

Director's Message

It is my pleasure to present to you our Environmental Report 2012 which summarises the efforts we have made to achieve environmental objectives in the past year and introduces our environmental targets and initiatives for 2013.

In this report, you will see our efforts in evaluating the impact on the environment at all stages of our road projects, giving due consideration to environmental related issues when carrying out our works. Examples of such efforts include the special noise mitigation measures in Tuen Mun Road Town Centre Section Project in order to reduce the noise nuisance generated from construction activities to the residences, shops and schools adjacent to the construction site which would otherwise be adversely affected. Similarly, various environmentally-friendly measures, such as the adoption of an enhanced construction method, installation of water recycling system and provision of green roof at site office to reduce solar load, have been implemented in the construction of South Island Line (East) which effectively alleviated noise impacts and conserved water and electricity. In addition, the highway landscape beautified by the seasonal array of floral and foliage colours exemplified our efforts in upkeeping a safe, pleasant and green road network in Hong Kong.

We uphold the Government's policy of developing the environmentally-friendly railway system as the backbone for mass public transportation. Our aim is to plan and implement the railway system to world-class standards. Construction of the West Island Line, the Hong Kong section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link, the Kwun Tong Line Extension and the South Island Line (East) were in full swing in 2012. The Shatin to Central Link commenced construction in mid-2012. To map out the long-term development of our railway system that will meet future transport demand, we commissioned a consultancy study to review and update the "Railway Development Strategy 2000". The Stage 1 Public Engagement exercise was completed in 2012 and the study will be completed in 2013.

In our pursuit of excellence in environmental management of our works, we conducted studies and adopted suitable environmentally-friendly technologies, including hot-in-place recycling by thermal patcher, paving blocks with recycled glass, synthetic gully / channel gratings and recycled asphalt pavements. In 2012, we applied these techniques more extensively in our road maintenance contracts and received positive and encouraging feedback.

We cannot improve our services to the public without engagement with internal and external stakeholders. Internally, we organised training courses and green activities, and provided green advice to staff with a view to heightening staff awareness in environmental management. Externally, we co-organised seminar on safety, health and environmental protection with our business partners. We encouraged our contractors to organise and participate in environmental promotional activities, such as the Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence. We have also engaged the community to enhance our services by publicising details of our projects to the public and soliciting their opinion through various means.

We are pleased to conclude that most of our environmental targets for 2012 were met satisfactorily and our efforts were recognised. We are most honoured to have received five Outstanding Environmental Management and Performance Awards, six Considerate Contractors Site Awards and also the "Grand Award for Design Excellence (Landscape Display)" in the Hong Kong Flower Show 2012. Yet we will not become complacent with these achievements and will continue to make our best endeavours to reach new heights in environmental management.

Looking ahead, we will continue to explore every opportunity to contribute to a sustainable environment. With the concerted efforts of my colleagues, we strive to pave a green way towards the future and make our community a better place to live in.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of stylized, cursive letters that appear to be 'K.K. Lau'.

K.K. LAU
Director of Highways
31 October 2013