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A: news_in@modellismoferroviario.it
Oggetto: Don't miss our new tooling announcement!



Rapido UK Newsletter No. 14
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Dear Rapido Customer,

Welcome to another Rapido Trains UK newsletter, your monthly splash of modelling Hendo's to liven up the fish and chips of life. But with the world seemingly gone completely mad since the last newsletter, our usual monthly dose of nonsense seems almost sane by comparison.

ANDY: What on earth are you wittering on about now? Everybody knows that HP is the King of Condiments.

RICHARD: Uh huh...

Anyway, what do we have for you this time? Only ALL this!

- **New tooling announcement!**
- **Surprise new tooling announcement!**
- **Return of an old favourite!**
- **First look at the Class 28**
- **Recording the Hunslet sounds**
- **Order deadline reminders**
- **Say hello to Dan**
- **Product update**
- **An update from the warehouse**

Plus:

- A thought about duplication
 - Inspirational real wagons
-



[Click here](#) or on the above image to see our 'Iron Mink' launch video.

New tooling announcement: GWR 'Iron Mink'

We're delighted to unveil Engineering Prototypes of our new ['OO' gauge 'Iron Mink' van](#), one of the Great Western Railway's most recognisable goods vehicles.



*Here's an Engineering Prototype of our forthcoming ['OO' gauge GWR Dia. V6 'Iron Mink'](#).
This one has been hand decorated.*

Of the various designs of ['Iron Mink'](#), we've chosen the Diagram V6. These were introduced in 1888 on a 16ft 6in underframe. Over 4,000 were built up to 1901, when the GWR reverted to building vans from wood.

This is another UK-designed product and our designers have been able to include key detail variations. We're producing 13 'accurate' versions:

- **908001:** No. 11152, GWR grey (early)
- **908002:** No. 57066, GWR grey (25in lettering)
- **908003:** No. 69721, GWR grey (25in lettering)
- **908004:** No. 59217, GWR grey (16in lettering)
- **908005:** No. 57917, GWR grey (16in lettering)
- **908006:** No. 69131, GWR grey (1942 livery)
- **908007:** No. 69627, GWR grey (1937 livery)
- **908008:** No. W69121, BR (W) grey
- **908009:** No. 47528, 'Salvage for Victory' blue
- **908010:** No. 47305, 'Salvage for Victory' blue
- **908011:** No. 11346, GWR GPV black
- **908012:** No. 58725, GWR GPV black
- **908013:** No. 59061, SR GPV black

ANDY: 'Accurate'? Does that mean that are some inaccurate ones?

RICHARD: Not exactly. You'll need to scroll down to find out...



*[No. 11152](#) is one of the few preserved Dia. V6 'Iron Minks' left. After many years in 'Salvage for Victory' blue livery, it has been restored to GWR grey.
Photograph: G Price*

To paraphrase Henry Ford, you can [buy an 'Iron Mink'](#) in any colour you like... as long as it's grey.

ANDY: And blue. And the GPV versions are black.

RICHARD: Shh! You're ruining my flow.

Yes, aside from a couple of exceptions, they're all grey and we think that this is a little dull.



We've tooled two-, three- and four-brake shoe versions of brake gear for the 'Iron Minks'.

Now, the GWR's 'Iron Mink' inspired similar vans from other builders, many of which became part of the GWR's fleet after the Grouping. We've decided to apply some of the more interesting liveries from these 'other' vans to [our GWR model](#). We've also chosen some Departmental liveries too, albeit with a few detail compromises.

We know that these models will not be 100% accurate but we feel certain that their eye-catching colour schemes will more than make up for any minor discrepancies.

ANDY: You'd better get on with telling everyone what these liveries are.

RICHARD: Absolutely! Here's the range:

- **908014:** No. 35374, GWR 'Sand Van'
- **908015:** No. W292, BR 'Sand Van'
- **908016:** No. 262 Portland Cement yellow/blue
- **908017:** No. 168, BPCM grey
- **908018:** No. DW100977, BR Departmental
- **908019:** No. W204925, BR grey
- **908020:** No. W482, BR Departmental grey
- **908021:** No. 139, Cambrian Railways GPV red

Our entire 'Iron Mink' range is ready to order now, [direct from ourselves](#) or from [your local Rapido stockist](#). RRP is £32.95. The order deadline is June 1st 2022.



You couldn't miss this van on your layout, could you? All About GWR Iron Minks by [the HMRS](#) doesn't record the builder of this particular van but it certainly catches the eye.



Our 'spoof' range of 'Iron Minks' includes liveries carried by Rhymney and Brecon & Merthyr vans as well as the two GPVs built by the Cambrian Railways. We couldn't resist this striking red livery.



Their metal construction made the 'Iron Minks' ideal gunpowder vans during times of war. No. 58725 was turned into a GPV in 1938 and loaned to the Southern Railway. It's now based on [the Severn Valley Railway](#). Photograph: G Price



Here, you can see the three types of door we've tooled: replacement wood, those fitted to gunpowder van conversions and the original design.



We've also tooled long and short ventilator hoods plus the plated over vents installed during the GPV conversion process.



We couldn't leave the 'Iron Minks' without a look at the mock-up of Richard's favourite livery, 'Salvage for Victory' blue. We're doing both versions, one with white roundels and this one with yellow. All [our 'Iron Minks'](#) are available to order now.



What do we have here? It's a hand decorated Engineering Prototype of the [GWR Dia. O21 four-plank open wagon!](#)

Surprise new tooling announcement!

While we were working on the 'Iron Mink', we couldn't resist making the [GWR Dia. O21 open wagon](#) as well.

These wagons used the same underframe and were one of the GWR's most common open wagon. To give you an idea of how many were built, when the Board of Trade 'Either Side' brake regulations came into force in 1927, the GWR still had nearly 19,000 of these wagons on its books.



Sharing its chassis with the 'Iron Mink' means that [the Dia. O21](#) is available with different brake gear arrangements. We've also tooled two types of door bump stop, which will be available as a customer-fit part.

We're producing eight versions of Dia. O21:

- **925001:** No. 73721, GWR grey (pre-1904)
- **925002:** No. 41277, GWR grey (pre-1904, as preserved)

- **925003:** No. 74563, GWR grey (large letters)
- **925004:** No. 54156, GWR grey (large letters)
- **925005:** No. 63392, GWR grey (large letters)
- **925006:** No. 73691, GWR grey (small letters)
- **925007:** No. 14432, GWR grey (small letters)
- **925008:** No. W14076, GWR grey (BR lettering)

These wagons are also [ready to order now](#), either from us or [your local Rapido Trains UK stockist](#). RRP is £32.95 and the order book closes on June 1st 2022.



Despite being built in huge numbers, these wagons remained in the shadows for all of their lives. It's difficult to track when they finally disappeared from the network and if it were not for the [GWR 813 Preservation Fund](#), it's likely that the Dia. O21 would have slipped unnoticed into history. The Fund has managed to acquire the final three survivors (Nos. 41277, 52137 and 52243) but only No. 41277 is anything more than a rusting underframe. Photograph: G Price



The [LNER Dynamometer Car](#) is available to order again... and it's better than ever!

The Dynamometer Car is back!

We're absolutely delighted to announce another run of the award-winning [LNER Dynamometer Car](#).

[Rails of Sheffield](#) has generously given us permission to produce this new batch of models under the Rapido Trains UK banner and this new batch includes two liveries not previously offered.

We were absolutely thrilled with how well the first batch turned out. The underframe and interior detail showed just what Rapido could do. No wonder that *Model Rail* readers voted it 'Coach of the Decade' in its [Model of the Decade](#) awards! And it's no surprise that it sold out.

Given that it's sold out, we thought that if you missed one the first time, we'd give you another opportunity to [add one to your collection](#). But rather than simply re-run this model, we're taking the opportunity to improve a few things, such as the lining, the roof colours and the lettering.

Here's what we're making:



935001: No. 23591, LNER livery with lining. Optional duckets will be supplied so that this model can accurately portray the 1928-1938 glory days of LNER high-speed running, which culminated in *Mallard's* record-breaking run.



935002: No. 905202, post-1946 LNER livery and carrying its later number – No. 905202 – as seen during the famous 1948 Locomotive Exchange Trials.



935003: No. E905202 in British Railways livery with BR Gill Sans lettering. This livery was applied in 1949 and can be seen when the Dynamometer Car was used on trials with Bulleid's famous 'Leader' locomotive.

Again, we wish to thank Rails of Sheffield for allowing us to bring another batch of Dynamometer Cars to market. All three models are available to order now [direct from ourselves](#) or from [your local Rapido stockist](#). RRP is £139.95.

We have already started making these. To ensure you get the version you want, we recommend you order as soon as possible. Unlike most of our other products, we are not building these to order. This means that some versions will sell out very quickly.



*It's a Class 28 hauling 'Condor' - in 'N'! That's our model! Really!
Keep scrolling to see more of this tiny but mighty MetroVick.
Photograph: Dan Hull. Who? Find out later...*

Class 28 samples are here!

Here's the first Engineering Prototype of our 'N' gauge [MetroVick Type 2 Co-Bo](#). Looks great, doesn't it?



Here's the 'Co' or No. 1 end. You can see why enthusiasts called these locomotives 'Wonderloafs'! We couldn't have produced such a great looking model without the help of Adam Booth and [the Class 15 Preservation Society](#), which is restoring sole-surviving D5705.

We've given the samples a thorough once over and highlighted a few areas that need improvement. This feedback is already with the factory.

The samples have also racked up many, many circuits of our office test track as well as on our secret test layout. It looks good, is very powerful and copes well with gradients and tight Peco points.

Now that we've received the sample, we're pleased to announce the order deadline: **May 1 2022**. You can [order direct here](#) or from your [local Rapido stockist](#).

It's said that a picture is worth a thousand words so enough waffling from me. Time to feast your eyes on this little beauty!



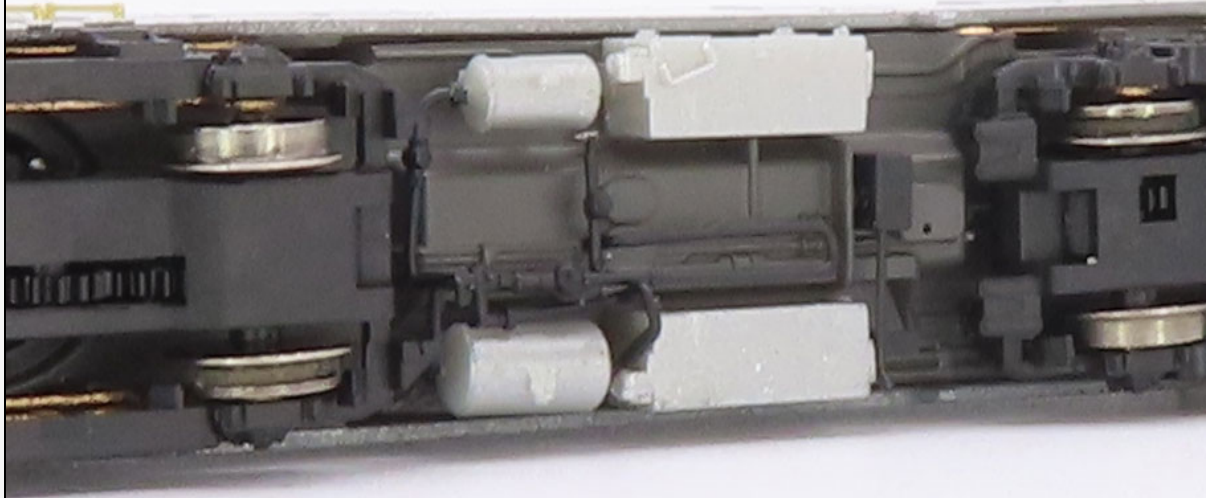
This is the 'Bo' or No. 2 end. One problem with the '28' is that the cab handrails are bars that are held to the body with right-angle holders. That's very unusual on a diesel and a pain to replicate properly. We're working on a better solution.



[The Class 28's](#) shape certainly divides opinion. Richard actually thinks that it's quite stylish. We're going to tone down the bright copper contacts.



Our '28' has working red and white LEDs and analogue users can turn the red lights off hands-free! You'll get a pack of folded and open headcode discs to plug into the holes on the nose.



We've very pleased with the underframe! Look at all that pipework. This is where [Class 15 Preservation Society](#) input was invaluable.

One common question we get asked is: what are we doing about the sound file?

The Co-Bo was fitted with the Crossley HST V8 (not **that** HST) and there are only two locomotives fitted with these engines that work anywhere in the world... and they're in Australia.

Despite repeated attempts to arrange a sound recording, we've drawn a blank. So, our friends at [Digitrains](#) have given us access to their Class 28 sound file.

The best way to describe this is a 'soundalike'. It uses an EMD engine noise, which, while not an authentic Crossley sound, should have that rumbly, lumpy two-stroke V8 noise that will differentiate it from the in-line diesel engines in the rest of your models.

We will continue to search for a more accurate recording but, with the production deadline looming, we have to work with what we've got. The Digitrains file is excellent and we are confident that you will love what you hear as well.

Don't forget that you need to place [your order](#) for sound (or non-sound) Class 28s before May 1st 2022, either from us or from your [local Rapido stockist](#).



*If this doesn't tempt you to buy a Class 28 and a couple of 'Conflat Ps', nothing will! You can order [your '28' here](#) and [then click here](#) to pick up a few 'Conflats'.
Photograph: Dan Hull*



[Click here](#) or on the above image to watch BRM's behind-the-scenes video of us recording sounds for the Hunslet.

Recording Hunslet sounds

Remember last issue when we showed you photographs of us recording the sounds for our Hunslet 16in? Remember that we said that we'd been joined by Andy York and Phil Parker [from BRM magazine?](#)

Well, Andy has shared with us this rather fine video that he shot on the day. There's lots of wonderful footage of Hunslet No. 3783/1953 *Hollybank No. 3* at work on the [Chasewater Railway](#), Andy looking very dapper in his footplate togs and me being very nervous.

ANDY: You really were nervous, weren't you?

RICHARD: Absolutely! There was a lot riding on that day. But we got the sounds we needed and I think the sound-fitted models are going to be awesome. I can just imagine that Hunslet bark echoing around the exhibition halls! Anyway, you can see [the video here](#).



