Seibu Railway Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Tokorozawa City, Saitama Prefecture, President: Hisashi Wakabayashi) will introduce 56 new model limited express train cars from FY2018 to FY2019. Together with the Tourism Train "Fifty Two Seats of Happiness", which was the culmination of the Seibu Railway 100th anniversary that has been underway since FY2012, and the new commuter train type series 40000, Seibu railway will be producing a new series of limited express train cars as the flagship train for Seibu Railway for the next 100 years. The production of a new limited express train car series will be the first in 25 years since the introduction of the 10000 series "New Red Arrow" that is currently in operation.

Seibu has congined the establishment of a design concept and the design of the exteriors and interiors to Kazuyo Sejima, a leading global architect, in order to create a limited express that is a new concept not like anything that has come before for these new model limited express train cars. This will be the first ever railway car designed by Ms. Sejima, and she is working dilligently on the design in close concert with our company. The aim of the design is a subtle, gentle design which allows the train to blend into the scenery.

We are working hard to provide a new model limited express train that will not only be enjoyable to ride, but also fun to watch as it blends into the scenery when passing by, in order to realize a limited express which will fulfill the needs of a variety of passengers, including those commuting to and from work and school and tourists.

See details on the attached sheet.
1. Overview
   (1) No. of New Train Cars 56 cars (7 trains consisting of 8 cars each)
   (2) Operation Start FY2018 (Planned)
   *Specific operation start dates will be announced later.
   (3) Manufacturer Hitachi, Ltd.

2. Design Concept
   (1) A limited express that easily blends into the scenery in both urban and natural environments
   This train will differ from limited express design up until now, seeking to express a gentleness and softness rather than a sharpness and coolness. We seek to create a train where the limited express does not stand out against the scenery, but rather a limited express that seems to be a part of the scenery.
   (2) A limited express that is like a living room where anyone can relax
   We want the train to express a place where a variety of people can be together and yet freely spend their time as they each wish. We aim to deliver a new type of public space that will be like both a relaxing and comfortable living room, and also a park where various people gather.
   (3) A limited express that is not just a means of transport, but creates new value and is a destination in itself
   We want to not just design the shape and form of a means of transportation, but express a new value for the limited express that is created together through participation with everyone. We aim for a design that features spaces, atmosphere and appearance such that spending time on the limited express will itself be a destination goal.

3. Designer
   Kazuyo Sejima
   The establishment of the design concept and design of the exterior and interior for the new model limited express trains is being commissioned to Kazuyo Sejima, a leading global architect and the recipient of the Pritzker Architecture Prize, said to be the Nobel Prize of the architecture world.

Comment from Ms. Sejima
"The project concept was introduced to me as 'a new limited express train like nothing seen before'. This is of course my first foray into designing a limited express train, however I think the biggest difference with standard architecture is that the train is able to travel a variety of locations. The limited express travels in a variety of different sceneries, from the mountains of Chichibu, to the middle of Tokyo, and I thought it would be good if the train could gently coexist with this variety of scenery. I also would like it to be a limited express where large numbers of people can all relax in comfort, in their own way, like a living room, so that they think to themselves 'I look forward to riding that train again'".

<Kazuyo Sejima Profile>

Major rewards include the Architectural Institute of Japan Prize*, Venice Biennale International Architecture Exhibition Golden Lion* (Italy), Pritzker Architecture Prize* (United States), Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (France), Art Encouragement Prize Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Award, Murano Togo Prize, etc.
Major works include the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa* (Kanazawa City), Dior Omotesando*, Inujima "Art House Project" (Okayama City), The New Museum of Contemporary Art* (New York), 2009 Serpentine Gallery Pavilion* (London), Rolex Learning Center* (Lausanne, Switzerland), Louvre-Lens* (Lens, France), etc. Recently the "Grace Farms"* project outside of New York also opened in October 2015. (Items marked with a * are SANAA works)

<Notable Works>
21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa
Kanazawa City, Ishikawa Prefecture

Louvre-Lens (France, Louvre Palace Lens branch museum)

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[Reference]

Establishment of the concept for the new model limited express

We formed a project team, composed mainly of younger employees from Seibu Railway and other Seibu Group companies, in order to provide support for realizing Ms. Sejima's design concept, and to provide information from a user point of view. The group's deliberation on what type of new limited express train they wanted was the origin of the "a new limited express train like nothing seen before" concept. Ms. Sejima and the project team exchanged opinions and ideas to come up with the current design concept.

Seibu Railway Limited Express Trains

5000 Series Train (Red Arrow)

This train was first produced for use as the "Chichibu" Limited Express together with the opening of the Seibu Chichibu Line in 1969. During the series' height, 6 trains were in use, however the number of trains was gradually reduced with the introduction of the 10000 series and was finally retired in 1995.

This train debuted as a Seibu Railway reserved seat extra fee train and was known by the nickname "Red Arrow", and was awarded the Japan Railfan Club Blue Ribbon Prize in 1970.

10000 Series Train (New Red Arrow)

The successor to the Red Arrow 5000 Series first limited express train, this limited express debuted in 1993. Based on a concept of a "comfortable and tranquil space", the train featured comfortably pitched seating, on-board guidance equipment, seats designed for use with wheelchairs, and restroom facilities.

The train has been used by a huge number of passengers for both business and leisure as the "Koedo" on the Shinjuku Line and as the "Musashi" and "Chichibu" on the Ikebukuro Line and Seibu Chichibu Line.