

For Immediate Release





June 30, 2021

Enemy SHINKALION finally arrives! The "DARK Shinkansen" unveiled!

# PLARAIL "SHINKALION Z DARK SHINKALION" To be launched on Saturday, August 7, 2021

The entertainment unit "BOYS AND MEN" appointed as the SHINKALION Z Toys Brand Ambassador!

TOMY Company, Ltd.

TOMY Company, Ltd. (Representative Director, President & COO: Kazuhiro Kojima, headquarters: Katsushika-ku, Tokyo) will release <u>"SHINKALION Z DARK SHINKALION"</u> (SRP: JPY 9,350/tax included), a new product in the PLARAIL railroad toy series, as a toy related to the TV animation "SHINKALION Z" on Saturday, August 7, 2021 at toy stores, toy sections of department stores and mass retailers in Japan, online stores, specialty stores for PLARAIL products "PLARAIL Shops," and TOMY Company's official online store "Takara Tomy Mall" (takaratomymall.jp), etc.



(Upper left) "DARK Shinkansen" \*Tracks are sold separately (Lower left) DARK HORSE, a robot horse/(Right) DARK SHINKALION

The mysterious "DARK Shinkansen," a train seen in the episodes and the title sequence of the TV animation "SHINKALION Z," is revealed today as "DARK SHINKALION." "DARK SHINKALION" features a substantial volume only possible with a 5-car train, as well as copious mode changes for transforming into four phases, which is the first in "SHINKALION Z."

Furthermore, the entertainment unit "BOYS AND MEN" (also known as "BOYMEN") from Nagoya, who sings the main theme song for the TV animation "SHINKALION Z," has been appointed as the <u>SHINKALION Z Toys</u> <u>Brand Ambassador</u>. As the Brand Ambassador, BOYS AND MEN will be the host of a YouTube program "SHINKALION Z Info Bureau," and is planned to conduct activities, such as promoting the PLARAIL SHINKALION series and other toys as well as conveying information on the animation series, from today through March 31, 2022.

### About the product

# A large volume of a 5-car train and never-before-seen mode changes in four phases! The new enemy SHINKALION equipped with a new transforming gimmick!

The "DARK Shinkansen," composed of five cars, transforms into two robots, "DARK SHINKALION" and a robot horse named "DARK HORSE." Furthermore, they can change their mode to two styles of "CENTAUR MODE" and "DEVIL MODE," so you can enjoy a total of four different modes.



<DARK SHINKALION / DARK HORSE> <DARK SHINKALION CENTAUR MODE> MODE>



The DARK Shinkansen transformed into DARK SHINKALION (2-car transformation) and DARK HORSE, a robot horse. DARK SHINKALION can ride on DARK HORSE.



DARK SHINKALION combined with DARK HORSE, a robot horse.



**<DARK SHINKALION DEVIL** 

DARK SHINKALION in a 5-car transformation.

DARK SHINKALION can be combined with ZAILINER, sold separately, through "Z combination." It can also be combined with SHINKALION Z.



Combination example: SHINKALION Z E5 HAYABUSA + DARK SHINKALION DEVIL MODE ⇒E5 HAYABUSA DEVIL MODE

## ▼"Z Combination Collection," a series of palm-sized collectible figures, will arrive in August!





This is a series of collectible figures with a height of approximately 65 mm. Despite the small size, they can be posed with movable arms, legs, and waist, and you can also enjoy Z combination and customization.

A total of three types, E5 YAMANOTE, E6 N'EX, and E7 AZUSA will be released on Saturday, August 21. They will be priced at JPY 880 each (tax included).

# "BOYS AND MEN" appointed as SHINKALION Z Toys Brand Ambassador!

The entertainment unit "BOYS AND MEN," who sings the main theme song of the TV animation, has been appointed as the **<u>SHINKALION Z Toys Brand Ambassador</u>** to conduct promotional activities and convey information on the PLARAIL SHINKALION series and other toys.

Their activities to liven up SHINKALION Z as the Brand Ambassador will include hosting "SHINKALION Z Info Bureau," a program to be streamed on TOMY Company Official YouTube Channel from Friday, July 2, and a "Summer Vacation Store Manager" project at the specialty stores for PLARAIL products "PLARAIL Shops."

▼ About the YouTube program "SHINKALION Z Info Bureau"

Streaming start date: 7:25 p.m. on Friday, July 2 – (a total of 10 episodes planned to be streamed on an irregular schedule)

Streaming website: TOMY Company official YouTube channel "<u>Takara Tomy Channel</u>" and others URL for the first episode: <u>youtu.be/QnejToYKTUE</u>

▼Other key scheduled activities as the SHINKALION Z Toys Brand Ambassador

• "Summer Vacation Store Manager at PLARAIL Shops"(\*): We plan to air in-store announcements voiced by the BOYS AND MEN members at "PLARAIL Shops," the specialty stores for PLARAIL products in Tokyo and Osaka, for a limited time only. (\* Members will not visit the stores)

•Product displays at venues for events featuring "BOYS AND MEN": We plan to display products including PLARAIL SHINKALION, transformed and posed by the BOYS AND MEN members.

· Publicity activities using social media and other means

\* Details including dates and durations will be announced on the official social media accounts for "BOYS AND MEN" and "SHINKALION Z" and other media as soon as finalized.

