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Press Release

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IMMEDIATE

MTA and Lionel Trains Unveil First-Ever Model NYC Subway Trains at Opening of NY Transit Museum's Holiday Train Show

MTA-Licensed Metro-North Trains Also Go On Display

Today officials from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) joined executives from Lionel Electric Trains to unveil the first-ever MTA-licensed New York City Subway Lionel Trains. They also presented the Metro-North Train Set, which was recently released and was the first Lionel product officially licensed by the MTA.

Both trains will be part of the New York Transit Museum Gallery Annex at Grand Central Terminal Holiday Train Show, held from November 24, 2008 through January 19, 2009. The massive layout, designed by Lionel, will feature nine trains on a route from Grand Central to the North Pole – passing by NYC landmarks such as the Brooklyn Bridge, Grand Central and the Empire State Building.

Gabrielle Shubert, Director of the NY Transit Museum, said "This is the Transit Museum's seventh annual Holiday Train Show. It is a great addition to be able to include models of MTA equipment – the R-27 and the M-7 truly enrich the depiction of New York at holiday time, with trains our visitors will remember riding. With this show, and vintage Museum collection cars out in regular service on the V line every Sunday from now till New Year's, history buffs can get a wonderful sense of New York's transportation past."

"Lionel Trains has been an American classic for more than 100 years, and today we are happy to join another time-honored institution – the MTA – in presenting the unique New York City Subway model train," said Jerry Calabrese, CEO and President of Lionel Electric Trains. "Each painstaking detail has been recreated on the R-27 model, from the kale-green finish to the real conductor's announcements. Lionel is especially proud of both the R-27 and the M-7 Metro-North trains, and we believe they'll be among our best-sellers for years to come."

For information on the New York Transit Museum Gallery Annex at Grand Central Terminal Holiday Train Show and the NY Transit Museum, please call (718) 694-1600 or visit www.mta.info/museum.

About the Lionel NYC Transit Authority R-27 Subway Car

Coupled in semi-permanent married pairs, these cars entered service in 1960 and often traveled to Manhattan through the tunnel, as indicated by the QT designation on the sign board. The R-27 cars were initially dressed in a kale green baked enamel finish, and they served New York City until the early 1990s.

Featuring the Legacy System—the next generation in TrainMaster Command Control—the R-27 has opening doors and authentic subway sounds. Listen for the operator announcing the subway stop near the former Lionel office in Manhattan. The cars also feature prototypical markings and signage for service in the early 1960s. An additional 2-Pack is available to create a longer train.

About the Lionel MTA Metro-North Railroad 25th Anniversary M-7 Commuter Train Set

MTA Metro-North Railroad 25th Anniversary M-7 Commuter Train Set For 25 years, MTA Metro-North Railroad has provided reliable commuter service between New York City and northern suburbs in New York and Connecticut. MTA Metro-North Railroad is proud of its recognized tradition of excellence in service and exceptional on-time performance delivered by extraordinarily dedicated personnel. Lionel celebrates this special anniversary with a brand new ready-to-run train set featuring the railroad's newest commuter car fleet – sleek M-7 electric, multiple-unit rail cars. Decorated in handsome blue and grey, this Lionel set represents the first time these modern commuter cars have been modeled in O Gauge. These trains are seen everyday operating to and from Metro-North's flagship, Grand Central Terminal, as well as suburban stations in its electrified zone.

Each of the four rail cars in the set feature unique elements, such as opening side doors and interior illumination. A realistic horn and headlights are also included on the powered M-7 car. In addition to the transformer and a generous amount of track, this affordable set also includes railroad and passenger figures and an assortment of railroad signs that can be customized with special station name decals to re-create your favorite Metro-North station.