

S stock entered passenger service on the Metropolitan Line between Wembley and Watford; here unit Nos 21003 and 21004 are at seen Wembley Park on 1 August, working the shuttle to Watford. Bill Turvill



'S' stock enters passenger service

Bombardier and Invensys shortlisted for signalling

On 31 July, the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, welcomed the introduction of the first train of new 'S' stock into service on London Underground's Metropolitan Line. The train is the first of a 191-strong fleet of brand new walk-through trains being built by Bombardier in Derby that will serve 40% of the Underground network. As well as air conditioning, the new trains feature closed circuit television (CCTV) coverage in each carriage and improved accessibility.

The 191-strong fleet will comprise 58 'S8' eight-car trains for the Metropolitan Line, and 133 'S7' seven-car trains for the rest of the sub-surface network. Roll-out on the Metropolitan Line is scheduled to be complete by 2011. The new trains will start being delivered on the Circle and Hammersmith & City Lines from 2011 and start operating on both Lines from 2012. The District Line will follow in 2013 and all 191 trains will be on the network from 2015.

Travelling on the first train, Peter Hendy, Transport for London Commissioner, said: 'This is great news for tube customers: not only will their journeys be cooler, the new trains are more spacious, more accessible and boast the latest CCTV systems...

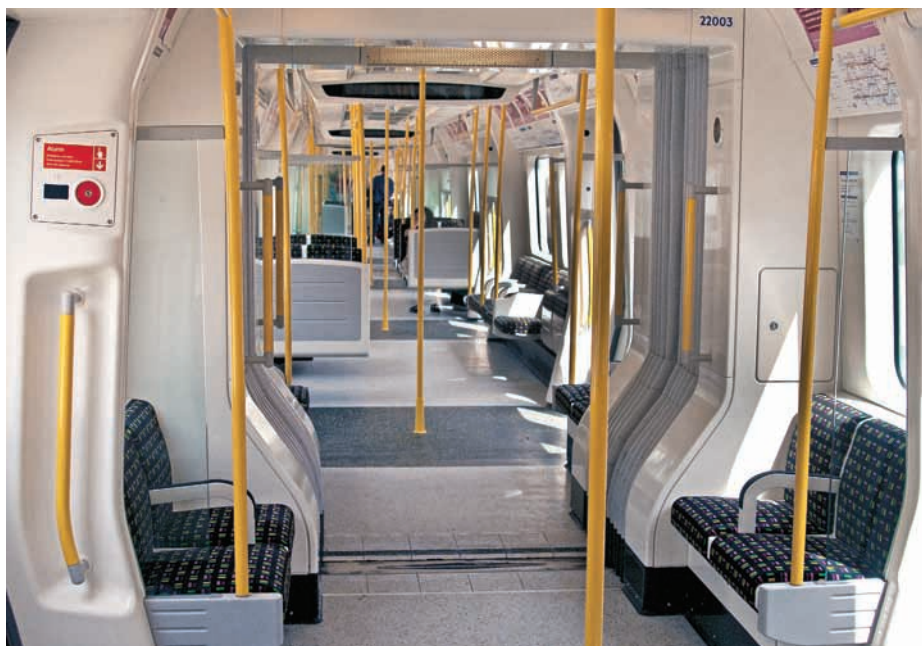
'To achieve the full capacity increases that the upgrade will bring, it is imperative that we get the new signalling system that we are currently

tendering for, which will enable a higher throughput of trains and faster journeys.'

Invensys and Bombardier are reported to have been shortlisted for the sub-surface network resignalling contract.

The unsuccessful bidders were the

Siemens/Signalling Solutions Ltd consortium and Thales. SSL is the joint venture of Alstom Transportation and Balfour Beatty. Thales is responsible for the late-running resignalling of the Jubilee Line with Transmission Based Train Control. *James Abbott / Roger Ford*



Interior of S stock. Bill Turvill