May 1st is the deadline for [ordering the 'Conflat Ps'](#). You know you really need to get hold of some of these little beauties!

It's order deadline time!

Anyone familiar with Rapido Trains Inc will be aware of order deadlines. If you're new to Rapido, this is the cut-off date for getting your orders in.

Why do we have order deadlines? Well, unlike other manufacturers, we don't want to over or under produce. So, in most situations, we make the number of orders we've received by the order deadline. While we do make a little extra stock, that's no guarantee that the model you want will be available. The **ONLY** way to guarantee your model is to order before the deadline and that's either direct [from our website](#) or from your [local Rapido Trains UK stockist](#).

Now we've got that out of the way, what deadlines are coming up?

April 1st 2022:

[UK927: 'OO' gauge SECR Dia. 1426 van](#)



[UK928: 'OO' gauge SECR Dia. 1744 two-plank ballast wagon](#)



May 1st 2022:

[UK905: 'N' gauge Class 28 Co-Bo](#)



[UK910: 'OO' gauge BR Dia. 1/227 VIX van](#)



[UK921: 'N' gauge Dia. 1/060 'Conflat P'](#)



June 1st 2022:

[UK908: 'OO' gauge GWR 'Iron Mink'](#)



[UK925: 'OO' gauge GWR Dia. O21 open wagon](#)



That's quite a range of models, isn't it? The only way to ensure that you don't miss out is to place an order now!

ANDY: You've got this subliminal messaging thing down to a fine art now!



[Click here](#) or on the above image to see our video for the [SECR Dia. 1426 vans](#) and the [Dia. 1744 two-plank ballast wagons](#).

SECR wagon video

We couldn't let the order deadline for the [SECR Dia. 1426 vans](#) and [Dia. 1744 ballast wagons](#) pass without offering you another chance to see our video. This was given its debut on our Facebook page.

ANDY: You don't follow our Facebook page? Well, [click here](#) and sign up and you'll get to enjoy Rapido UK wackiness 24/7!

RICHARD: Spoiler alert: There's more SECR wagon goodness to enjoy later in this newsletter. And don't forget that the order deadline is April 1st.



Dan Hull is the newest member of the Rapido Trains UK team. As you can see, he also knows his way around a full-size steam engine as well as model ones.

Photograph: Pip Burns

“You need to find a Dan...”

...Jason told us.

So, we did. Say hello to Dan Hull, the newest member of the Rapido family.

Dan joins us as Warranty Engineer and, in the space of just a few weeks, has made huge inroads into our collection of warranty repairs, returning models back to their happy owners.

But, as with his Canadian namesake Dan Garcia, our Dan is already starting to wear many different hats. He's already shown off his photographic skills, edited video, packed boxes and unloaded lorries. More importantly, as an accomplished 'N' gauge modeller, his knowledge and experience has proved invaluable with dealing with the Class 28 and 'Conflat P' samples. He can also make a decent cup of tea too!

Sadly for Dan, he's had to dismantle the layout while he find suitable digs down in Kent. Good for us as it shows that he's serious about staying!



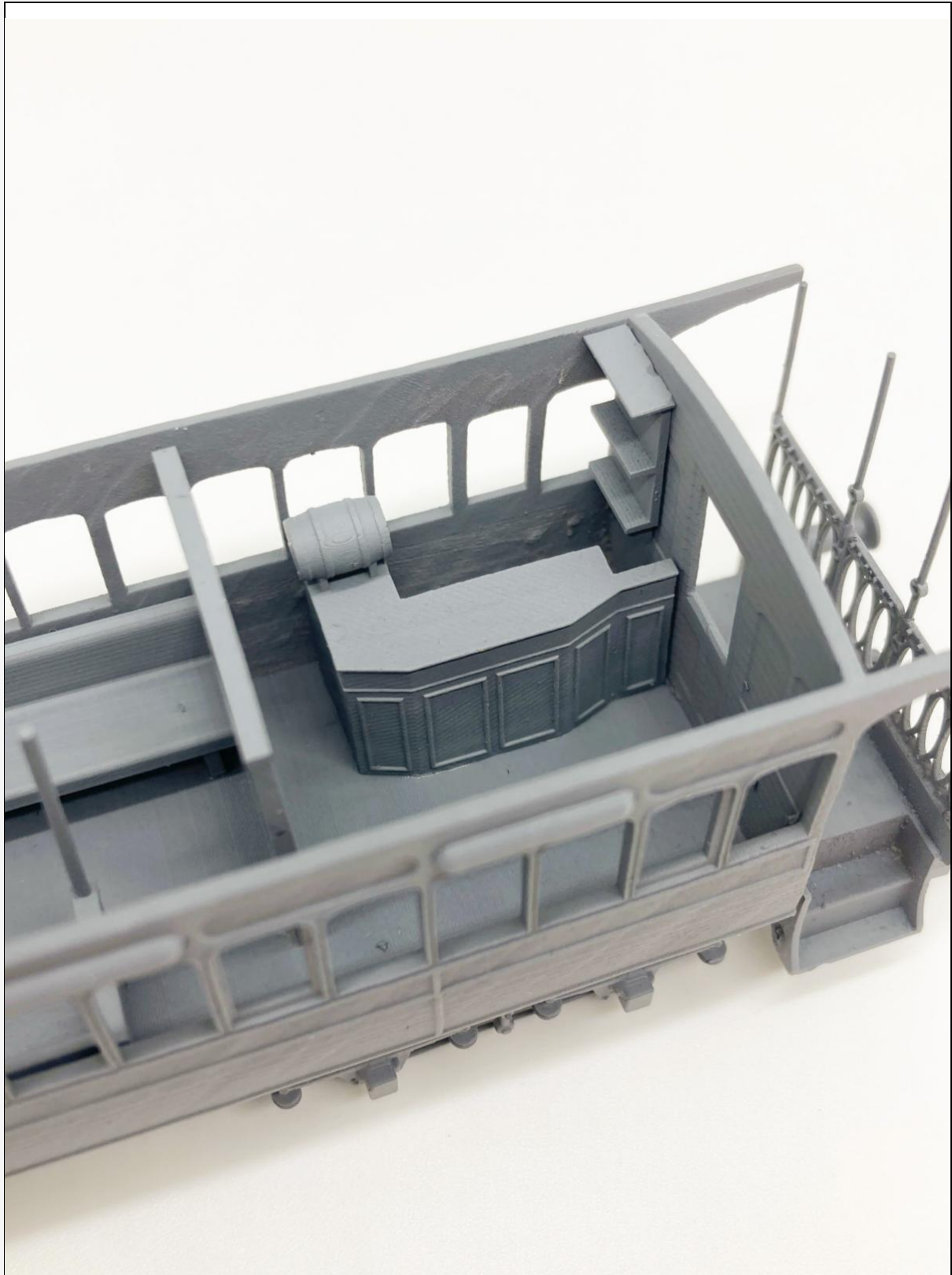
Didn't we tell you that Dan was both a great modeller and photographer? Well, we leave you with a shot he's taken of 'V2' at speed on his 1930s LNER-themed layout. Good, innit?



A close up of the 3D printed Wisbech & Upwell tramcar. We're very pleased with how the design is looking.

Product update

Look at this: it's a 3D print of our forthcoming Wisbech & Upwell tramcar! This project has been much more complicated than we'd originally envisaged and has given designer Linny many a sleepless night. However, there's light at the end of the tunnel and we're hopeful that we'll be able to send the design off to China in the next few weeks. Please be patient: the order book will open as soon as possible.



The Titfield version also includes the bar. About half an inch lower than The Grasshopper I'd say...

Now for some good news... and some less good news.

The good news is that the first samples of *Lion* left the factory in mid-March and that the first '15XX' samples are due to ship in mid-April.

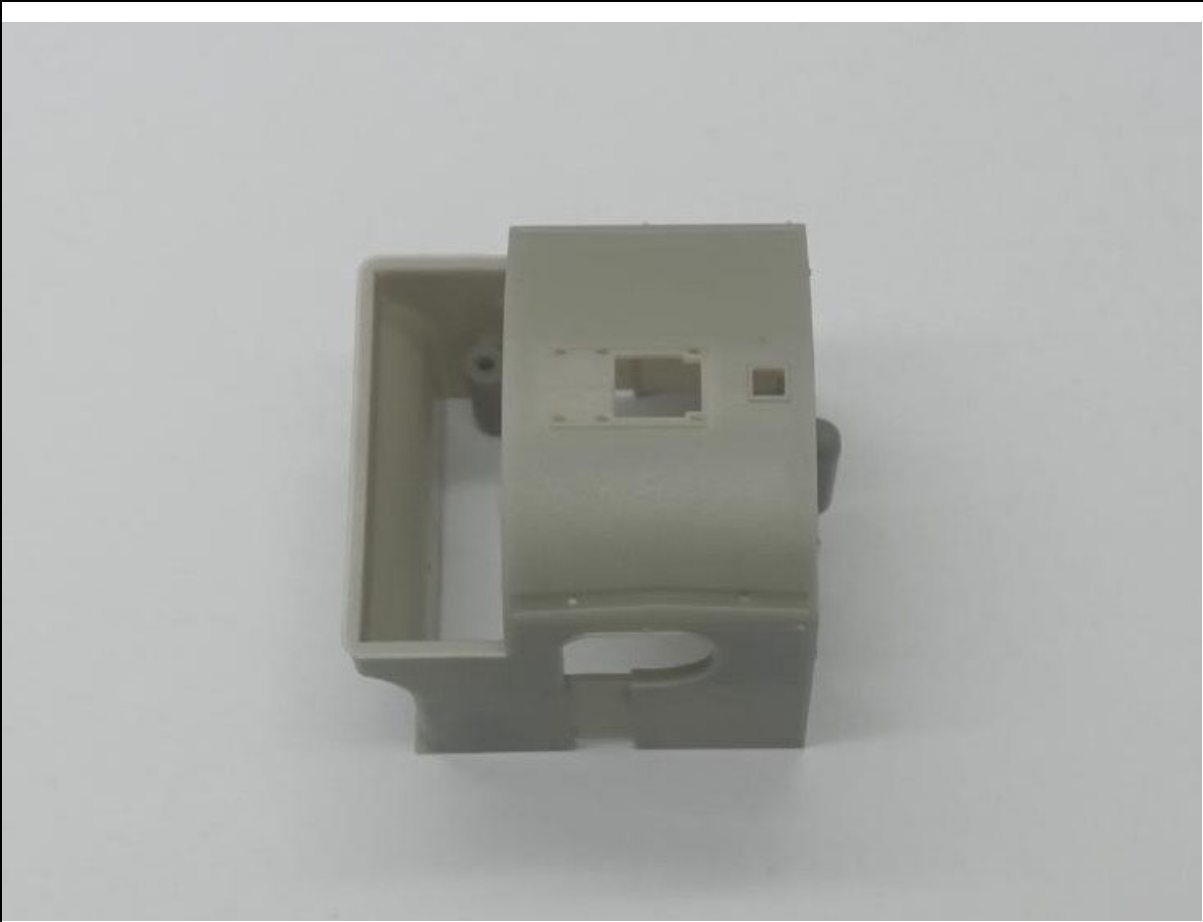
The less good news is that the courier companies are based in Shenzhen which was recently locked down due to Covid.

ANDY: Sigh. It never rains but it pours...

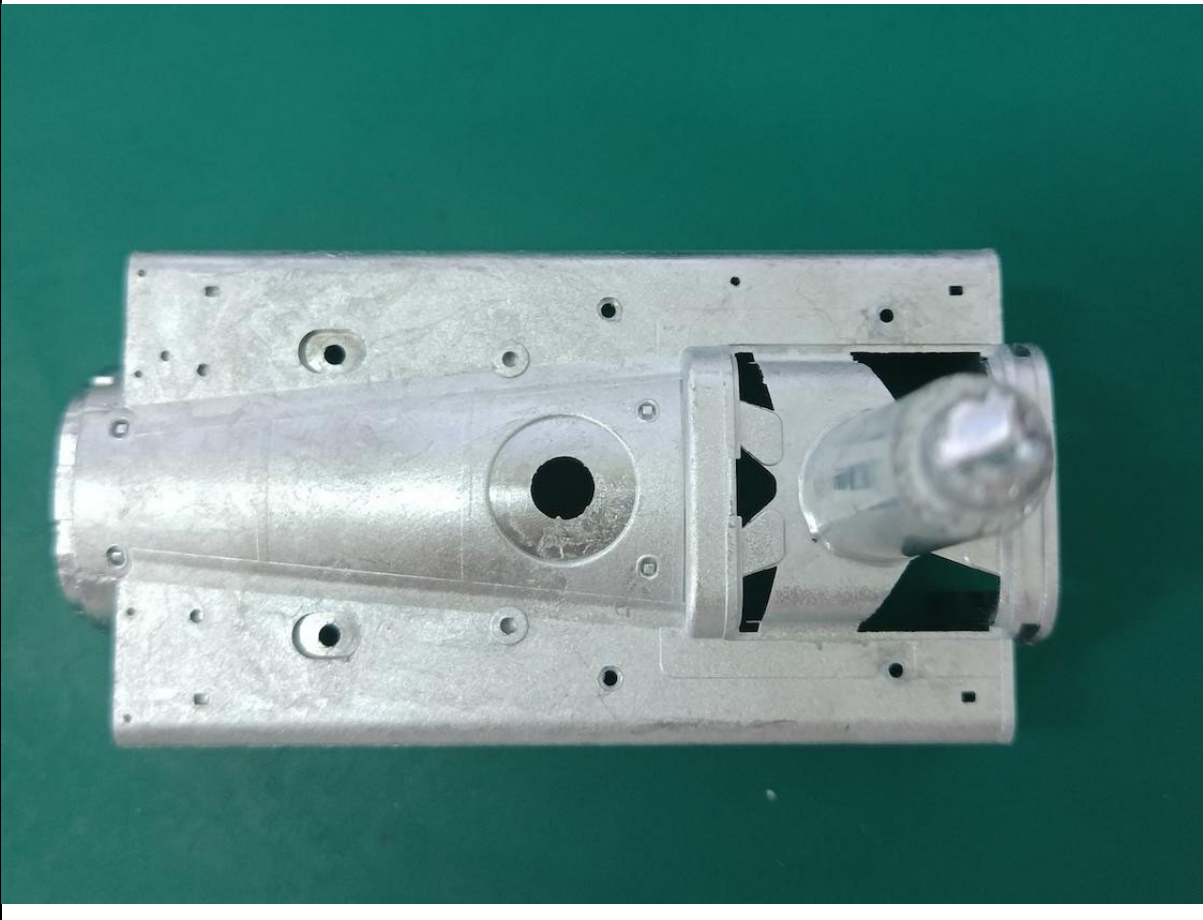
RICHARD: We know that you're desperate to see these samples - and we are too! We're keeping everything crossed that it won't be long before we can show these off but, at the moment, it's a case of being patient. Scroll down and we can show you a little bit of progress.



