



# CSR Zhuzhou faces 5 rivals for RM1.8b MRT job

**SUPPLYING ELECTRIC TRAINS:** Tender offer expected to be extended to June 14

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**C**HINA'S CSR Zhuzhou Electric Locomotive Co Ltd will have to face competition from five contenders to win a RM1.85 billion job to supply electric trains for the Klang Valley – MY Rapid Transit (MRT) project.

CSR Zhuzhou is currently the sole party to have submitted a bid to supply 58 four-car electric train sets for the MRT.

MRT Co had shortlisted six groups for the job. They include Kawasaki Heavy Industries Ltd, a consortium comprising Bombardier (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd, Bombardier Sifang (Qingdao) Transportation Ltd and Scomi Rail Bhd; Changchun Railways Vehicles Co Ltd, Germany's Siemens AG and South Korea's Hyundai Rotem Co/CMC Engineering.

Tender offer closes this week but MRT Co is expected to extend it to June 14.

"The potential bidders have asked for extension. This is not just for the rolling stocks, but for the systems work like signalling and power supply, and depot workshop equipment.

"We expect the remaining five groups to submit their bids over the next three weeks. It is very unlikely for companies like Scomi, Siemens, Kawasaki and Hyundai not to bid for the

rolling stocks," said sources close to MRT Co.

A source said the criteria for selection will be transparent and no group will be favoured.

Scomi Rail, a leading provider of urban transit systems, is known for its success in launching Malaysia's first monorail system – the KL Monorail in 2003.

"The company is fine-tuning the details of its bid and expects to make a submission soon," said people close to the company.

Scomi Rail has an engineering, technology and innovation centre in Rawang, Selangor, which is MRT-ready.

CSR Zhuzhou, meanwhile, is building an assembly plant in Batu Gajah, Perak, for RM400 million.

The plant will supply 20 sets of six-car trains for a RM530 million job it won recently for the Ampang Line extension in Kuala Lumpur.

CSR Zhuzhou also has a RM1.89 billion contract from the Transport Ministry to supply 38 sets of six-car trains for national railway company Keretapi Tanah Melayu Bhd.

Meanwhile, Siemens Malaysia Sdn Bhd president and chief executive officer M. Prakash Chandran has said it will set up a local assembly plant for rolling stocks if it were chosen as the system provider for the MRT project.