

Media Release

16 October 2009

MYKI ENTERS FINAL STAGE OF TESTING IN MELBOURNE

Victoria's new public transport ticketing system, myki, is about to enter its final stage of testing with up to 1,000 people set to use the system before it officially begins operating in Melbourne.

Transport Ticketing Authority CEO, Gary Thwaites, said the final stage of myki's comprehensive testing program would put the system through its paces before Melbourne's public transport users start touching on and off later this year.

"Testers will be sourced from Metlink, the Department of Transport and the Transport Ticketing Authority. Participants will use the system for a number of weeks travelling to and from work and around Melbourne's suburbs," he said.

"Testers will touch on and touch off as they travel and top up their cards online, through the call centre and at myki top up points at their workplaces.

"This final stage of the testing program will expose the myki system to thousands of complex trips each day. It is just one way we are ensuring the system will be ready for Melbourne's public transport users."

Mr Thwaites said green myki readers would be progressively switched on in preparation for final testing.

"Melburnians may notice the screens on green myki readers displaying the message 'please touch your card below'. If you already have a myki, it's important that you don't use it in Melbourne just yet, as it is not yet valid for travel."

The only valid mykis are those issued to test participants. People should continue to travel with their Metcard until we let them know that myki is ready to use in Melbourne.

Posters will be positioned throughout the public transport network to let people know that myki is in the final stages of testing.

A customer information campaign will ensure all of Melbourne's public transport users know when myki will begin operating in Melbourne later this year and on V/Line services in 2010.

Metropolitan journalists

Adrian Darwent
E-mail: adrian.darwent@transport.vic.gov.au

Suburban journalists

Jake Hatton
Email: jake.hatton@transport.vic.gov.au

