

EMR fleet refresh is underway

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East Midlands Railway (EMR) has begun a project to refresh the interiors of its Intercity fleet – including replacing seats, toilet interiors and covering surfaces in a new special anti-bacterial cleaning product.

The work will be carried out at Derby's Etches Park depot and will see 5300 seats being refreshed, including new back covers, seat cushions, headrests and arm rests – while a number of seat covers will also receive deep cleaning by a specialist company.

The toilet refurbishment in all 27 of EMR's Class 222 Meridian trains has already been completed, providing a series of improvements to give a better experience for customers.

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- **£1.3 million platform being built in North Lincolnshire**
- **EMR staff take to the catwalk to reveal new uniform**

These improvements include walls being painted, a new vinyl applied to door panels, the replacement of damaged fixtures, as well as the Call for Aid units and mirror surrounds being resprayed. Sinks have also been polished and buffed, while the baby changing areas have also been improved.

As part of this work, EMR will be the very first train operating company in the UK to use a new cleaning product which makes surfaces easier to keep clean and works continuously to reduce the growth of bacteria.

The Cotech Biosafe product, which includes a special technology called Microban antimicrobial protection, will be applied to toilet surfaces to enhance hygiene and bring piece of mind to customers.

Cotech Biosafe is the longest-lasting coating of its kind currently on the market, protecting a surface for around seven to 10 years and does not require monthly reapplications like other similar products.

The special product is supplementary to the regular cleaning programme that is already in place on the trains.

Neil Bamford, Fleet Director at East Midlands Railway, said: "As we await the introduction of our new **Aurora fleet**, we want to ensure our current Intercity trains offers customers a clean and inviting interior.

"Following an audit, we have identified a number of seats that fall below our standards, and we are working hard to replace them.

"Likewise, we wanted to refresh the toilets and make sure we are using the latest products available on the market to maintain cleanliness."