

## **China Approves Extension of the Shanghai Maglev Line**

The National Development and Reform Commission reported that the Chinese State Council has given approval for a 175 km extension to Hangzhou of the currently operating Shanghai Magnetic Levitation (Maglev) airport connector. The approval of a major Maglev line at the State Council level is a high visibility demonstration that the Chinese government is serious about using maglev technology in its high speed intercity transportation mix. The extension line will use German technology mixed with Chinese technology and Chinese component manufacture.

The Chinese government has shown great leadership by its decision to become the first nation to deploy and capitalize on the many advantages of maglev technology.

The technology used by Magplane takes advantage of advanced materials that have evolved since the earlier maglev systems were developed, and as a consequence can simplify and reduce cost relative to the older technology. When implemented in China, Magplane will be able to compete very effectively against the higher cost of the more complex older technologies used in Shanghai.

Magplane will have completed its demonstration projects and be ready to enter the market at the time the Shanghai-Hangzhou line is completed, and will thus be in a prime position to capitalize on the Magplane inherently lower costs in bidding for the next maglev projects.