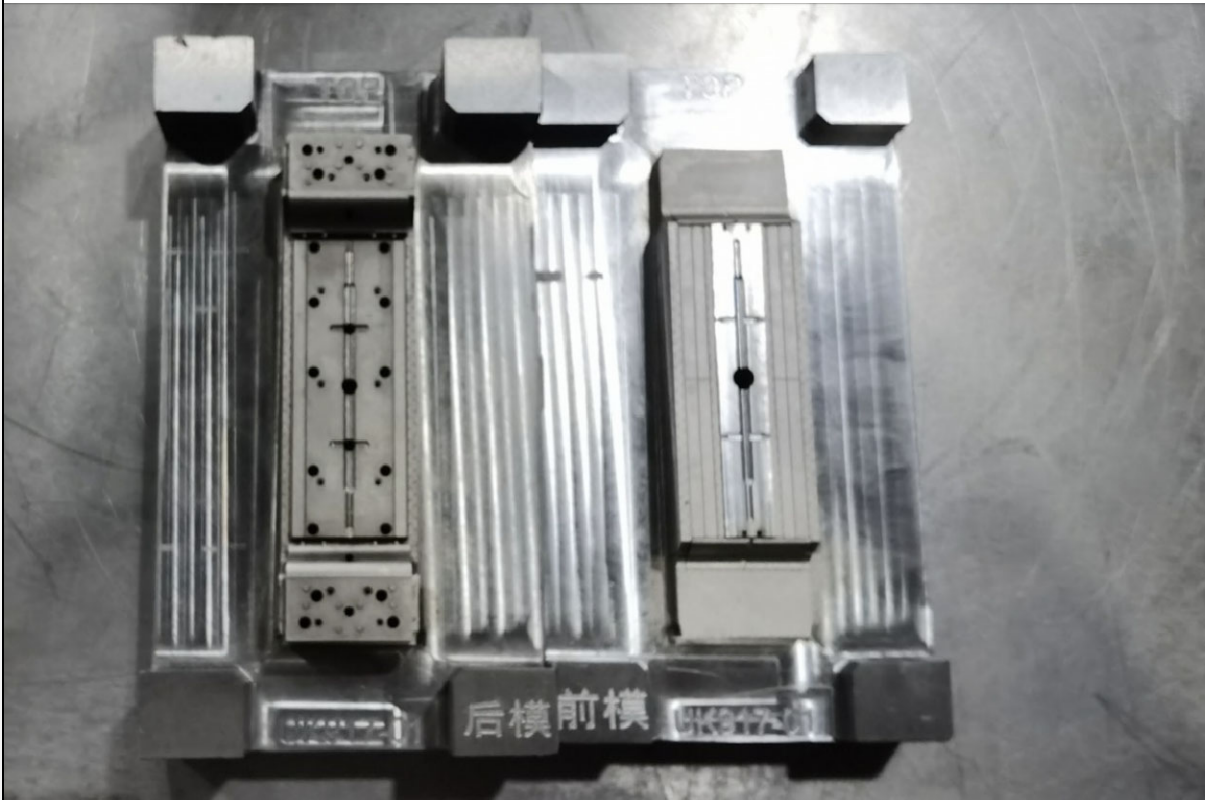
The factory was just putting the finishing touches to the first samples [of Lion](#) just as this newsletter closed for press.



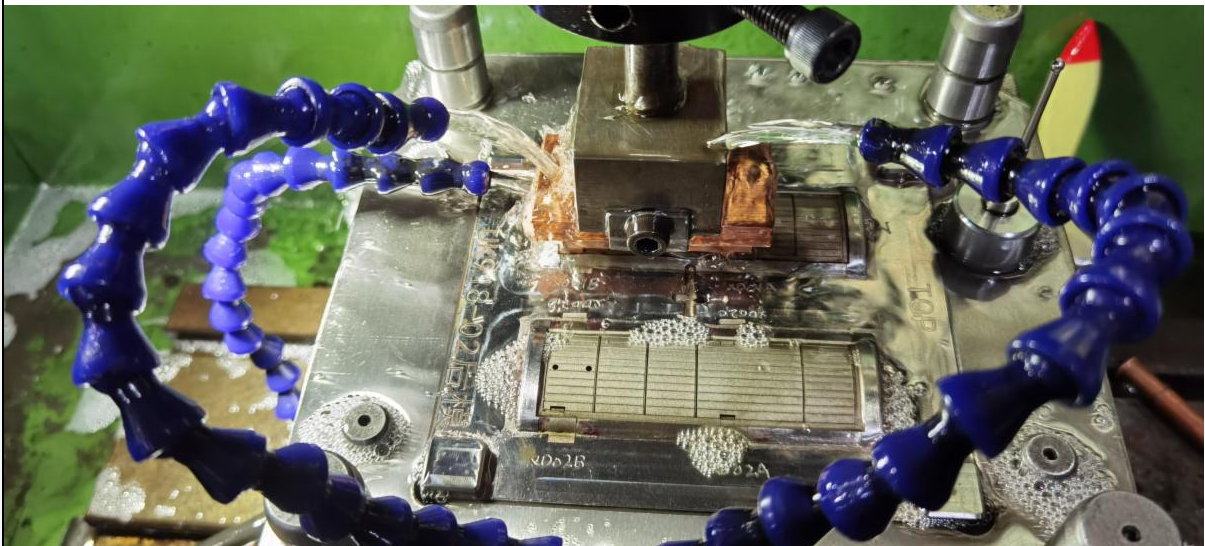
There's only one locomotive with this cab... yes, it's [the '15XX'](#)!



Here's a freshly moulded '15XX' tank section. Engineers at the factory will turn these parts into a fully operational sample. Hopefully, it won't be long before we can share these samples with you.



The distinctive shape of [the 'Loriot Y'](#) coming together nicely in the mould shop. We should see samples in mid-April.



Here, one of the moulds for [the Dia. AA20 brakevan](#) is being made.

No matter how diligently you try to get everything ready for a product launch there are always a few unexpected things to catch you out. What was it Robert Burns said about the best laid schemes o' mice and men?

Several eagle-eyed customers pointed out several things that slipped through the net in our three announcements last time and we've now corrected these.



The [GWR Dia. AA20 'Toad'](#) brakevans all have the correct colour on the roof ends and No. 68764 (SKU918005) now has the correct roof colour.



['VIX' ferry van](#) No. B787213 (SKU910003) now correctly says 'British Railways' and not 'British Rail'.

Unfortunately, [the 'Jones Goods'](#) needed a little more work than the others. We realised that all three LMS versions were shown with the wrong tender tank and a couple of the wrong descriptions got attached to the wrong models. Also, a new photograph came to light of a locomotive in LMS lined black and we have chosen to amend the running number to represent this locomotive in order to ensure historical accuracy.

The three models affected are these:

- **SKU914004/914504:** No. 17920, LMS unlined black (early). This now has the correct short tank.
- **SKU914005/914505:** No. 17928, LMS lined black. This was formerly No. 17924 and had the wrong description. It's now got the louvre chimney, original smokebox and short tender tank.

- **SKU914006/914506:** No. 17917, LMS unlined black (late). This now has the correct short tank.

We've worked closely with [the Highland Railway Society](#) to ensure that [the 'Big Goods'](#) is as accurate as we can get it but we have found a few areas where we've had to make the odd compromise. Firstly, the distinctive guard irons have to be the wrong shape in order for the model to negotiate trainset curves.

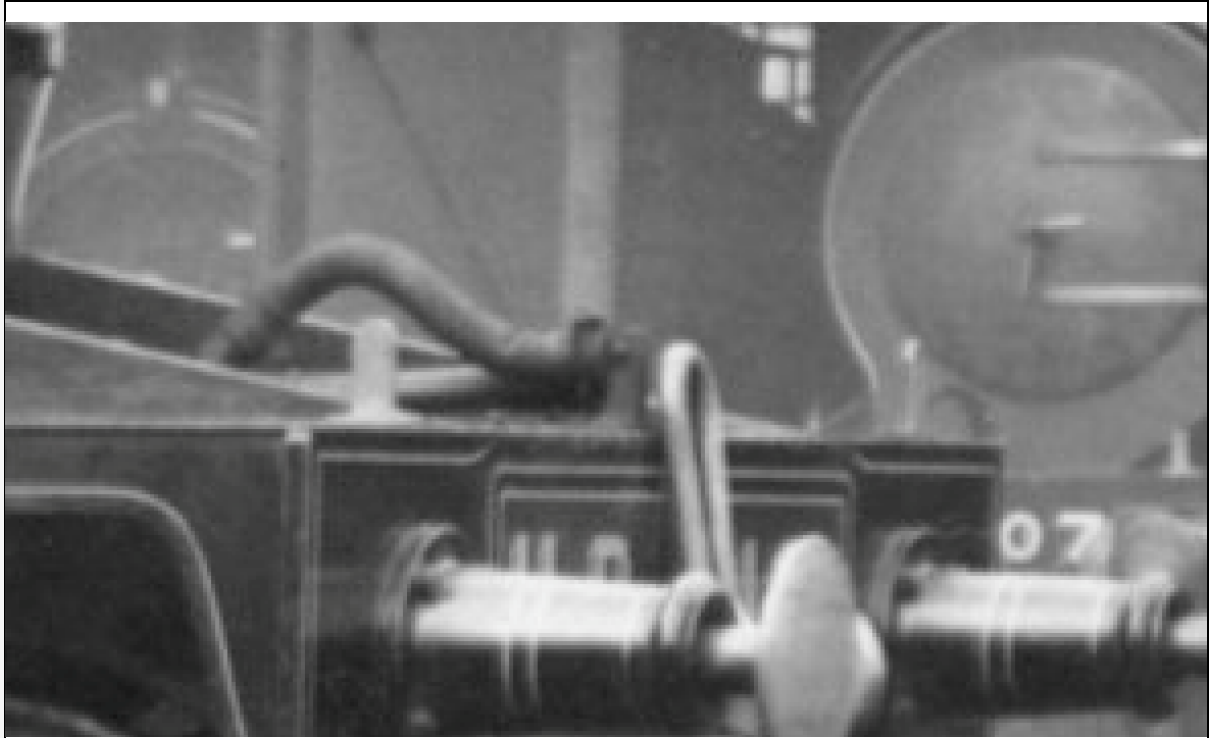


A fabulous portrait of HR 'Big Goods' No. 112 at Inverness. The eagle-eyed might spot the curious position of the lamp irons. Photograph: Highland Railway Society

Secondly, the Highland Railway had completely different lamp iron positions to those that the LMS and BR used. The position and composition of the lamp irons means that it's impossible to offer both and so we've had to compromise with the latter style. We're confident that the rest of the model will wow you so much that you won't notice.

ANDY: You should have kept schtum... now they'll all notice!

RICHARD: Well, we pride ourselves on being honest with our customers and feel it's important to point these things out.



Did you spot it? The lamp iron closest to the camera is at 90 degrees to the normal position.



No. 103's lamp iron in the more familiar position. Unfortunately, with the best will in the world, we're unable to offer the HR version. Photograph: Linnny Linehan

Gunpowder Vans



The railway companies were once responsible for the movement of gunpowder to military establishments, mines and quarries and they built special vans to carry it safely.

Gunpowder vans were run in ordinary goods trains. Their all-metal, low-height bodies were lined internally with wood. Only authorised staff could open the doors and special over-boots were provided to ensure that no sparks were created.

We've produced three different versions of GPV. There's the standard Railway Clearing House design (used by

the LMS, LNER and others), the GWR Dia. Z4 and BR's Dia. 1/260, replicating the key differences between them. We've tooled different door patterns, roof shapes, buffers and wheels.

We've done our best to ensure that your GPV arrives in perfect condition. However, if there are any factory defects on your model, we'll do our very best to repair or replace it, subject to the availability of replacements and/or spare parts.

Give us a call on 03304 609496 or fill in our Warranty Form at www.rapidotrains.co.uk/warranty-form/



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[Click here](#) or on the above image to download the instruction sheet for the Gunpowder Vans.

Gunpowder instructions

It was only when we started to receive e-mails querying the little plastic parts included with the Gunpowder Vans that we realised that we'd forgotten to include an instruction sheet for them.

ANDY: D'oh!

RICHARD: Exactly. So, we've quickly knocked one - I mean, we've carefully crafted one and it's available [to download here](#). It explains what the small parts are (they're wagon label clips) and how to fit them.

JASON: And please make sure that you include instruction sheets with all our models.

RICHARD & ANDY: Yes boss...



[Click here](#) or on the above image to watch how to couple your APT-E successfully.

Coupling video

Now that APT-Es are beginning to be shipped to their new owners, we thought we'd share this video on how to successfully couple the cars together. It's a bit tricky so it's worth spending a few minutes watching this before attempting to run your train.

[The video can be found here.](#)

We've also issued some advice about choosing the right controller for your APT-E. You can [click here](#) or on the image below to download the advice.

APT-E Electronics Advice



Photograph: Jacques Porral/Model Rail

The APT-E instruction booklet included this statement: "please contact us before operating your APT-E as it may not be safe (for your model and/or your wallet) for you to use your controller".

How do you know if your controller is safe?

Today's models are much more sensitive to voltage spikes than those from previous decades. Most modern analogue controllers will be fine and controllers newer than 30 years old are likely not to cause an issue.

Analogue controllers to avoid include:

- Anything older than 30 years, especially things like old Hammant & Morgan Duettes or Clippers.
- Old 'open' transformers and controllers and homemade control systems
- Feedback controllers. It's also recommended not to use modern



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models on layouts with high frequency track cleaners too.

For DCC users, if you have other ESU-equipped DCC sound locomotives and you experience no problems, your APT-E should be fine.

