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Miami Intermodal Center



News Clip

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Subject: **MIA Mover cars tested before a September all-aboard call**

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MIA Mover cars tested before a September all-aboard call

BY ASHLEY D. TORRES

Testing on the eight Miami International Airport MIA Mover cars is to begin this month, with the public riding the rail by Sept. 7.

The 1.25-mile elevated, automated MIA Mover rail system is to connect the airport's terminal with the Miami Intermodal Center, which houses the Rental Car Center and in 2013 is to become a transportation hub providing access to Amtrak, Tri-Rail and Miami-Dade County's Metrorail and Metrobus.

After factory testing by Japan-based Mitsubishi, which designed and manufactured the eight mover cars, the vehicles arrived in Miami at the beginning of December, one month ahead of schedule.

Parsons-Odebrecht joint venture, which is contracted for the \$259 million mover construction, was able to accommodate the earlier completion date, said Brad Rinzler, Parsons-Odebrecht's technical director of construction, because "we would rather have them here on our tracks than have

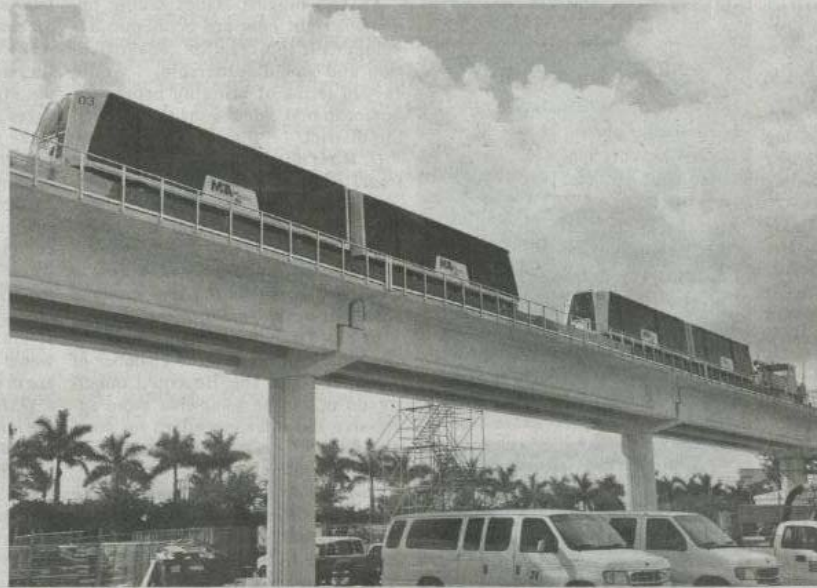


Photo by Maxine Usdan

MIA Mover cars are on track to carry 3,000 passengers hourly linking airport and Miami Intermodal Center.

them over there."

The eight white-and-blue mover cars, which are to transport up to 3,000 passengers per

hour, cost \$22.4 million.

Mover cars are to be tested six months, followed by a two-month period allocated for Par-

sons-Odebrecht to demonstrate to the airport that the rail system meets requirements.

Static testing, which is con-

ducted when vehicles aren't moving, is to begin this month and check inside components such as batteries, lights and air conditioning units, said David Leverenz, Parsons-Odebrecht's project executive.

Testing of the moving cars is to begin in mid-March, said Bill Stewart, Parsons-Odebrecht's systems integration manager, and includes checking vehicle movement up and down guideways; ensuring communication between cars and central control; and coordinating cars with guideways. In addition, testing is to ensure proper function of mover end stops and platform screen doors.

Testing and operations, Mr. Rinzler said, will be completed on each mover car, guideways and from stations at the airport's terminal and the intermodal center. The testing is to be an integrated process, he added, with completion set for Sept. 7.

Once the MIA Mover rolls, rental car center shuttles are to be discontinued and airport gasoline emissions are expected to drop 30%.