

“Hong Kong is just like an ‘academy’ for us to enhance our contract and management skills.”

Tony Cheng, Managing Director
China Railway First Group (HK) Co Ltd



China Railway First Group Links Hong Kong to the Mainland

Hong Kong’s robust legal system, ability to manage contracts and compliance with international best practices make it a perfect learning ground for the Chinese high-speed railway builder to springboard into the global market

Xian-based China Railway First Group (HK) Co Ltd (CRFG) is one of the important overseas subsidiaries of China Railway Group Ltd, a Fortune Global 500 company. In 2011, China Railway First Group Co Ltd, Hong Kong’s Chun Wo Development Holdings Ltd, China Railway (HK) Holdings Ltd. and Australia’s Queensland Rail formed a joint venture, which won the construction project of trackwork and overhead line system of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link Hong Kong section. The joint venture created over 800 jobs for management level and on-site staff, of which 130 staff are employed by CRFG.

“In order to win the tender, we formed a close partnership with different companies so that we can complement each other’s advantages. CRFG’s strength lies in our construction expertise in express rail, while Chun Wo and Queensland Rail are well versed with the Hong Kong and international standards, regulations and best practices respectively,” Tony Cheng, Managing Director, China Railway First Group (HK) Co Ltd, said.

“Hong Kong is an excellent platform for companies like us because it has very high quality staff and standards. It is just like an ‘academy’ for us to enhance our contract and management skills, and we can also develop a large pool of talent suitable for overseas business development,” he added.



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Safety Recognition

Safety, environmental protection and overall compliance with the entire standards are the stringent requirements of the MTR Corporation. The joint venture consisting of CRFG was awarded the “One Million Hours Worked Without a Lost-Time Injury” and the “Gold Safety Award” for the construction project of trackwork and overhead line system of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link Hong Kong section in 2014. Cheng said the Hong Kong section will be an integral part of Mainland China’s express-rail network with the “Four Vertical and Four Horizontal” arrangement, promoting regional and inter-regional economic development.

CRFG has just won a project from Hong Kong’s Water Supplies Department for maintenance of water supply pipelines throughout Hong Kong. In the medium-to-long term, the company wishes to use Hong Kong and Macau as the centre to radiate to the southeast Asian market.

Cheng appreciates the support of InvestHK, which serves as a medium for newly arrived companies to understand the local market. “Hong Kong is a central zone for politics, information and financing, with all types of service providers and business partners ready to help the company to succeed in the city,” Cheng said.

China Railway First Group Co Ltd

- 26,563 staff as at end of 2014, of which 147 work in Hong Kong and Macau
- Possesses the qualifications of general contracting for railway and highway engineering, general contracting for house building and municipal engineering, first grade qualification of professional contracting for railway track laying, bridge, tunnel and highway pavement engineering as well as specialised qualification for urban mass transit engineering

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