Please be aware that some basic 'trainset' controllers can cause voltage spikes. If you are unsure whether your DC controller is safe with your APT-E, test your layout's voltage at the track while running a DC model at top speed.

The needle should be no more than 12-14 volts should never spike above 16V. If it's bubbling up to 17 or 18V or more, it will likely damage your APT-E.

If you're in any doubt, we recommend speaking to your controller's manufacturer and seeking their advice. If that manufacturer is no longer in business, it's likely that your controller is not suitable for running the APT-E.

Some advice for ensuring that your controller doesn't fry your APT-E's electrics. If you want to download it, [click here](#) or on the above image.



No, not the warehouse from the end of Raiders of the Lost Ark but the Rapido UK warehouse. In this photo, it's full of APT-ES, SECR open wagons plus the remaining stocks of Gunpowder Vans... and [BCT 'New Look' Guys](#).

In the warehouse

Over the last few weeks our attention has focussed on the three lorry loads of product that arrived within six days of each other. The warehouse was, quite literally, full.

The Gunpowder Vans had arrived on March 8th and Andy, Steve and Dan worked flat out to ensure that nearly all orders had been shipped within just over a week.

The APT-ES arrived on March 15th - that was a full container, which didn't fit in our loading area - followed by the SECR open wagons the following day. As you can imagine, the warehouse has been a heaving mass of activity.

Like an ant's nest.

ANDY: That's a flattering comparison! We're working as hard as we can to ship as much as possible and so we also politely ask that you don't phone us to chase up your order. For every query we answer, it's one fewer model that we're packing!



*We have very limited numbers of Gunpowder Vans, APT-Es and SECR open wagons left.
Order now before they all go!*

Limited stock

Now that we've finally got our hands on [the APT-Es](#), [SECR open wagons](#) and [the Gunpowder Vans](#), we've been able to do a proper stock-take and we have VERY limited stocks of all three left.

What do we mean by limited? Well, in some case, fewer than ten pieces. What products are available? They're all listed on the website NOW. If anything disappears, it's sold out. If you want anything, head over [to the website now](#)... and then hurry back to read the rest of this newsletter!



A word about postage

Another question that we've been asked is can we hold products back so that they can be shipped in one parcel and thus save some postage costs.

We're really conscious, especially in these belt-tightening times, of the frustrations of having to pay twice for postage. We apologise for this but it's

impossible for the website to cope with collating orders together when they're due at different times. We never envisioned that we'd have multiple deliveries turn up within days of each other.

We will do what we can but we can't guarantee that we can hold stock back because we desperately need the space.

If you've ordered directly from us, you'll receive an automated e-mail link with instructions on how to pay the balance of your order. Please check your spam and junk mail inboxes if you haven't received yours yet.



Nigel Roberts receives his raffle prize from fellow [MBF member](#) George Marcar MBE on March 12th.

Bus prizes

[Model Bus Federation](#) member Nigel Roberts is now the proud owner of this Rapido WMPTE Fleetline, which he won at a raffle held at an MBF Member's Event at Ruislip on March 12th.

If you're into your model buses –

ANDY: Let's face it, you've signed up to the Rapido newsletter so you probably are!

RICHARD: - then it's worth checking out the Model Bus Federation, which is the world's leading society for all things bus modelling. [Click here](#) to learn more about the Federation.

ANDY: And if you're already an MBF member and haven't yet added a [BCT 'New Look' Guy](#) to your collection, you can now do so.

RICHARD: You don't need to be an MBF member to do that!



Our 'Iron Mink' was a classic case of 'unwitting duplication'. Happily, quick action by all parties avoided two products reaching the market at the same time.

Thought for the Month

By Andy

If, like me, you spend time browsing model railway forums or social media pages you will very quickly come across two perennial topics of discussion: 'price' and 'duplication'.

Jason has already talked about price and cashflow in previous newsletters.

RICHARD: [Click here](#) to have a read.

ANDY: But only after you've finished my much more interesting piece on duplication first!

JASON: Oi!

ANDY: Like it or not, duplication does and will happen. To my mind, there are three types of duplication:

1 Unintentional duplication. This genuinely happens occasionally when manufacturers don't let on to each other what they are working on and both have committed too much resource and finance to the project to just throw it away. A good, honest example of this is the 'Iron Mink' project launched today. More on this in a bit.

2 Intentional duplication. This happens when a manufacturer (whether they make ready-to-run models or kits) thinks what they can offer will be better than what's currently available. 'Better' could mean more detail or more technology. There are lots of examples out there and even our SECR wagons would fall into this category.

3 Finally, there's malicious duplication. What can we say about this? Sometimes a company just wants to duplicate something because they can and they want to compete with you. I'm sure you can think of your own example.

The main bug-bear for modellers who decry duplication is that "there are so many prototypes that haven't been done yet". Sometimes I agree with this and, other times, I don't.



'Intentional duplication': the ex-Mainline GWR '43XX' was crying out for a 21st Century version with finer detail, better chassis and 'plug and play' DCC. Such a model now exists.

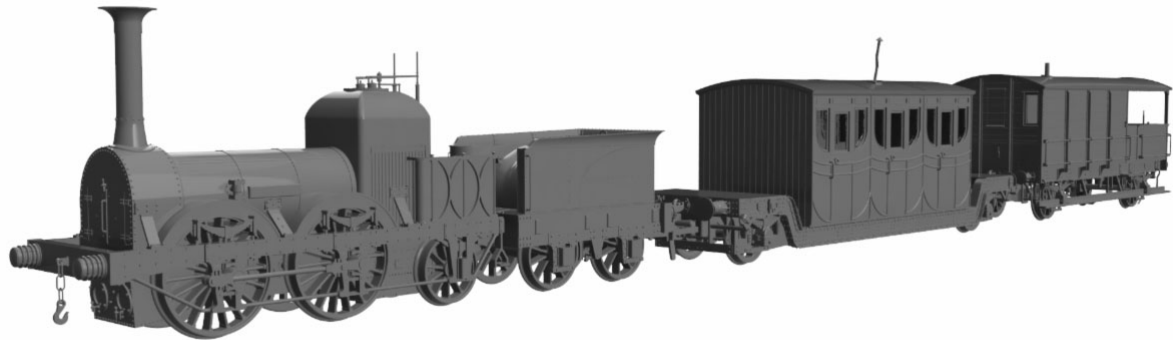
There are lots of prototypes that have never been offered RTR before that I really want us to produce but they are not viable for us right now.

Now, it's probably fair to say that the low-hanging fruit from the prototype tree has all been picked, leaving the tree a little bare. More effort is required to reach the remaining fruit.

Some of the low-hanging fruit that was picked ten, 15, 20 years ago is lagging behind in terms of detail and functionality. So, to continue the analogy, the prototype fruit tree is actually re-growing fruit and there's a fresh crop that's looking very tempting for a small company like ours.

Rapido Trains UK is still relatively new and we need to make every penny that we spend count. We need to invest in projects that will give us a good return and more importantly develop the steady cashflow as Jason described. This will avoid the financial peaks and troughs that are the bane of the model railway company book keeper's life.

Stable cash flow allows a greater variety of regular projects. To achieve our immediate goals, we are always looking for new, commercially viable projects and that sometimes means duplication.



'Malicious duplication': surely another manufacturer wouldn't try to offer [The Titfield Thunderbolt](#) products to compete against our officially licensed range of models?

How do we, therefore, avoid upsetting people with duplication?

Most manufacturers, particularly smaller ones such as ourselves, talk to each other. We have a rough idea of the areas we are all working on and things we would each like to do in the future. We make phone calls to ask others if we might tread on toes and likewise also receive calls. We have certainly avoided clashes on several wagon projects and one locomotive project this way in recent months.

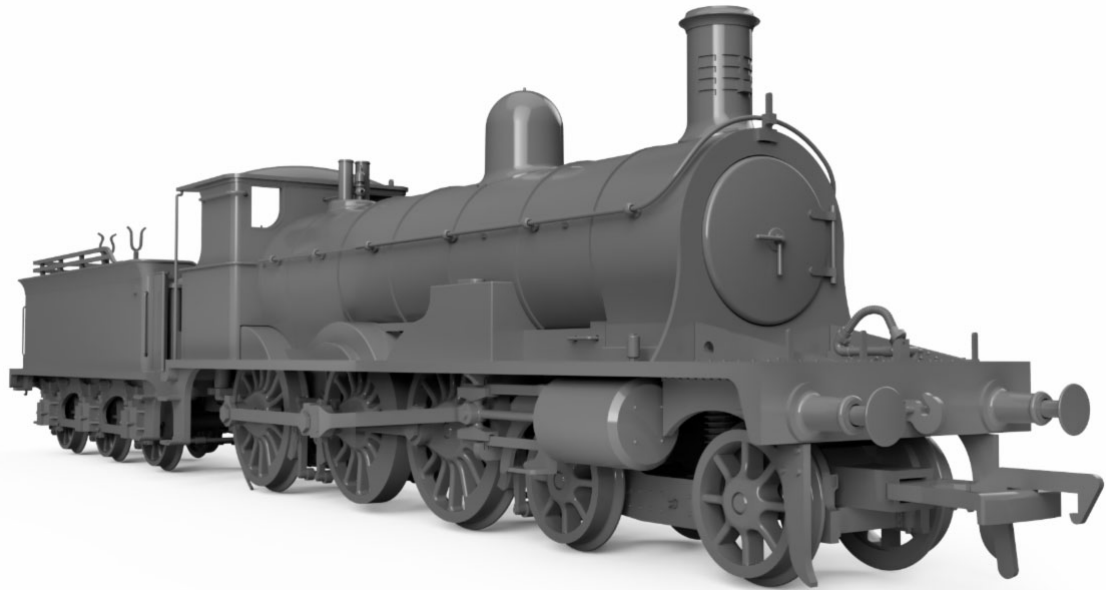
Sometimes it works to the advantage of another project. A call in late January resulted in us dropping plans for one 0-6-0T locomotive which enabled us to accelerated the LBSCR 'E1' into the now empty slot in our schedule.

Despite our best intentions, we can't be in communication 24/7 and sometimes we find out about a duplicated product that's too late for either party to do much about.

When that happens, we try our best to work with everyone involved to produce a sensible outcome.

Our 'Iron Mink' project was already in tooling when we discovered that Rails of Sheffield already had one in production. This could have been a PR disaster with a manufacturer seemingly going head to head with one of its own retailers.

After a few frantic phone calls, we agreed to halt development of our own model to allow Rails to get its to market first. A happy compromise all round.



When we got wind that another manufacturer was working on a Scottish locomotive, a quick phone call established that there was no duplication and we could carry on with our [Highland Railway 'Big Goods'](#) with confidence.

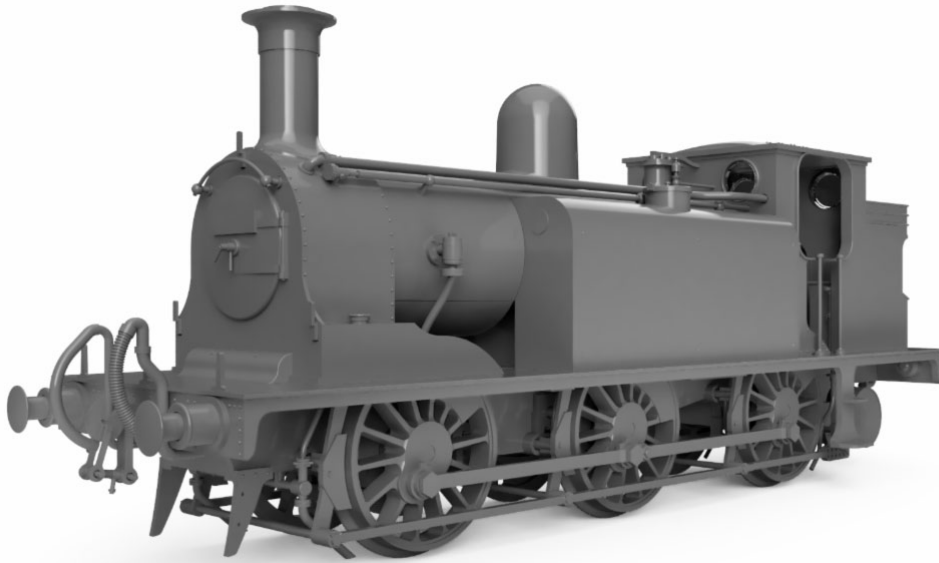
Lots of projects we would like to do have already been produced in one form or another. Does that mean that we should not produce them? Of course not!

Our Rapido Great Model Railway Survey revealed that there is a considerable market for people who want to just run trains and don't want to build kits. We also know that modellers continue to want higher quality models to replace dated tooling and don't mind paying modern-day prices for it.

We take an awful lot of data into consideration when we think about new models. Prototype data such as how many were built, longevity and geographical spread can be very important deciders. Other manufacturers think the same way and that's why something already exists in some type of model form.

We also look at the history of models or kits that are readily available alongside data from our own market research. Essentially, will what we make be markedly different from what's already available. It's at this point that we decide if we wish to intentionally duplicate another item without causing too much upset.

But we don't stop there.



*Another whisper suggested that an 0-6-0T that we were working on was duplicating something someone else was doing.
We dropped our project and switched attention [to the 'E1'](#).*

Take our SECR open wagons. Their common chassis would give us lots of future options and their longevity and geographic spread offers a wide net for potential customers. They're a good project and offer a healthy return.

I was aware that kits were available and the last thing I want to do is negatively impact a fellow manufacturer, despite internet conjecture that we were going after this manufacturer. So, we asked several retailers who stock both if they had noticed our announcement impact kit sales. The answer was no.

The reason was, they believed, that some modellers still like building kits, either for the pleasure of building them or because they're cheaper than a ready-to-run equivalent.



Duplication occurs in other markets. Here's a collection of Ford Escort Mk 1s in different scales and in both off-the-shelf and kit form. There are even two 1:43 scale models, from Vanguard and Trofeu.

The \$64,000 question is: has any harm been done by our announcement or has our release actually benefited the market? Based on the feedback we've received, we feel it's the latter.

'Malicious duplication' is something we cannot help, no matter how hard we try. It will continue to happen although maybe modellers voting with their wallets might just cause a little reluctance for others to do it again.

