

# Shanghai Likely to Run Air Train in Future

By Zonghe

Passengers are likely to be able to take an air train running among the high-rises of the city to enjoy the views...This is a scenario described on the first China (Shanghai) International Technology Fair. The air train is a technology originated in Europe and the United States. Such a scene might be actualized in Shanghai in a few years. Chen Changgui, Chairman of Air Train International Group, said that Shanghai has three districts that are preliminarily planning the routes for the suspension trains. According to estimation of current passenger flow, a train with four cars is the best option as Chen advised.

The H-Bahn air train project displayed at the above-mentioned fair is operated by Shanghai Air Train Technology Co., Ltd. affiliated to Air Train International Group. As revealed by Bao Zaiyong who is responsible for the project in the company, some

Chinese cities including Wenzhou have shown great interest in the project. Wenzhou has started to appraise the feasibility of this project, only one step away from construction. Three districts in Shanghai have also started to do preliminary route planning.

According to Bao Zaiyong, related departments of Yangpu, Changning and Jiading districts have started to discuss about the route planning for the air train project. For example, Changning District has drafted the route which starts from Fengzhuang Station on Metro Line 13, and reaches Terminal 1 of Hongqiao Airport on Metro Line 10 via Songhong Road Station on Metro Line 2; Jiading District has drafted the route which starts from Jiading New City Station on Metro Line 11 and reaches the International Community Station which is currently under planning; Yangpu District is planning a 15-kilometre line along the river, starting from Dalian Road and crossing several

functional blocks of Yangpu along Yangshupu Road, with CBD and universities included.

However, as Bao said, current discussions are merely on the technical level and will take quite a long while, "possibly two years" to see the real air train. Bao is fairly conservative about the timing for the air train to make its debut.

If the light rail lifts the road surface up into the air, the air train is to build a "suspension rope" in the air. The train will be suspended under the rail to make the passengers feel like traveling in the air.

As introduced, the wheel dishes of the train will be fastened within the rail beams to provide full safety guarantee while the train is in operation. In Germany, air train has more than 100 years of history. The new suspension system was launched in 1984 and has been running in cities like Dortmund and Dusseldorf without any operating incidents.

Air train is usually composed of two or four cars to meet transportation demand of a medium level. Capacity of each car is 13 tons, i.e., 75 people maximum. If a train has four cars, it means it is capable to carry 300 passengers. The designed speed is 50 kilometers per hour. If the train runs at the speed of 40 kilometers per hour at an interval of 90 seconds, the line will be able to transport 12,000 passengers per hour. "The car has fixed seats and also space for standing. The maximum capacity for a single line can reach 15,000 passengers. A train with four cars is the best option for Shanghai according to the passenger flow of the city. The train can go around with double lines to achieve high operational efficiency," said Chen Changgui.

The energy consumption of the air train is low while the transportation capacity is medium, suitable in suburbs, new cities and dedicated routes. Considering the sightseeing

function, it is also a good option to open a riverside route.

Experts also said there are many examples to follow including air trains running between airport terminals, railway stations, long-distance bus terminals, transportation hubs and large theme parks. Air trains can fill the gap for transportation and sightseeing at the same time depending on urban development and actual demands of different cities. In the aspects of energy efficiency and construction cost, Chen Changgui said each car of the metro consumes 5-6 Kwh per kilometer while each car of the air train consumes only 2.4 Kwh, half of the former.

As for the engineering cost of the air train, each kilometer costs around RMB120-150 million, including the train, rail, platform and signal control system, similar to tramcars on the ground, but one fifth of the metro, half to one third of the cost of low-speed maglev train.



A knitting art exhibition was recently held at Yinhang Community. A "charitable knitting room" was set up this year. More than 20 members get together every Wednesday and Friday to discuss and learn about knitting, exchanging ideas. In addition, they also provide free sewing and sweater modification services to the residents of the neighborhood and send knitted clothes to senior citizens who lost their spouses.

By Zhang Weiwei & Zheng Xiaomeng

## Watch out the Seven Tricks of Communication Swindlers

By Zhou Lin

To disclose the tricks of the outlaws and enhance local residents' capability to protect themselves from swindlers, Yangpu police has carried out the activity of "Intensive Propaganda Day" to teach people how to guard against communication swindlers in the district. At the activity site, the police published seven tricks the swindlers usually play, including "underpaid bills, consumption with bank card, winning a prize, pretending to be acquaintance, refundment & tax refund, selling

prohibited goods, faking an accident".

Swindlers have been closely following hot topics of society and even upgraded software technology and scenario design. Besides the regular approach of using software "random incoming call indicator", swindlers would identify themselves as staff from "procuratorates", "courts", "public security bureaus", "social guarantee bureaus", "telecommunication companies" and "post offices". Some even use alarms of police cars and radio calls as background music to cheat people and make them transfer money into

their designed bank accounts.

Yangpu police alerts citizens to stay cautious whenever receiving strange calls that involve money, bank account, credit card or passwords. Moreover, the public security bureaus, procuratorates and courts have strict rules and procedures for case handling and won't request money to be transferred to their accounts. People need to hear advices from bank staff rather than simply transfer directly with e-banking services or through ATM. People should call the police for help when requested by a stranger to transfer money.

## Young Designers Contribute to Beautify Yangpu

By Mao Xinhui

As an important design "bridgehead" of Shanghai, the 2nd HTJ Youth Talent Designer Exhibition 2013 has been recently unveiled in the Flexible Design Hall of Shanghai Design Centre with the theme of "Yangpu Beautifying Movement."

This exhibition calls on more than 20,000 designers in the area to forge the regional culture with their passion and design. They are expected to submit design solutions which can improve the public environment based on their personal experience of working and living in Yangpu. Organizers of the exhibition will mobilize strength of the entire district to actualize the ideas and prove that designs can create a better life and demonstrate the social responsibility of the designers at the same time.

Young designers will make best use of their creation and construct complete design strategy to create convenience, order, quality and

beauty to people's lives. "Yangpu Beautifying Movement will bring design into a public topic, make design an indispensable element in people's lives, and enables people to shift their focus from beauty to our biological and social environment," said Zhang Jiting, planner of the exhibition.

HTJ Area covers 2.6 square kilometers and attracts more than 2,000 knowledge- and innovation-based enterprises that are engaged in research and development to cluster. A typical original productive business community has been generated here, making the place the core area of the "design capital" of Shanghai. The Flexible Design Hall was unveiled at the same time.

As a carrier of Shanghai Design Centre, the Flexible Design Hall consolidates the academic resources and international vision of Tongji University which is a famous design university and the information flow and the enterprising culture of the region into one-stop service platform.

## Yangpu to Add 2,600 Parking Lots This Year

By Ying Shenyi

As learned from 2013 Yangpu District Transportation Work Meeting, the district is to add 2,600 parking lots this year.

With the growing of automobiles, the growing parking difficulty has become a problem that shall not be ignored in urban development. According to related principal of Yangpu District Construction and Transportation Commission, the district plans to increase 2,300 parking lots in new residential

quarters, 100 in hospitals and 200 public parking lots so as to fill in the gap for parking lots and pay the historical debt in the district's static transportation construction. The intention is to optimize and consolidate resources and alleviate the parking difficulty in residential quarters, schools and hospitals at peak hour. Additionally, the district is also doing researches in terms of policies for different parking charges at different time slots and construction of vertical parking garages.