

[Home](#)[CEO Hotline](#)[Viewpoint](#)[Classified Ads](#)[Archives](#)[Metro.net](#) (web)

Resources

[Safety](#)[Pressroom](#) (web)[CEO Hotline](#)[Metro Projects](#)[Facts at a Glance](#)
(web)[Archives](#)[Events Calendar](#)[Research Center/
Library](#)[Metro Cafe](#) (pdf)[Metro Classifieds](#)[Retirement
Round-up](#)

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[Strategic Plan](#) (pdf)[Org Chart](#) (pdf)[Policies](#)[Training](#)[Help Desk](#)[Intranet Policy](#)

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Giant Cargo Jet Delivers Metro's First 2550 Railcar

- Light-rail car emerges in five-hour offloading operation at LAX

Photos by Juan Ocampo



(June 14, 2005) With Metro's new 2550 Light-Rail Vehicle on board, an Antonov AN-124 cargo jet touched down just before 9 a.m., last Saturday, at LAX.



Taxiing to the Imperial Terminal, the nose cone of the giant plane opened and a ramp folded out to begin a five-hour unloading operation.



On hand to greet the rail car at LAX were CEO Roger Snoble and Giancarlo Fantappiè, chairman and CEO of Breda Transportation, Inc., a subsidiary of AnsaldoBreda SpA, the railcar manufacturer.



Crews built a miniature railway to roll the 54-ton railcar out off the plane's interior and onto a flat-bed trailer truck.



The 2550 vehicle was scheduled to be transported, Tuesday, to the Metro Gold Line yard just north of downtown LA for further testing prior to being put into revenue service. Metro's contract with AnsaldoBreda includes two 50-car options to accommodate future growth of the Metro Rail System. The remainder of the 2550 cars will be shipped by sea.

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