Duplication is not unique to the model railway world. How many Spitfires or VW Beetles are there to choose from, in either kit or die-cast form? Is it a problem?

In theory, all model manufacturers are in competition with each other. We're all businesses at the end of the day. But, in reality, we are, for the most part, genuine modellers and friends who want to see our hobby develop and blossom and are happy to work together to complement the fantastic models we all produce.



[SECR Dia. 1426 van](#) No. 15750 freshly outcropped after an overhaul in 2004. Sadly, it doesn't look like this now... but maybe not for much longer.

All photographs: Richard Salmon/Bluebell Railway

And finally...

It's always gratifying to know that your actions have positive consequences. We received an e-mail from Richard Salmon, a member of the [Bluebell Railway's Carriage & Wagon team](#).

One of the team's charge is [sole-surviving Dia. 1426 van](#) No. 15750. Last overhauled in 2004, the van has become very tatty recently. In fact, it was promised another overhaul but that decision was made, Richard says, five years ago.

However, Richard added that that overhaul might now be on the cards, "in honour of the new model of it".

We're keeping everything crossed! In the meantime, enjoy Richard's photographs of other SECR vehicles that we're making in 'OO' form.

And remember [that April 1st](#) is the deadline for getting your orders in!



Replica [SECR Dia. 1744](#) two-plank ballast wagon No. 567 looks splendid after completion in 2012.



Who could resist a look at SECR seven-plank open No. 16194, fresh from a re-paint on August 25th 2021. We have a [limited number of these models](#) in stock whereas the order deadline for the SECR van and ballast wagon is April 1st 2022.

I can't believe that that's it for another newsletter. The next one is due in April! Where is the year going?

Until then, enjoy the spring sunshine.

Best wishes,

Richard

Richard Foster
Sales & Marketing Manager

You can write to us at Rapido Trains UK, Unit 3, Clinton Business Centre, Lodge Road, Staplehurst, Kent TN12 0QF. Alternatively, you can call us on 03304 609496 or you can e-mail us at customerservice@rapidotrains.co.uk

Check out our YouTube channel, Facebook page, Instagram and Twitter!



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Oggetto: Rapido News 150 - New exclusive locomotives, freight cars and a book!



Rapido Newsletter Vol. 150
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Dear Rapido Customer,

Welcome to April! We have a new book, some exciting exclusive models and lots of important order deadlines to discuss. So, without further ado, Rapido News 150... starts...right...**NOW!**

New Announcements!

- NEW BOOK! *People Moving People: The History of VIA Rail Canada*
- Exclusive Rapido Models from Heartland Hobby!
 - HO Scale E8 Locomotives
 - HO and N Scale AutoFlood Coal Hoppers
- And More Exclusives To Boot!

HO Scale M420 Update!

- You Made It Happen!
- Canadian National Order Deadline Pushed

April Order Deadlines - April 14th, 2022

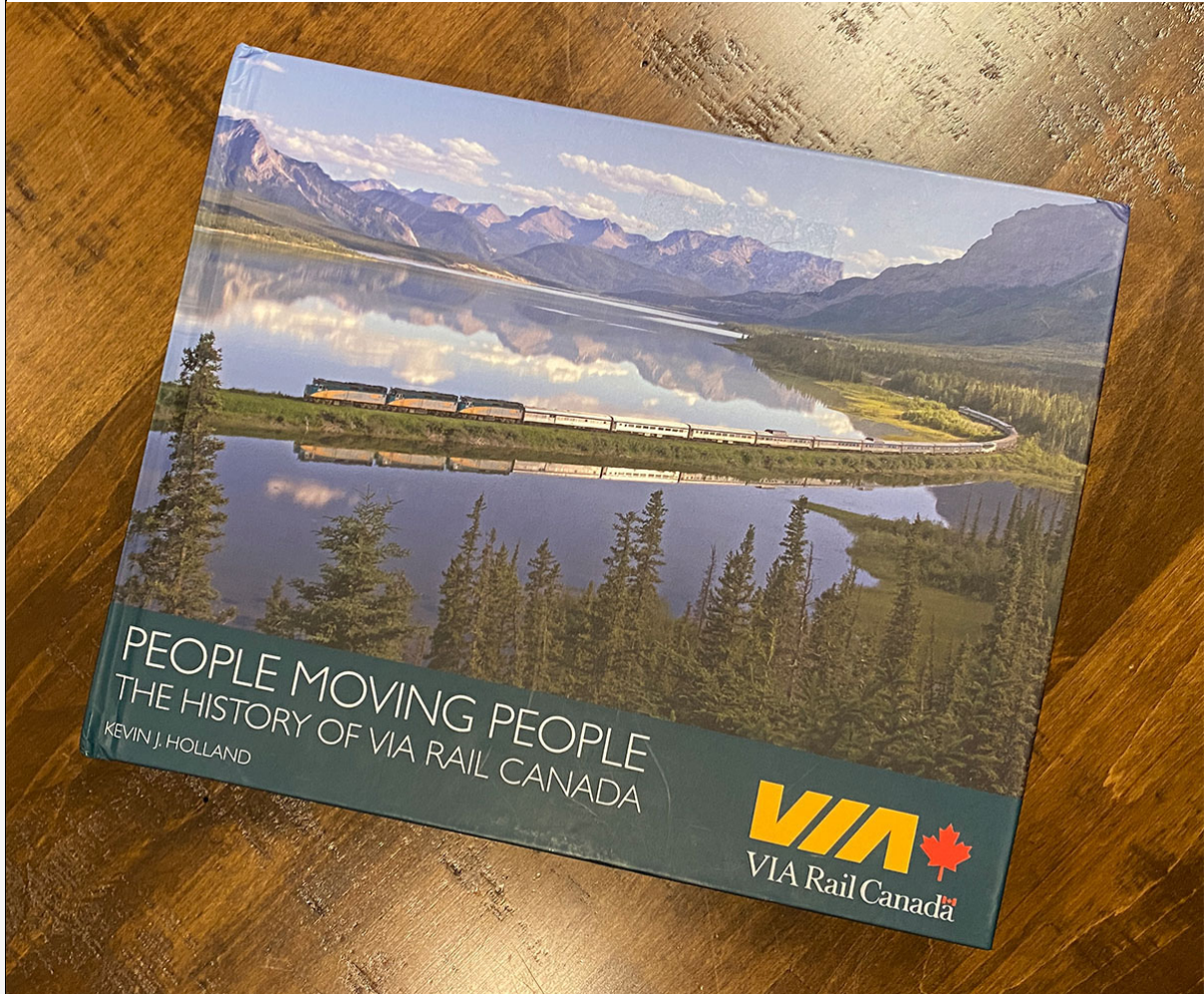
- HO Scale Canadian 66' Bulkhead Flat Car
- N Scale AutoFlood III Rapid Discharge Hopper - New Video!

May Order Deadlines - May 16th, 2022

- HO Scale U25B Locomotive - New Video!
- HO Scale New Haven County Cars
- HO Scale Slumbercoach
- HO Scale Horizon Passenger Cars

Second Section

- Upcoming Shows - Both In-Person and Virtual!
 - New Arrivals
 - Factory and Tooling Updates
-



NEW BOOK!

People Moving People: The History of VIA Rail Canada by Kevin J. Holland

This new [large-format book](#) chronicles VIA Rail Canada's history, operations and equipment over more than four decades since the company's creation in the mid-1970s.

While there have been books published on VIA before, there has never been a gorgeous coffee table book like this one dedicated to the history of Canada's national passenger railway. Kevin Holland has done an outstanding job on this beautiful publication.



Click on the image below to download the sales sheet. The book is arriving in early May, and we expect the first run to sell out pretty quickly.

PEOPLE MOVING PEOPLE THE HISTORY OF VIA RAIL CANADA

Produced with the cooperation of VIA Rail Canada, *People Moving People* offers an unprecedented look at a company that has defied the odds to survive and thrive as Canadians embrace this greener mode of travel.

This new large-format book chronicles VIA Rail Canada's history, operations and equipment over more than four decades since the company's creation in the mid-1970s.

Foreword by **HON. David Collenette, PC, LL.D, FCILT**
Federal Minister of Transportation 1997-2003

Item # 102139
ISBN 978-0-97836113-4
Retail price \$79.95
Publication date: Second quarter 2022

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Exclusives



THE E8 PROJECT

NEW EXCLUSIVE MODELS! HO Scale E8 Locomotives

Heartland Hobby Wholesale is offering seven NEW schemes for the [HO Scale E8 Locomotive](#)! In order to reserve one of these neat schemes, you'll have to contact your dealer. All dealers can order these models exclusively from Heartland Hobby. [Click here](#) to find out more. Are you a retailer but not a Heartland customer? [Click here](#) to visit their web site.

Like our other E8A and E8B models, these exclusive models feature prototype-specific details. We've even had to make an all-new mold for the new detail parts required, such as new side panels for Erie and Milwaukee incorporating their unique sand filler hatches, and a bunch of new horns. And for those of you with keen eyes, you'll see that our Milwaukee units are actually E9s!

Among the schemes being offered is the experimental New York Central all-green 4053 and 4083. In fact 4083 still exists in the hands of the [United Railway Historical Society](#) in New Jersey. [Click here](#) to learn more about NYC 4083.

Now, let's check out the schemes that Heartland Hobby is offering!



Check out the sales catalog for Heartland Hobby's E8 Locomotives by clicking the image below.

HO SCALE EXCLUSIVES **EMD E8/E9** **HEARTLAND HOBBY** **DEALER NAME**
By Rapido Trains Inc.

Rapido's all-new model of the E87 breaks new ground and promises to be the most accurate plastic model of these iconic locomotives yet. Designed from a 3D laser scan of Union Pacific E8 #943 at the Southern California Railway Museum to ensure that those irreplaceable-origins contours are being as accurate. This was backed up by months of research, referring to hundreds of photos and numerous blueprints to ensure that they had the correct details for each version of the locomotive that are offered!

Heartland Hobby Wholesale is excited to announce a series of exclusive paint schemes on this amazing locomotive. Many have new detail parts made expressly for these particular models!

Quantities will be limited, order today!

ALL MODELS ARE DC/DCC/SOUND
\$356.95 A-UNIT MSRP
\$674.95 A+B SET MSRP

Rapido's E8/E9 models feature:

- 3D laser-scanned body shell
- Accurate nose and roof contours
- Proportionally correct nose details
- Proportionally correct back-end details
- Two different sides - with and without lifting lid covers
- Three different steam generator options
- 30" fan, 48" fan or non-dynamic brake options
- Single or dual-headlight configurations
- Freight or passenger pilot
- Three styles of side grills
- Slotted or non-slotted fuel tanks
- Original square, sloped or Hest roller-bearing journal boxes
- Heavy die-cast chassis
- Smooth running drive system with all wheels powered
- Accurate E8 sounds provided by EJU LokSound
- Complete lighting effects
- Numerous road-specific detail parts in both plastic and etched metal.

Erie (E8A) Two-tone Green Scheme

Item	Description
28550	#820
28551	#821
28552	#824
28553	#825

Pennsylvania (E8A) Late Simplified Scheme

Item	Description
28560	#4283
28561	#4307

Milwaukee Road (E9A) UP Yellow and Gray Scheme

Item	Description
28554	#30A
28555	#34A

Rock Island (E8A) Delivery "Rocket" Scheme

Item	Description
28562	#646
28563	#649

Milwaukee Road (E9A+B Sets)

Item	Description
28556	#30C, 30B
28557	#34A, 34B

Southern (E8A) Black "Tuxedo" Scheme

Item	Description
28564	#2923
28565	#2924
28566	#2925
28567	#2926

New York Central (E8A) Experimental Green Scheme

Item	Description
28558	#403
28559	#403

Wabash (E8A) "Bluebird" Scheme

Item	Description
28568	#1005
28569	#1008
28570	#1009

All artwork is preliminary and are subject to changes and revisions before final production.

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Contact your local dealer or hobby shop so they can get you some of these great [E8 Locomotives](#) that Heartland Hobby is offering. Remember, there will be a set amount produced, so don't wait!



HEARTLAND HOBBY *wholesale*
Exclusives

NEW EXCLUSIVE MODELS! HO and N Scale AutoFlood III Hoppers

Another Heartland Hobby exclusive! This time it is for the [HO and N Scale AutoFlood III coal hoppers](#). We were planning on producing these models in the second run, but our friends at Heartland convinced us to do them now. So here's your chance to order these fabulous hoppers!



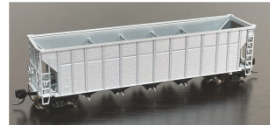
The HO Scale sales catalog is on the left and the N Scale catalog is on the right. Make sure you click the correct one to find out more about the item numbers.

