

September 4, 2012

Notice Regarding New Railcars for the Hokuriku Shinkansen

- Eyeing the start of operation of the Hokuriku Shinkansen to Kanazawa, JR East and JR West will jointly develop new Shinkansen railcars.
- The overall concept for the railcars will be as follows: “refinement” that resonates with mature sensibilities and “relaxation and spaciousness” for the body and mind. Based on this concept, a new style of rail travel will be provided on the Hokuriku Shinkansen.

1. Outline of railcars

The new Hokuriku Shinkansen railcars will consist of a 12-car configuration, and the premium brand *GranClass*, a first class Shinkansen service, will be introduced.

Furthermore, the new railcars will be fitted with active suspensions in order to provide passengers with even more ride comfort. In addition, service amenities will be further enhanced primarily by upgrading barrier-free features, installing power outlets in all passenger cabins, and providing toilet seats with a warm-water washing feature in all restrooms.

As a safety measure in the event of an earthquake, the railcars will be equipped with enhanced braking capabilities to shorten braking distance.

The Hokuriku Shinkansen will have a maximum operational speed of 260 km/h.

2. Railcar design

We have decided to express “refinement” by generating new value through the fusion of Japanese traditions and cutting-edge technology, while “relaxation and spaciousness” will take shape through comfortable cabin spaces with traditional Japanese-style interior accents. The keyword common to all of these elements will be the Japanese concept of “*Wa*,” or harmony. We have chosen “the Future of *Wa* (Harmony)” as the design concept for the railcars. This concept embodies our aspirations to link Japan’s traditional culture and the future by connecting the areas along the Hokuriku Shinkansen with the Tokyo metropolitan area going forward.

(1) Exterior design

The exterior design of the railcar will convey speed and sharpness by fusing the railcar's streamlined form for traveling at high speeds and the use of traditional Japanese colors, with the scenery along the Shinkansen route.

We have adopted a design for the lead car's nose that provides an optimal aerodynamic shape taking into account environmental performance. The design has been named "One-motion line" for its simple streamlines.

The color of the top of the railcar will be sky blue, and that of the main body will be ivory white. The band running along the center of the railcar will be colored copper and sky blue.

(2) Interior design

GranClass

The interior of *GranClass* will be designed to allow passengers to enjoy a highly comfortable and relaxing space. This will be done by having a cabin space with traditional Japanese-style interior accents and seats with cutting-edge functions complement one another.

Green Car

In the *Green Car*, traditional Japanese formal aesthetics and modern touches will be arranged to produce a relaxing and elegant space for passengers.

Ordinary Car

Ordinary cars will be designed to allow passengers to enjoy a mature atmosphere with touch of refinement, while relishing the hopes and excitement of their journey.

3. Schedule for completion of new railcars

The first railcars are scheduled for completion in the autumn of 2013 for JR East and the spring of 2014 for JR West.

[Exterior design]



[Interior design]



GranClass



Green Car



Ordinary Carr