

Upgrade to Avanti West Coast Voyager fleet now complete

December 18, 2020



Avanti West Coast rolled out its final upgraded Voyager train today (Friday, 17 December) marking the end of a six-month overhaul programme.

The £8.3m investment was completed at Bombardier's depot in Ilford, east London, despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, with customers already benefitting from the trains' revitalised interiors.

The refresh of the 20 trains includes new Standard Class seats covers and carpets as well as a revamped toilet area. All older lighting has been replaced with more energy efficient LEDs.

The interior bodyside and ceiling panels in vestibules, toilets and Standard Class saloons have also been refinished in either paint or vinyl wraps. The door grab handles have been coated with an anti-microbial finish.

Avanti West Coast Senior Project Manager, Adrian Bullock, explained: "This investment has delivered a step change to the Voyager's onboard environment. Our customers will really notice the difference.

“It’s given the trains a new lease of life, and they will continue to serve our customers for the next two years with great distinction.”

The 20 Voyagers operate over the non-electrified sections of the West Coast Main Line in addition to running from London to Scotland, via the West Midlands. They will remain in service until 2022 when Avanti West Coast will introduce a fleet of new Hitachi Class 805 and 807 trains.

Eric Holmes, Head of UK Services, Bombardier Transportation said: “We are very pleased to have completed this project for our friends at Avanti West Coast. The team at our Ilford facility have performed exceptionally well, despite the challenge of COVID-19, and have delivered a high quality product on time and on budget. We are all proud of what we have delivered to our customer.”

Photo credit: Avanti West Coast

For today's rail news from railbusinessdaily.com [click here](#).