HO SCALE **AUTOFLOOD III RAPID DISCHARGE HOPPER** By Rapido DEALER NAME _____

N SCALE **AUTOFLOOD III RAPID DISCHARGE HOPPER** By Rapido DEALER NAME _____

Exclusive road names only available through

Exclusive road names only available through



FEPX
First Energy Generation Corp

4-Pack # 19804
8-Pack # 19808
Road # 00001, 00002, 00003, 00004, 00011, 00014
Group of uncoupled vehicles from these numbers

MBKX
Mitsui Rail Corp

4-Pack # 19805
8-Pack # 19810
Road # 00005, 00006, 00007, 00008, 00009, 01006
Group of uncoupled vehicles from these numbers

LNTX
Alliant Energy

4-Pack # 19806
8-Pack # 19812
Road # 00001, 00002, 00003, 00004, 00011, 00014
Group of uncoupled vehicles from these numbers

XCLX
Xcel Energy

4-Pack # 19807
8-Pack # 19811
Road # 00001, 00002, 00003, 00004, 00009, 00010, 00011, 00012
Group of uncoupled vehicles from these numbers

FEPX
First Energy Generation Corp

4-Pack # 19804
8-Pack # 19808
Road # 00001, 00002, 00003, 00004, 00011, 00014
Group of uncoupled vehicles from these numbers

MBKX
Mitsui Rail Corp

4-Pack # 19805
8-Pack # 19810
Road # 00005, 00006, 00007, 00008, 00009, 01006
Group of uncoupled vehicles from these numbers

LNTX
Alliant Energy

4-Pack # 19806
8-Pack # 19812
Road # 00001, 00002, 00003, 00004, 00011, 00014
Group of uncoupled vehicles from these numbers

XCLX
Xcel Energy

4-Pack # 19807
8-Pack # 19811
Road # 00001, 00002, 00003, 00004, 00009, 00010, 00011, 00012
Group of uncoupled vehicles from these numbers

- The AutoFlood III Coal Hopper features:**
- Die-cast frame and floor for optimum car weight
 - Full interior rivet and K-member details
 - Super-detailed end cages including separate air and brake piping
 - Barber S-2 100-ton Trucks with metal wheels
 - Hopper boys feature highly-detailed outlet gates
 - Etched, see-through end cross-over platforms
 - Full end detail, including uncoupling levers
 - Separate grab irons installed at the factory
 - Accurate paint and lettering
 - Removable coal load included
 - Multiple road numbers available for each scheme
 - Available in singles or multi-packs*
 - Multi-packs boxed for individual sale

- The AutoFlood III Coal Hopper features:**
- Die-cast frame and floor for optimum car weight
 - Full interior rivet and K-member details
 - Super-detailed end cages including air and brake piping
 - Barber S-2 100-ton Trucks with metal wheels
 - Hopper boys feature highly-detailed outlet gates
 - Separately applied end cross-over platforms
 - Separately applied uncoupling levers
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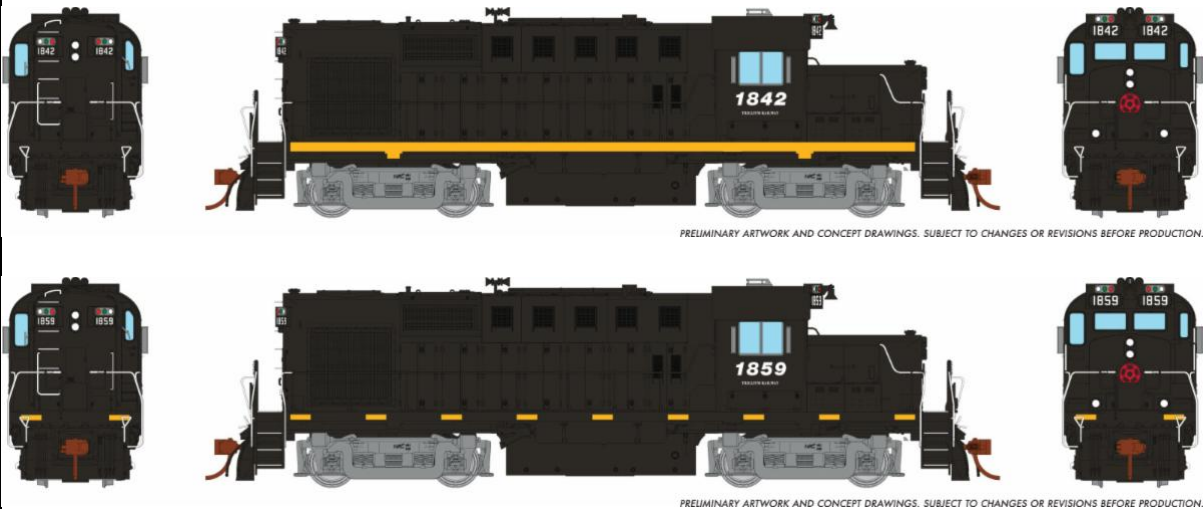
The [HO and N Scale AutoFlood Hoppers](#) will also have a set amount ordered by Heartland Hobby. You'll need to order them ASAP in order to ensure you get the cars you want! Contact your dealer or local hobby shop, today!

DEALER EXCLUSIVE MODELS

OTHER EXCLUSIVE MODELS

In addition to the new models just announced above, we also have plenty more from various dealers that are available for order. [Click here](#) to check them out on our website - but we'll also list some popular items below! Scroll down to check them out.

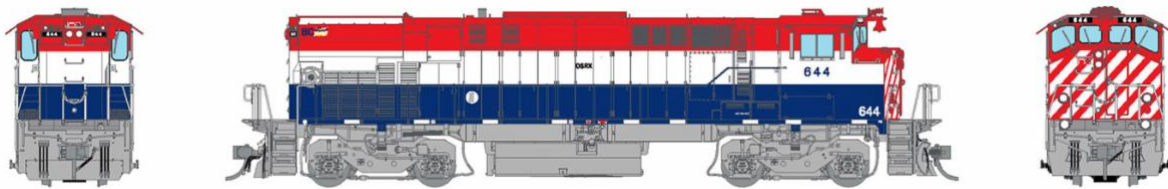
[Otter Valley Railroad](#) is running an exclusive for the Trillium Railway RS-18u. They are offering two road numbers: 1842 and 1859. Head on over there to place your order for these RS-18u locomotives by [clicking here](#).



Order yours today from Otter Valley Railroad!

Another offering is the M420s that went to Ontario Southland! Numbers 641, 644, 646 and 647 went to the OSR and lucky for those fans, [Otter Valley Railroad](#) is running an exclusive for 644, 646 and 647!

And just below them is the UAC Turbo 2.0 that [Otter Valley Railroad](#) is producing. This is the first VIA set that achieved the speed record in 1976 and it features the normal VIA colours along with the CN noodle logo on the nose. They have commissioned both the [five-car set](#) and the [four-car](#) addition.



PRELIMINARY ARTWORK. SUBJECT TO CHANGES OR REVISIONS BEFORE PRODUCTION.

Nothing better than M420s!



*The first VIA Turbo in 1976.
Somebody's mom not included with model.
Photo courtesy Jason's huge stash of Turbo photos.*

Otter Valley Railroad is also offering exclusive HO Scale Long Barrel Ore Hoppers in both CN and Ontario Northland. These are 6-packs with exclusive road numbers to add to your fleet. You can check out the Canadian National hoppers by [clicking here](#) and the Ontario Northlands by [clicking here](#).



[Spring Creek Model Trains](#) has two current exclusives: An [HO Scale Procor 5820 Plastics Hopper](#) and a 6-pack of [HO Scale AutoFlood III Rapid Discharge Coal Hoppers](#).



This [HO Scale Procor 5820 Plastics Hopper](#) is unique in that Procor had only one painted in this attractive blue scheme. UNPX 122012 will certainly stand out in a sea of normally gray cars. Order yours today from Spring Creek Model Trains!



Do you model Powder River operations or is your locale set in Nebraska? You're just in luck with this [HO Scale AutoFlood III Rapid Discharge Coal Hopper](#), decorated for Omaha Public Power District, otherwise known as OMAX. Spring Creek Model Trains is offering three sets of HO Scale 6-packs to build your unit trains.

But wait! They also offer two sets of 6-packs in N scale, as well! [Click here](#) to find out more. Check them out to order your sets!



HO Scale M420 Update - BC Rail and P&W Locos

This is the news I've been waiting to deliver to you! The [BC Rail and Providence and Worcester M420 Locomotives](#) **WILL HAPPEN!** Yes! Every scheme, including Delaware-Lackawanna has been approved!

And, just because the preliminary order deadline for these schemes and variations happened in March, you still can put your orders in for them. So, keep up the ordering!



*Prototype photo courtesy Kevin EuDaly collection.
Looks like you can use Rapido products for most of this train!*

HO Scale M420 Update Part II - CN Rebuilds

The CN M420 Rebuilds originally were set to close out in May, but we are shuffling some things around and the new preorder deadline is set for June 15th, 2022. Mark your calendars!

There is some logic here... Our Canadian dealer open house is on June 13th. So we're hoping to snag some more orders from our retail customers in the Great White North.

This also gives us a bit more time to get a CN sample with working ditch lights to show off - we can't wait for it!

MLW M420

THE REBELS

DEALER NAME: _____

Preliminary artwork. Subject to change or review before production.

Canadian National (Stripes) MR-20b			Canadian National (Stripes) MR-20c		
Route #	Item # (D2000) []	Item # (D2000) []	Route #	Item # (D2000) []	Item # (D2000) []
9539	33012	33013	9540	33016	33017
9542	33014	33015	9578	33017	33018
9545	33014	33014	9572	33018	33019
9539	33015	33015	9579	33019	33019

Canadian National (North America Scheme)			Canadian National (95+ Large CN Noodle)		
Route #	Item # (D2000) []	Item # (D2000) []	Route #	Item # (D2000) []	Item # (D2000) []
9539	33002	33003	9561	33021	33021
9587	33002	33002			
9570	33003	33003			

*Minnesota Commercial Railway			Oil Creek & Titusville Railroad		
Route #	Item # (D2000) []	Item # (D2000) []	Route #	Item # (D2000) []	Item # (D2000) []
95	33006	33006	9508	33008	33008

*Minnesota Commercial is a **CONDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT - UPDATE - This scheme is APPROVED!**

CN 3500 M420 ORDER DEADLINE: **MAY 16th, 2022**

No Sound \$229.95 USD	No Sound \$249.95 CAD
w/Sound \$349.95 USD	w/Sound \$369.95 CAD

CANADA: 500 ALDEN ROAD - UNIT 21 - MARKHAM - ONTARIO - L3R 9H5
 USA: 800.876.7366 - HERRINGHAM - CONNECTICUT - 06443
 Tel: 905.474.3314, Fax: 905.474.3323, Visit: www.rapidotrains.com

[Click here](#) for more info or to order your M420s direct. We encourage you to support your local hobby shop, so you can also print out the sales pack and bring it to your hobby shop to order your M420 fleet today!



April 14th, 2022 Order Deadlines

April has two important order deadlines: the [HO Scale Canadian 66' Bulkhead Flat Car](#) and the [N Scale AutoFlood III Rapid Discharge Hopper](#). Off we go to look at each!



A CN bulkhead carrying plate steel. Photo courtesy of Matt Gentry.

HO Scale Canadian 66' Bulkhead Flatcar

This car is a super beauty! What car are we talking about? This is the [HO Scale Canadian 66' Bulkhead Flatcar](#), which I'm sure you've heard us say countless times, is the **FIRST ACCURATE** model of a Canadian 66' bulkhead produced. No more American prototypes painted for Canadian roads - except for that American prototype painted on the Canadian prototype. (Yes! It's correct, too.)

Wanna see some samples? Of course! Scroll down to check them out. We'll have a new video when our next samples arrive from the factory.



Can't forget the highly detailed underframe. Samples are subject to revision.



*Etched ends **AND** a wood deck! Samples are subject to revision.*

Curious what the [66' Bulkhead Flatcars](#) hauled? Besides the obvious wood-type products such as logs or finished wood, they also carry: sheet steel, pipe,

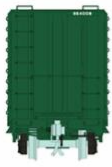
structural steel and heavy equipment to name a few. Some cars were outfitted with stake sides for coils of wire and canvas tops for cargo cover.

Our car's features include:

- Three different bulkhead variations
- Laser-cut wood deck (two styles)
- Four different jack pad styles
- Two different end sills
- Etched metal bulkhead end sheet
- Etched metal: deck, tiedown loops and crossover end platform
- Separate grab irons installed at the factory
- 100-ton Barber S-2-c trucks, with metal wheels
- Rapido semi-scale metal knuckle couplers

We're all about the graphics and lucky for you we have images of each paint scheme below.





PRELIMINARY ARTWORK. SUBJECT TO CHANGES OR REVISIONS BEFORE PRODUCTION.



PRELIMINARY ARTWORK. SUBJECT TO CHANGES OR REVISIONS BEFORE PRODUCTION.



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PRELIMINARY ARTWORK. SUBJECT TO CHANGES OR REVISIONS BEFORE PRODUCTION.



PRELIMINARY ARTWORK. SUBJECT TO CHANGES OR REVISIONS BEFORE PRODUCTION.

Check out the Bulkhead Flat Car catalogue by clicking the photo below.

HO
SCALE

CANADIAN 66' BULKHEAD FLAT CAR

RAPIDO



*It's NOT all Canadian!
Check out the BNSF schemes, too.*



Order Deadline
APRIL 14th, 2022

MSRP
Single Car **\$54.95** US
6-Pack **\$329.70** US
Single Car **\$64.95** CAD
6-Pack **\$389.70** CAD

Rapido Trains Inc. is proud to offer another Ultimate Canadian freight car!
This beauty is the first accurate model of a Canadian 66ft bulkhead flatcar ever produced. For years Canadian modellers have had to put up with American prototype cars painted to represent these classic cars, but no more!

Our HO model is based on cars that were built in huge quantities in the 1970s to early 1980s, and will be right at home on any layout based from the late 1973s to today.

This car design is a true work horse of the industry.... Loaded with everything from finished wood, building materials, sheet steel, pipe, structural steel, heavy equipment. These cars have been fitted with log bunks, stake sides for moving coils of wire, and canvas tops to protect cargo and many have rebuilt to center beam style cars.

The Canadian 66' Bulkhead Flatcar features:

- Three different bulkhead variations
- Etched metal deck, tiedown loops and cross over end platform
- Laser-cut wood deck (two styles)
- Separate grab irons installed at the factory
- Four different jack pad styles
- 100-ton Barber S-2-c trucks, with metal wheels
- Two different end sills
- Rapido metal knuckle couplers
- Etched metal bulkhead end sheet

RAPIDO
TRAINS INC.

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Tel. 905.474.3314. Fax. 905.474.3323. Visit. www.rapidotrains.com

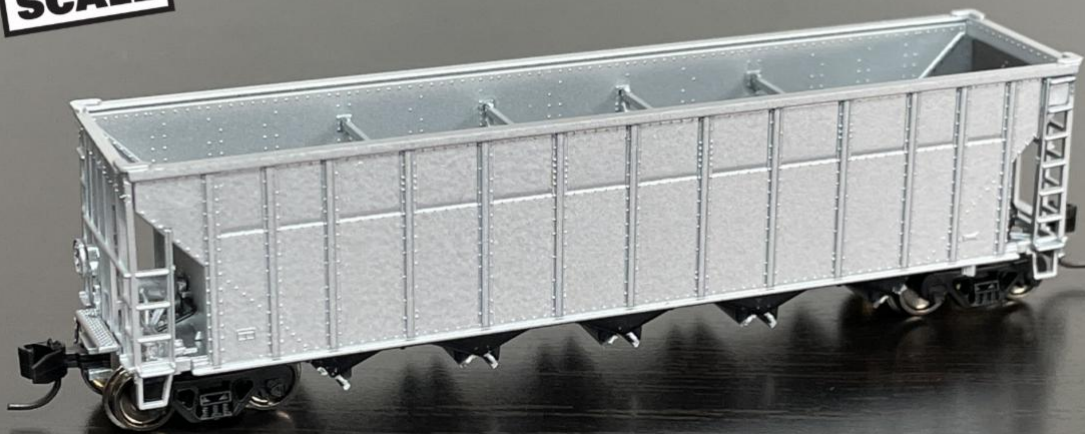
RAPIDO

DEALER NAME:

Bam! Just like that April is here and the order deadline is just days away. So don't delay, get those orders in for the [HO Scale Canadian Bulkhead Flat Car!](#)



Autoflood III Coal Hopper



N Scale AutoFlood III Rapid Discharge Hopper

Everyone needs coal hoppers! (I think I've said that before, but I mean it this time.) And what better way to deliver heaps of coal on your layout to those power plants than with the [N Scale AutoFlood III Rapid Discharge Hopper!](#) Now, even if you didn't ask for it, we have a video for you to watch! [Click here](#) or the photo above or below to enjoy all things N scale and hopper.

