

Putin Rides New Fast Train

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ST. PETERSBURG — The president of Finland and prime minister of Russia have been among the first passengers on a new high-speed train linking Helsinki and St. Petersburg.

The new train, with a top speed of 220 kilometers per hour, cuts the travel time between the two cities to 3 1/2 hours. The trip previously took more than six hours. Finnish President Tarja Halonen boarded the train in Helsinki and was joined by Prime Minister Vladimir Putin in the Russian border town of Vyborg for the final leg of Sunday's inaugural trip. ✕

(AP)

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