

## MILESTONE



PHOTOS BY JOSÉ UBALDO

Crews prepare one of the first Metro Gold Line cars for offloading onto tracks in South Pasadena. Below, technicians ready the car for transfer to the tracks.

### Metro Gold Line Gets First Rail Car for Track Testing

(Aug. 20, 2002) It was still the dead of night, early Monday, when a big-rig truck with an oversized trailer pulled alongside Metro Gold Line tracks in South Pasadena and began to unload an 89-foot, 49-ton rail car.

The delivery marked a significant milestone for the Metro Rail system. The \$2.3 million car is one of six that will be used to test track alignment and the wayside signal system along portions of the 13.7-mile Los Angeles to Pasadena light-rail line.



The line is to begin operation with 26 cars next summer between Union Station and Sierra Madre Villa in East Pasadena. The line is expected to carry some 30,000 riders each day and help alleviate traffic on the Pasadena Freeway.

The Metro Gold Line has a historic precedent. Beginning in 1902, the Pacific Electric Railway operated a "short line" between Los Angeles and Pasadena. It closed in 1951.

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