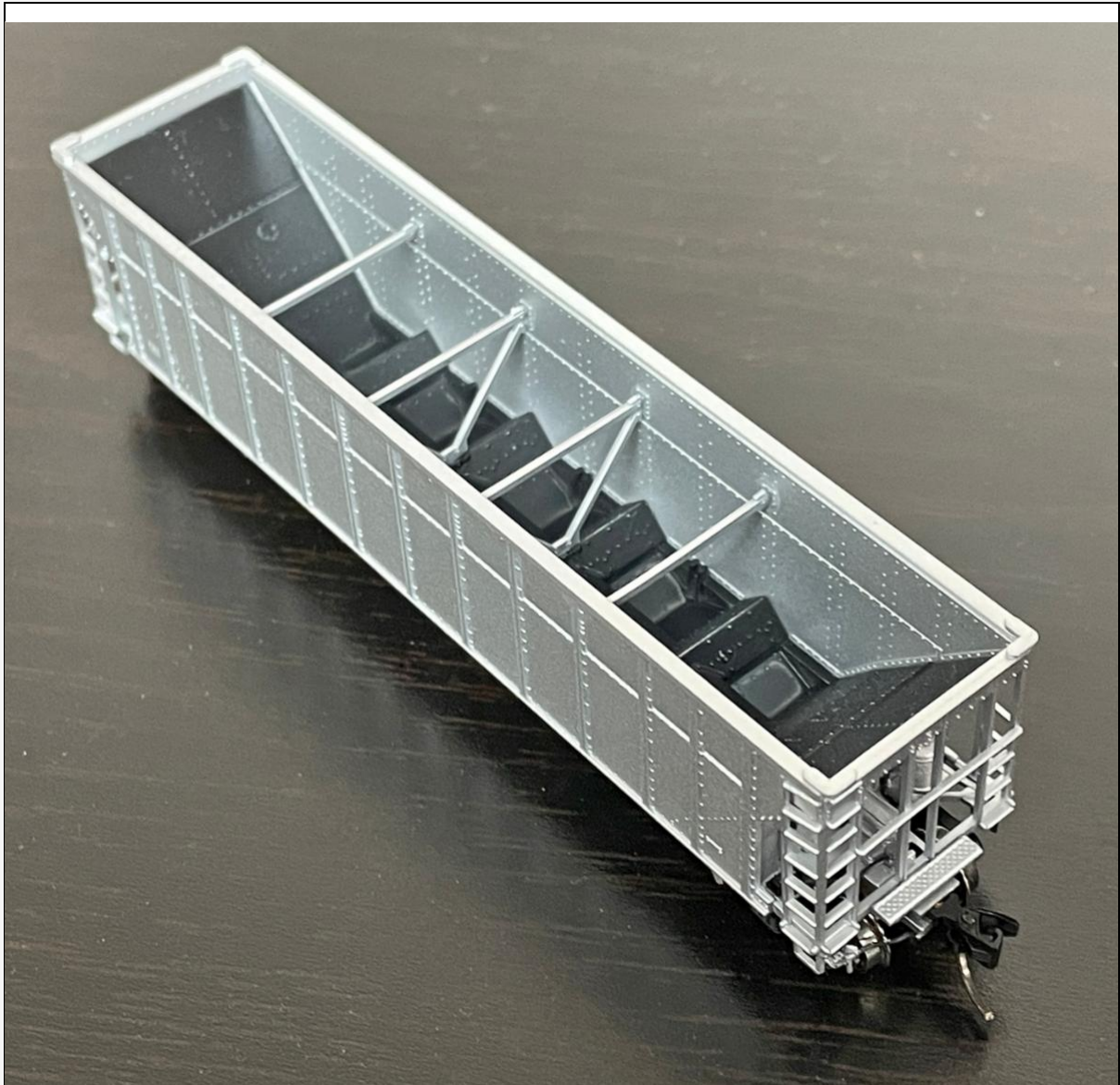
Rapido N Scale Autoflood III Coal Hopper Sample Review



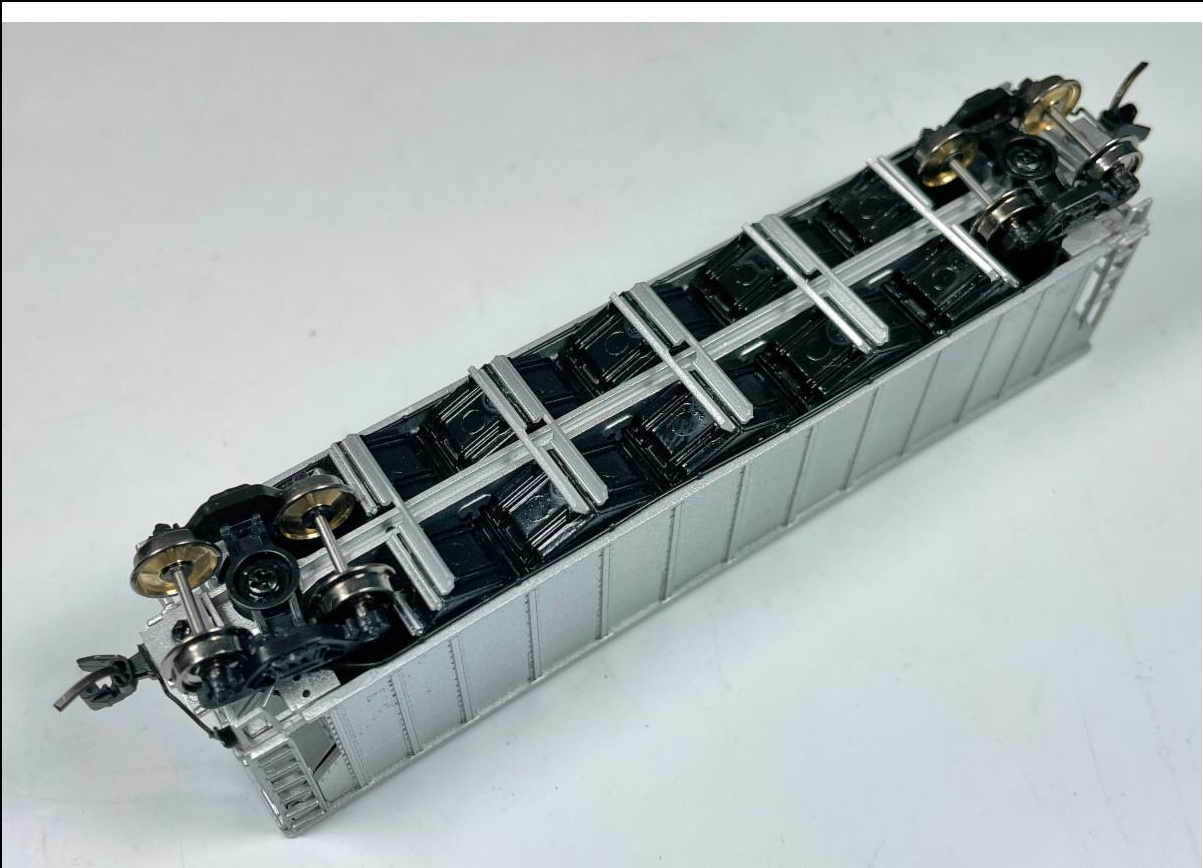
1:00 / 2:18



Ready to see those samples of the [N Scale AutoFlood III Rapid Discharge Hopper](#)? We're sure you're as excited as we are for this car in N scale! Check them out below.



*Look at those inner braces and inner rivets!
Subject to revisions for final production.*



*That's an N scale car?
Subject to revisions for final production.*



*Now that's a coal load!
Subject to revisions for final production.*

What are the features of the [N Scale Rapid Discharge Hopper](#)? Let's take a look:

- Die-cast frame and floor for optimum car weight
- Full interior rivet and K-member details
- Super-detailed end cages including air and brake piping

- Barber S-2 100-ton Trucks with metal wheels
- Hopper bays feature highly-detailed outlet gates.
- Separately-applied end cross-over platforms
- Separately-applied uncoupling levers
- Accurate paint and lettering
- Removable coal load included
- Multiple road numbers available for each scheme
- Available in singles or multi-packs
- Multi-packs boxed for individual sale

Need to see all of the schemes being offered? Why of course, we have that covered! Scroll down to look.



Ah, yes, the catalog. Here you will find **EVERYTHING** you need to know when you place your order(s) for the N Scale Rapid Discharge Hopper. Click the photo below to immerse yourself in product info.

N SCALE **AUTOFLOOD III RAPID DISCHARGE HOPPER** **RAPIDO TRAINS INC.**



Order Deadline
APRIL 14th, 2022

MSRP
6-Pack **\$233.70/\$281.70** US / CAD
Single Car **\$38.95/\$46.95** US / CAD

Matt Conroy Photo
Alliance, NE
July 4, 2017

Coal. Black Diamonds.

This important commodity is best transported across the country by rail. That's where the AutoFlood III rapid discharge hopper car enters the conversation.

Production began on these all-aluminum body railcars in 2004. What followed was thousands of orders for these rapid discharge hoppers, which have traversed almost all of North America. With millions of tons of coal per year being mined and hauled out of various locations across the continent, you would be hard pressed to not have seen one of these prototype cars in a modern day coal train.

This 4200 cubic foot, exterior post prototype (not to be confused with other types of prototype exterior-post or interior post models) is primarily used as a rapid discharge car, which can unload their cargo in a matter of seconds via the bottom bay doors. However, the car can also be equipped with a rotary coupler at the A end of the car (or on both ends on double-rotary cars), as indicated by the color blocks on the cars' ends, for either bottom discharge or rotary unloading based on the infrastructure of the final processing facility.

The AutoFlood III Coal Hopper features:

- Die-cast frame and floor for optimum car weight
 - Full interior rivet and Kriemler details
 - Super-detailed end cogs including air and brake piping
 - Barber S-2 100-ton Trucks with metal wheels
 - Hopper bays feature highly-detailed outlet gates
 - Separately applied and cross-over platforms
 - Separately applied uncoupling levers
 - Accurate paint and lettering
 - Removable coal load included
 - Multiple road numbers available for each scheme
 - Available in singles or multi-packs*
 - Multi-packs boxed for individual sale
- *Dealers must order multi-packs.

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OK N scalers, here's your big chance to prove N scale is the best scale. Get those orders in now for the [N Scale Rapid Discharge Hoppers!](#) And remember to order your Heartland and Spring Creek exclusives too!

U25B LOCOMOTIVE **HO SCALE**



Santa Fe **1609**

BUDD SLUMBERCOACH **HO SCALE**



NH COUNTY CARS **HO SCALE**



HORIZION CARS



May 16th, 2022 Order Deadlines

May is nearby, can you believe it? That means there are new order deadlines to announce, which are: the [HO Scale U25B Locomotive](#), the [HO Scale New Haven County Cars](#), the [HO Scale Budd Slumbercoaches](#) and the [HO Scale Horizon Passenger Cars](#). We're jumping right into it!



U25B LOCOMOTIVE

GE U25B SAMPLES!



HO Scale U25B Locomotive

Remember last newsletter we said the [HO Scale U25B Locomotive](#)'s order deadline was in April? Surprise! We're pushing it to May 16th, 2022, to allow for more time to order as well as make the necessary changes before we send it to production. But wait, there's more! We have a new video for you. [Click here](#), the photo above or below to watch!

Then, hurry back, sit back and enjoy MORE photos of the gorgeous samples we had painted!



Yes! Those samples look great, right? Jason Quinn did a phenomenal job on these. You can check out more of his work at [Quinn's Weathering Depot](#). Let's see some more of them! Scroll down!



*The high nose... Doesn't it just look grand?
These are hand-painted samples, which are subject to revisions.*



*A high hood, sort of like driving with the hood of your car up...
Since these samples were made, we've moved the numberboards down and adjusted the
shape. We've also added a slight curve to the roof of the cab.
These are hand-painted samples, which are subject to revisions.*



*High Hood U25Bs never looked so good.
These are hand-painted samples, which are subject to revisions.*

Don't these samples look great? We sure think so and are very excited to show them off. In fact, photos don't do them justice. Keep scrolling for more [U25B Loco](#) photos!



*Santa Fe all the way!
Notice that the rear walkway is extended, just like the prototype!
These are hand-painted samples, which are subject to revisions.*



*Possibly the best Santa Fe paint scheme?
No warbonnets here!
These are hand-painted samples, which are subject to revisions.*

All of the schemes for the first run of the [U25B Locomotive](#) can be viewed below; just scroll on down to check them out.



Make sure to check out the U25B catalog. It has all of the item numbers, schemes and info on variations. Click the photo below to open the PDF.



GENERAL ELECTRIC

U25B

ORDER DEADLINE
MAY 16TH, 2022

DIESEL-ELECTRIC
LOCOMOTIVE

2500 HORSEPOWER
SPECIFICATION 3030E



Quality. Style. Spirit. www.rapidotrains.com



So, you've been given an extra month to order! The [HO Scale U25B Locomotive](#) ordering period will close out on **May 16th, 2022**. Note the change... and please mark your calendars!