#### ▼ Message from the BOYS AND MEN members on appointment (with a video)

Thank you so much for appointing us, BOYMEN, as the SHINKALION Z Toys Brand Ambassador! It is such an honor to take on this role after singing the main theme songs for SHINKALION including the previous work in the series, because we consider us buddies that have evolved together! All of our members play with SHINKALION Z toys often, transforming them and recreating the scenes from the animation. Going forward, we'll work hard to convey the appeal of these toys to even more people as the Brand Ambassador! From all members of BOYS AND MEN <A video message on appointment is available here> youtu.be/atrCtpEMDw0

#### [Profile of "BOYS AND MEN"]

A unit formed in 2010 with members who grew up in or live in the Tokai area. Wearing trademark Japanese school uniforms, this entertainment unit excels not only at singing, dancing, and acting, but also musicals and other entertainment. They are regulars on many TV and radio shows broadcasted in the Tokai region and elsewhere. Received the New Artist Award at the 58th Japan Record Awards in 2016. Completed a solo concert at the Nippon Budokan in 2017, and a solo concert at the Nagoya Dome in January 2019.

A new single, "New Challenger," will be released on Wednesday, July 28. (The main theme song for the TV animation "SHINKALION Z")

Official website: <u>boysandmen.jp</u>

Official Twitter: twitter.com/BOYSANDMENinfo

## <Product Outline>

### Product Name: PLARAIL "SHINKALION Z DARK SHINKALION"

SRP: JPY 9,350 (tax included)

Launch Date in Japan: Saturday, August 7, 2021

Package Contents: SHINKALION Z DARK SHINKALION (5-car train) × 1, weapon × 2, label × 1,

instruction manual × 1

Dimensions: Approx. W 230 × D 130 × H 240 mm (at the time of robot form) Product Introduction Videou worth  $h_2/(ET cho A U2D U)$ 

Product Introduction Video: <u>youtu.be/fFZek0AH2RU</u>



Product Name: "SHINKALION Z: Z Combination Collection"

SRP: JPY 880 each (tax included)

Launch Date in Japan: Saturday, August 21, 2021

Package Contents: E5 YAMANOTE...E5 HAYABUSA main unit × 1, E235 YAMANOTE left and right arm × 2, weapon × 1

E6 N'EX...E6 KOMACHI main unit × 1, E259 N'EX lower body × 1, weapon × 2

E7 AZUSA...E7 KAGAYAKI main unit  $\times$  1, E353 AZUSA left and right arm  $\times$  2, weapon  $\times$  1 Dimensions: Approx. W 60  $\times$  D 40  $\times$  H 65 mm



E5 YAMANOTE

E6 N'EX

E7 AZUSA

### **▼**Common Information

Recommended Age: 3 years and up

Sales Channels: Toy stores, toy sections of department stores/mass retailers in Japan, the specialty store for PLARAIL products "PLARAIL Shops," online stores, TOMY Company's official online store "Takara Tomy Mall" (<u>takaratomymall.jp</u>), etc.

Copyright: © TOMY, ©PJ -S,J/SZ,TX

Official Website: www.takaratomy.co.jp/products/plarail/shinkalion

### [What is PLARAIL?]

"PLARAIL" (Sales agent: TOMY Company) is a long-running series of railroad toys that marked its 60th anniversary of the sales launch in 2019. It is a brand loved across three generations. The prototype of "PLARAIL" is the "PLASTIC TRAIN AND RAIL SET" which was launched in 1959 as a toy made from plastic, a new material at that time when metal and wood-made toys were the mainstream.

The iconic blue rails were designed in a size allowing it to be played on the "chabudai" (a low, Japanese-style dining table), which families gathered around to have a pleasant time back then. This specification remains unchanged even 60 years after its sales launch and you can still enjoy playing by connecting the rails made at that time with the newest ones.

We will continue to develop PLARAIL as a brand that will teach children about their society, enhance their growth including creativity, and nurture communication of children and their parents under the familiar and attracting theme of "railway." Up to present, a total of approximately 1,800 types and more than 177 million products have been sold in Japan (as of March 31, 2021).

#### [About "SHINKALION Z" TV Animation]



"SHINKALION," developed by the Shinkansen Ultra Evolution Institute to protect the peace and safety of Japan from mysterious giant monstrous beings. The Ultra Evolution Institute has been developing "SHINKALION Z," which is a new type of robots, as well as "ZAILINER," new armor upgrading trains that power "SHINKALION Z" up by transforming from conventional trains, to prepare for an invasion by new enemies. Children who became operators for "SHINKALION Z" with high matching rates join forces with members of the Institute, and fight back against the giant monstrous beings that emerged again! Emergence of unknown enemies... And two boys meeting each other... A further evolution of SHINKALION begins!!!

<Official Website> Official Website: <u>www.shinkalion.com</u> TV TOKYO Program Official Website: <u>ani.tv/shinkalion</u> <Broadcast Information> Now airing on Fridays at 7:25 p.m. on the network of six broadcast stations affiliated with TV TOKYO

#### For press inquiries, please contact:

Public Relations Division, TOMY Company, Ltd. Tel: 03-5654-1280 Fax: 03-5654-1380

#### For product inquiries from consumers, please contact:

TOMY Customer Service (Japanese only) Tel: 0570-041031 (Navi-Dial)