

Prototype Created For Dubai Hyperloop Capsule

Passengers Will Be Propelled Through A Vacuum Tube At Speeds Up To 1,080 Kmph

NEWBURY PARK, CA : Working with Virgin Hyperloop One, and the Roads and Transport Authority of Dubai (RTA), Designworks helped create a prototype design for the Dubai hyperloop capsule. The design recently made its global debut at City Walk Dubai as part of UAE Innovation Month. This is the first time a physical, full-scale hyperloop prototype has been shown to a broad public audience.

Once built, the passenger capsule, electromagnetically propelled through a vacuum tube, could reach speeds up to 1,080km/h, potentially traveling from Dubai to Abu Dhabi in as little as 12 minutes.

Virgin Hyperloop One is currently negotiating the next stage of development (Phase 2) with the RTA with the clear aim of building the world's first hyperloop transportation system in the UAE / Middle East.

Designing for the future of mobility: Building upon extensive design experience across public and personal transport projects and a firm focus on the future mobility landscape, Designworks played a crucial role as Virgin Hyperloop One's design partner, offering critical thought leadership and concepts to create the prototype's visual identity and interior passenger experience.



"With the Virgin Hyperloop One design, we wanted to create a new visual expression for a new mode of public transportation" says Designworks LA Studio Design Director, Johannes Lampela.

The central challenge the Designworks team faced was how to create a comfortable and engaging interior with no windows, and a current requirement for passengers to be seated throughout the journey. Designworks took what might at first glance be a very restrictive environment and transformed it into a more personal and uplifting sensory experience that can be both memorable and enjoyable.

Innovation with human-centric design: The design concept suggested several ways of achieving this, through multidirectional and personally-controlled light, digital displays, and premium comfort - creating a sense of individualized space for each passenger.

In first class, for example, adjustable leather seats feature touchscreens for personal settings for light brightness and color, allowing passengers to shift the light from blue to pink to set the mood.

The seats include integrated heating and cooling. Passengers could enjoy personalized entertainment through built-in displays. In this way, the concept could create a more sophisticated and user-centered spatial experience that transcends the typical utilitarian notion of public transportation. Floor lighting is also aesthetically used to double as wayfinding.

To further enrich the passenger experience, designers took inspiration from traditional Arabic patterns, taking care to create intentional and relatable cultural

references while also applying a more futuristic and progressive interpretation.

The design is thus anchored in the cultural legacy of the kingdom while acknowledging its contemporary achievements and aspirations. The Virgin Hyperloop One prototype is another example of Designworks' forward-looking approach to inventing the future of transportation and imagining the potential for new modes of mobility.

BMW Group Designworks is a creative consultancy that has been driving innovation for forty years. Acquired by BMW Group in 1995, Designworks enables its parent company as well as internationally-renowned clients to grow their businesses through design and a portfolio of creative consulting services. Designworks is deeply immersed in a broad cross-section of industries.

Virgin Hyperloop One is the only company in the world that has built a fully operational hyperloop system. The Virgin team has the world's leading experts in engineering, technology, and transport project delivery working to make hyperloop a reality. Hyperloop One is backed by key investors including DP World, Caspian VC Partners, Virgin Group, Sherpa Capital, Abu Dhabi Capital Group and others. Visit www.virginhyperloopone.com.

Tharoor Charged With Abetting Wife Sunanda's Suicide

NEW DELHI: Delhi Police on Monday filed a chargesheet in a court in Sunanda Pushkar's suicide case, accusing her husband and Congress leader Shashi Tharoor with abetment to suicide, a charge he dubbed "preposterous" and his party called "baseless".

The chargesheet was filed in the court of Metropolitan Magistrate Dharmender Singh here. It mentions that the body of Pushkar bore "scuffle marks" when it was found in a luxury hotel room in New Delhi on January 17, 2014.

"These (marks) seem to have been caused due to scuffle between Sunanda Pushkar Tharoor and her husband Shashi Tharoor as per the statement of their personal attendant Narain Singh. However, this fact is being examined further."

Tharoor has been charged under Sections 306 and 498A of the Indian Penal Code that deal with abetment to suicide and subjecting a woman to cruelty by her husband or his relative respectively, which entail a jail term that may extend up to 10 years.

Delhi Police Chief Spokesperson Deependra Pathak said the chargesheet was filed in the case on the basis of medico-legal and forensic evidence analysed during investigation as well as



the opinion of experts regarding Pushkar's death, which was investigated by a Special Investigation Team of South District police.

The Congress, however, said that there "could be no more falsehood about this charge except that a conspiratorial BJP leadership, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, were seeking revenge against Tharoor by using the Delhi Police which, he said, was a willing tool to subvert BJP's political agenda".

BJP Rajya Sabha MP Subramanian Swamy said that all witnesses and documents in the case were destroyed during the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) rule by the "cor-



rupt" police. "Under Section 301 CrPC and also via JK International judgment of SC, I am entitled to assist the prosecutor in the Sunanda unnatural death case," he tweeted. He said he will appear in court on the next date of hearing on May 24.

Congress leader Randeep Surjewala told the media here that top BJP leaders had "conspired against Tharoor" and accused him of murdering his wife while the chargesheet filed by Delhi Police on Monday was for abetment of suicide.

Surjewala dubbed these charges "baseless" and a conspiracy by the Bharatiya Janata Party leaders who "hounded, prosecuted and maligned" Tharoor.

Yeddyurappa Takes Oath As CM; Protest By JDU, Congress

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swearing-in of Yeddyurappa as the Chief Minister at a special pre-dawn hearing. The top court, however, said the swearing-in of Yeddyurappa was subject to the final outcome of the matter before it and posted the case for further hearing at 10.30 a.m on Friday.

The bench, headed by Justice A.K. Sikri, also sought the letter Yeddyurappa wrote to the Governor on Wednesday, informing him about his election as the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) legislature party leader in Karnataka.

Vala on Wednesday night invited Yeddyurappa to form the government and prove within 15 days that he had majority in the legislative assembly.

Although the BJP emerged as the single-largest party winning 104 seats in the May 12 assembly election, it fell short of eight seats from the 112-halfway mark in the lower House, in which the Congress trailed behind with 78 wins and the regional JD-S 37 seats.

This is the third time Yeddyurappa took oath as the state Chief Minister, a decade after he became the BJP's first Chief Min-

ister in south India in May 2008 when the party came to power for the first time in the southern state.

Soon after taking oath, an upbeat Yeddyurappa said he was confident of winning the majority and being in power for the full five-year term.

"I am thankful to the people of the state, especially farmers and the poor, who have supported me. As the people are with me, I am confident of winning the majority and be in power for the next five years," Yeddyurappa said at his maiden press conference.

Crediting Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP's President Amit Shah for his swearing-in as the Chief Minister, Yeddyurappa accused the Congress and JD-S of trying to steal the people's mandate by forming an alliance.

"The Congress and JD-S have formed an unholy alliance despite people choosing the BJP. We are confident of winning the majority," he added. Among the Congress leaders who protested were former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, party General Secretary K.C. Venugopal and senior party leader Ghulam Nabi Azad.

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