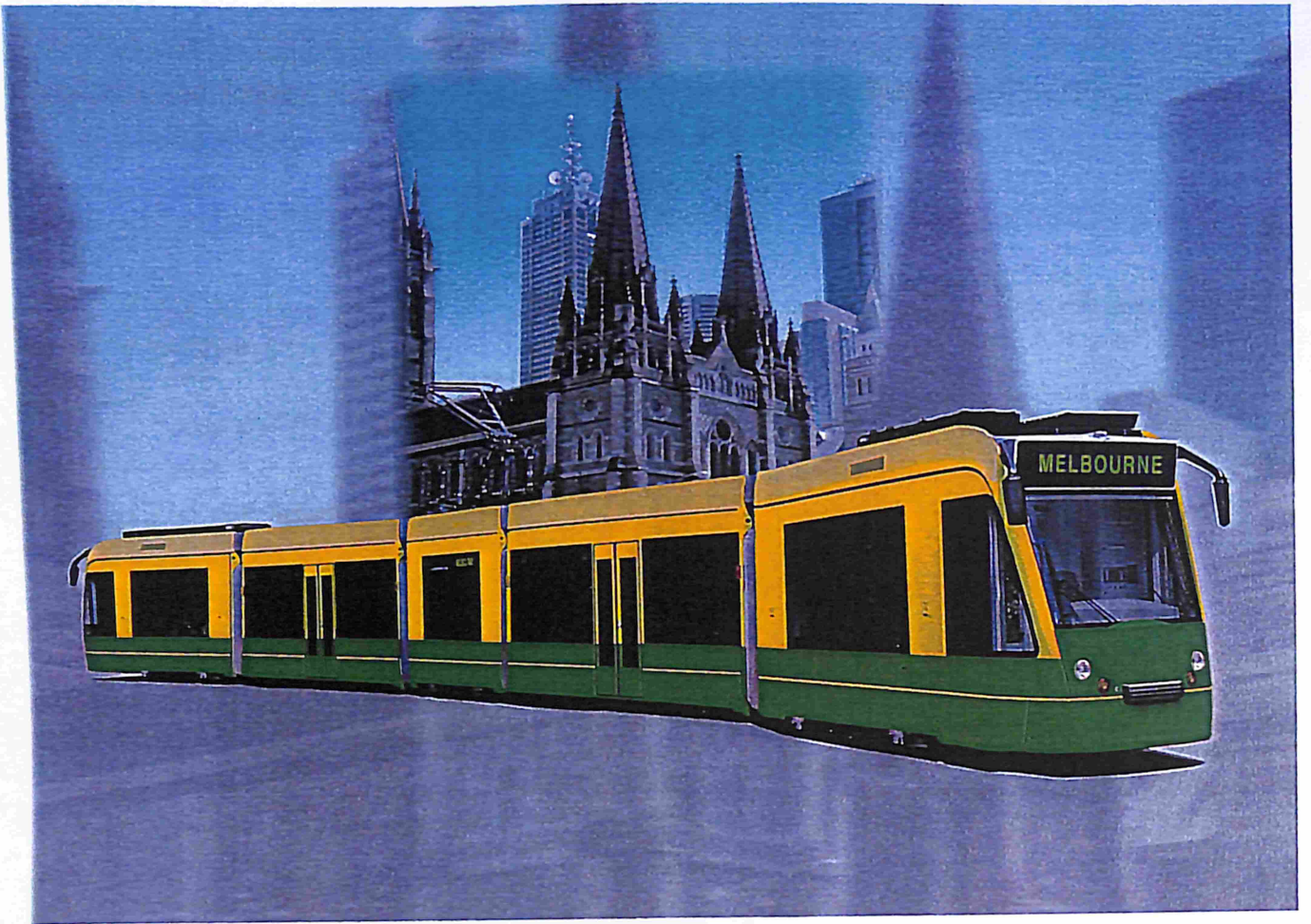
Commenting on the contracts for new vehicles, Peter Strachan, Chief Executive of National Express Group's Rail Division said: "We have tried to balance the needs of our business, the needs of our passengers and the needs of the Australian rolling stock industry. The result is good value, high quality trains and trams as well as business worth around \$825 million for Australian companies."

"While it would have been cheaper for us to manufacture more of our new trains and trams overseas, as an Australian business we were keen to provide a boost to local industry."

Mr Strachan concluded, "Using worldwide experience and expertise, National Express Group Australia is delivering the future in passenger transport to Victoria."

If you have any queries about this All Staff Letter, please contact Sarah Baston, Communications Manager, Swanston Trams on Ext 16942 or 9619 6942  
National Express Group Australia (Bayside Trains) Pty Ltd ACN 087 425 287  
Registered Office: Level 39, 101 Collins Street, Melbourne Vic 3000.

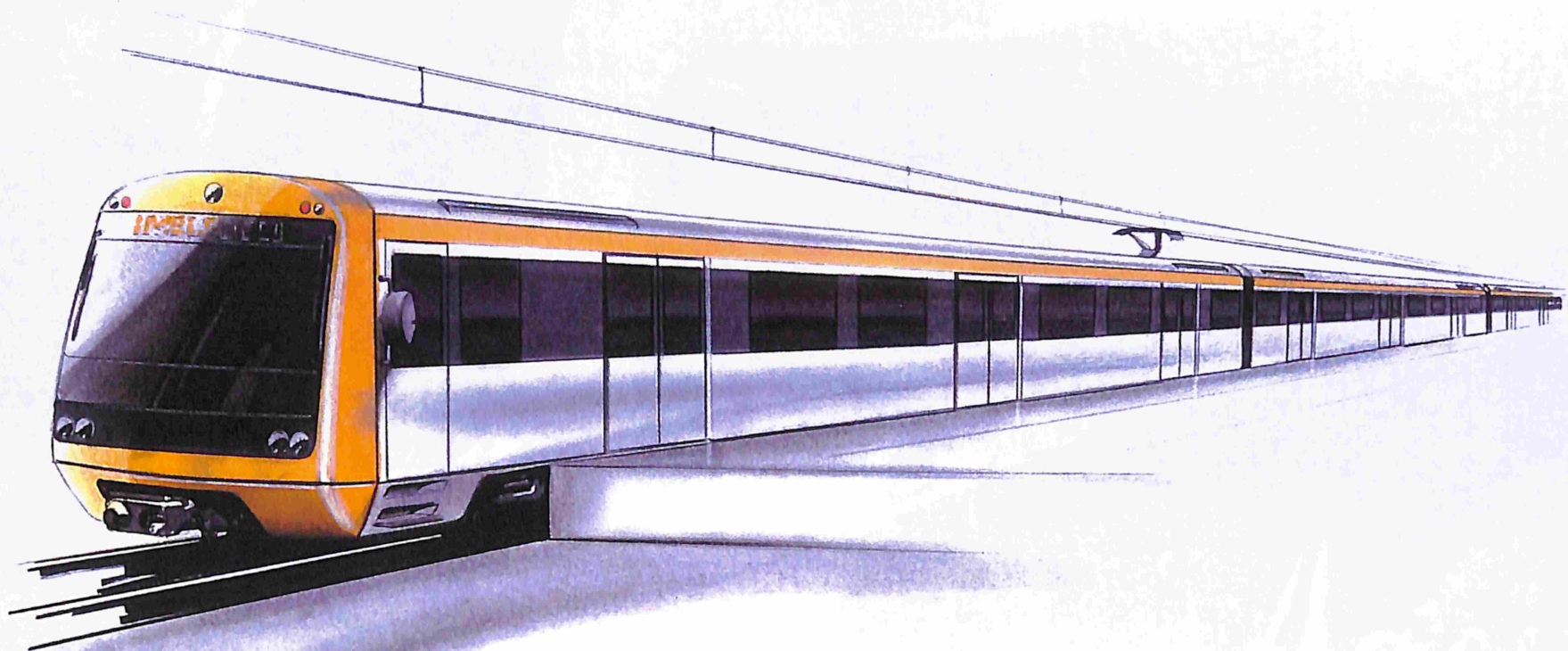
NEW SWANSTON TRAM



SIEMENS

## NEW SWANSTON TRAM

**SIEMENS**



# NEW BAYSIDE TRAIN

HÖLZL 7/18

National  
Express

V3.1

NEW V/LINE TRAIN



Vlocity