**HO
SCALE**

NEW HAVEN "COUNTY" CARS





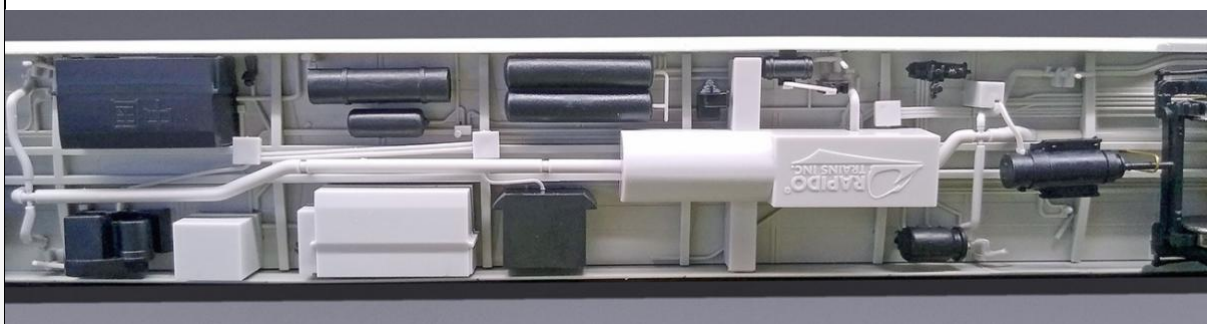
*First test samples fresh out of the molds!
Here they are Chris Adams's gorgeous New Haven layout.*

HO Scale New Haven "County" Cars

It's been a while since we last discussed the [HO Scale New Haven County Cars](#). But we wanted to mention that on May 16th, 2022 the order deadline is coming to a close and these cars can finally head off to production!

In the meantime, here's a refresher in case you forgot about these neat passenger cars. As with other cars in this series, these cars are being developed in association with The New Haven Railroad Historical and Technical Association ([NHRHTA](#)).

The New Haven took delivery of a group of twenty stainless steel baggage-parlor-lounge cars in 1948. A part of the post-war passenger train modernization, these cars were named after counties served by the New Haven. That part was simple. Now the history of these cars gets more complicated!



You want underbody detail? We have underbody detail.



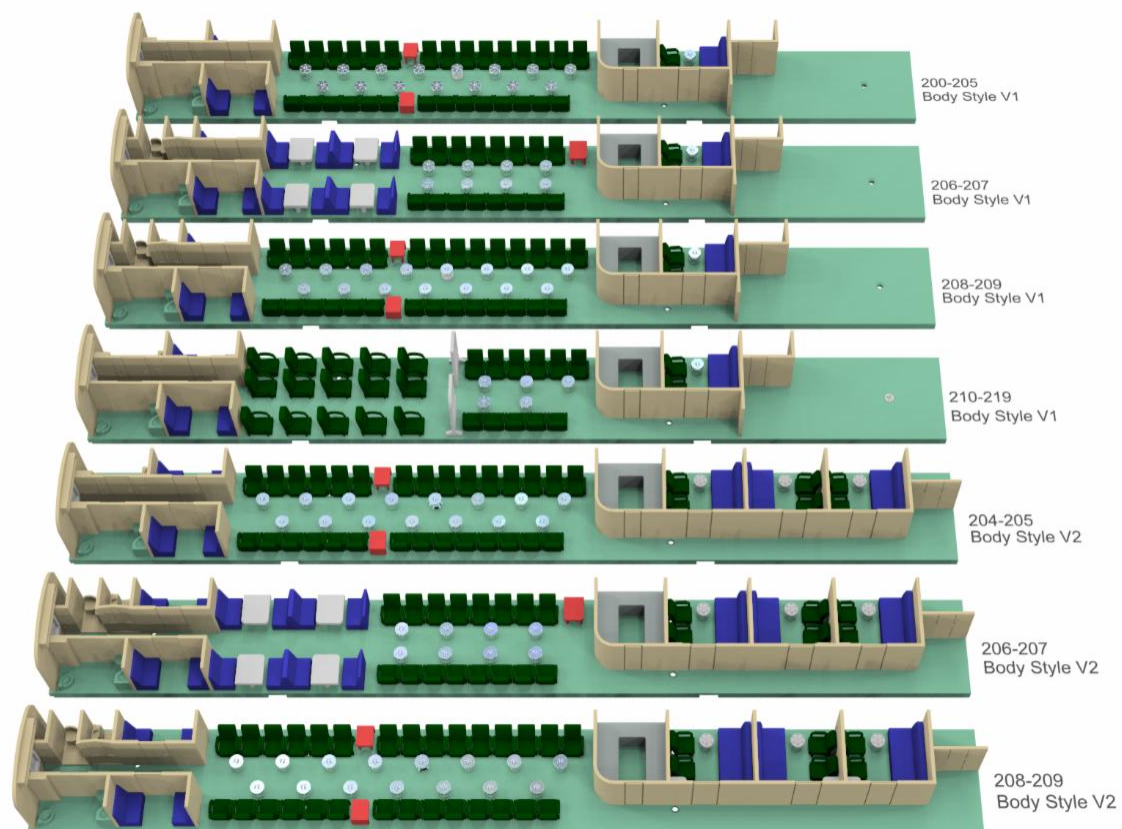
This photo was taken at the factory when they were assembling the samples.

The initial 1948 [County Car](#) order was delivered in four different interior configurations, but all with baggage compartments, a drawing room, two roomette sleeping accommodations and a mix of parlor seat arrangements.

In 1952 the New Haven determined that they needed more drawing rooms so two of the cars were rebuilt with drawing rooms in place of the baggage section. This conversion was successful enough that four more cars (for a total of six) were also converted. However, these six additional cars included no fewer than three NEW interior configurations! Cars #210-219 somehow escaped the rebuilds and retained their baggage sections throughout their service lives.



Another shot on Chris's layout. Nice!



As with many of the New Haven stainless steel cars, the McGinnis cars with skirts are an exclusive production for NHRHTA. Please [click here](#) to visit their web site to order those cars.



Check out the County Car sales catalog by clicking the photo below. It will open up in PDF format.



Rapido Trains Inc. is pleased to announce the newest release in our New Haven stainless steel series -- the "County" cars. As with other cars in this series, these cars have been developed in cooperation with The New Haven Railroad Historical and Technical Association (NHRHTA).

The New Haven railroad took delivery of a group of twenty stainless steel baggage-parlor-lounge cars in 1948. A part of the post-war passenger train modernization, these cars were named after counties served by the New Haven. That part was simple. Now the history of these cars gets more complicated!

The initial 1948 order was delivered in four different interior configurations, but all with baggage compartments, a drawing room, two roomette sleeping accommodations and a six of parlor seat arrangements.

In 1952 the New Haven determined that they needed more drawing rooms so two of the cars were rebuilt with drawing rooms in place of the baggage section. This conversion was successful enough that four more cars (for a total of six) were also converted. However, these six additional cars included no fewer than three NEW interior configurations! Cars #210-219 somehow escaped the rebuild and retained their baggage sections throughout their service life.

The "County" cars were some of the longer lasting New Haven stainless steel cars, some serving well into Amtrak.

Rapido's HO scale model covers these cars in both the original baggage variation and the later rebuilt cars. We offer both the original baggage and the later rebuilt bodies and full interior details for each style. Multiple interior parts allow modelers to customize the interior parlor seat arrangements to match specific cars.

Our model features:

- Accurately designed from original blueprints
- Both original and rebuilt body styles
- Correct tubular cross section
- Rapido's renowned stainless steel finish
- Partial skirting or no skirting as appropriate for each scheme
- Full end corner interior details with extra optional parts
- Track-powered constant lighting for DC and DCC
- Full underbody details
- Operating diaphragms with end gates
- Separate grab irons, factory-installed
- #1 NRC trucks with blackened metal wheels
- 22" minimum radius (18" radius with modification)
- Maudsland-Corlier metal magnets knuckle couplers



New Haven - Green delivery with Baggage Door and Skirts

Item	Description
<input type="checkbox"/> 134000	Car #207 New London County 16 Lounge Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffer - Phone Booth
<input type="checkbox"/> 134001	#201 Suffolk County 29 Lounge Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffer - Baggage
<input type="checkbox"/> 134002	#202 Bristol County 29 Lounge Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffer - Phone Booth - Baggage
<input type="checkbox"/> 134003	#210 Kent County 11 Lounge Seats - 14 Parlor Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffer - Baggage
<input type="checkbox"/> 134004	#214 Windham County 11 Lounge Seats - 14 Parlor Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffer - Baggage
<input type="checkbox"/> 134005	#215 Queens County 11 Lounge Seats - 14 Parlor Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffer - Baggage



New Haven - Green delivery No Baggage Door w/Skirts

Item	Description
<input type="checkbox"/> 134006	#205 Plymouth County 29 Lounge Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffer
<input type="checkbox"/> 134007	#206 Putnam County 16 Lounge Seats - 2 Roomettes - 4 Booths - 3 Drawing Rooms - Buffer - Phone Booth

MSRP - \$129.95 US
\$149.95 CAD
Order Deadline
MAY 16TH, 2022

RAPIDO TRAINS INC. CANADA: 500 Alder Road, Unit 21, Markham, Ontario, L3R 9H5, Canada
 USA: PO Box 779, Higganville, Connecticut, 06441, USA
 Tel: 508.666.6197 Fax: 508.474.3255 Email: trains@rapidotrains.com

RAPIDO Customer Name: _____
 Phone Number: _____

Here's your chance to get the [HO Scale New Haven County Cars](#) ordered. May 16th is the order deadline, so make sure you get all of your orders in by then.



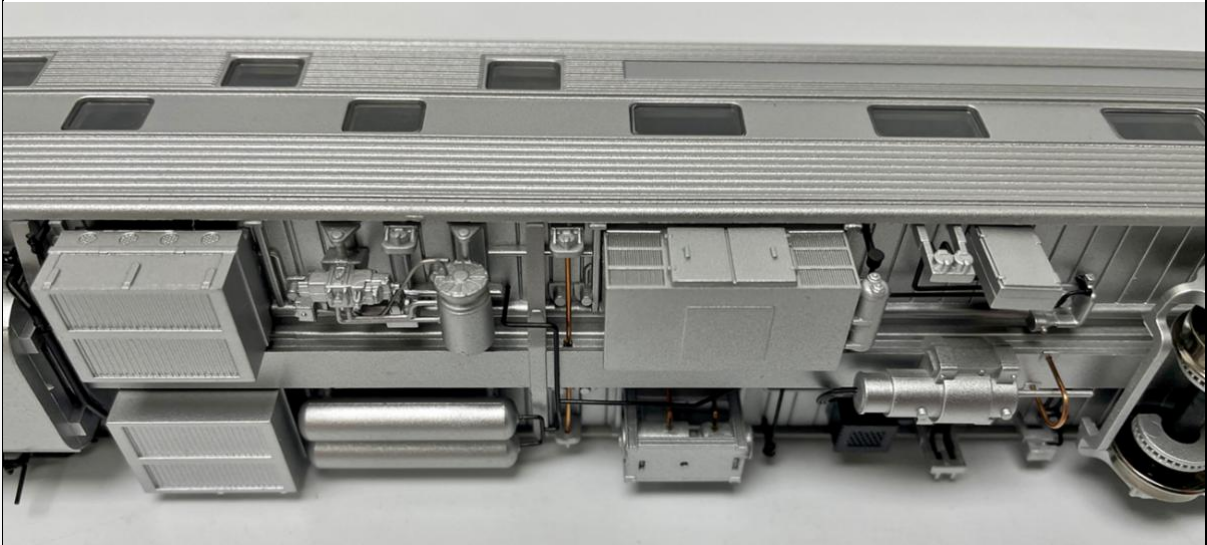
Here's our first sample. It sure looks great! Remember, all samples are subject to revisions.

HO Scale Budd Slumbercoach

It's been a few months since the last major [HO Scale Budd Slumbercoach](#) update, but here we go. This is the advanced warning that on May 16th, 2022, this important passenger car hits the order deadline and we want to make sure you are on board for it!

These cars were built by the Budd Company, from 1956 to 1959 for five different roads. Not the largest number of cars, but they got just about **EVERYWHERE** on the national passenger network.

Now for the samples!



The MOST detailed underbody!



*Upping the level of coolness! Check out those detailed interiors.
The aisle walls are separate parts so we could include all the door handle and other detail.
It also means we can paint/print the wall details in appropriate colors.
These will look so real on your layout...*



Super details! Real chain on the hand brake too!

In case you didn't know what a [Budd Slumbercoach](#) is, here's a quick overview, explained in detail - sort of! A Slumbercoach has a capacity of 40 guests for the targeted "overnight" traveler. The floor plan features 24 single occupancy rooms, along with 8 double rooms with a single aisle right down the center of the car. This method was a mid-priced alternative for overnight trips, instead of uncomfortable coach seating or pricey first-class options. Probably the most unique and distinctive feature on these cars is the staggered side windows.



*The modern-day Loch Ness, now owned by Webb Rail, hanging out in New Orleans.
Photo courtesy of Marc Glucksman.*

Many of the Budd Slumbercoaches still survive today in museums and private collections. The [Loch Ness](#) is probably the most famous, as it is currently owned by private railcar owner [Webb Rail](#) and can be seen traveling the country on private charters. Check out their website: you might just be able to ride in a real Slumbercoach!

Our [HO Scale Slumbercoach](#) features include:

- Designed from original blueprints
- All models based on the as-built steam heat-equipped cars
- Full Rapido level of underbody detail including separate pipes and conduits
- Full multi-color interior detail including roomette door handle detail
- Constant track-powered interior lighting (DC and DCC)
- Accurate GSC 41-NDO-11 trucks with disc brake detail
- Etched-metal end gates and sprung diaphragms
- Rapido's renowned stainless-steel finish
- Separately applied name boards
- Multiple paint schemes as well as a generic painted model ready for custom liveries

Hey, did I mention you can own a model of the [Loch Ness](#), too? (Ed: Yes, you did, above...) Now you modern Amtrak modelers can throw it onto the back of your long distance consists to create an authentic "PV" look!



But what about all those schemes on the [HO Scale Budd Slumbercoach](#)? Glad you asked! There are nine schemes, including unlettered. Here they are:



Time for the Budd Slumbercoach catalog! Click on the photo below to download it.




Continuing Rapido's tradition of highly detailed passenger cars, we are proud to introduce the all-new **Budd Slumbercoach in HO scale!**

In the mid 1950s, with passengers quickly switching to airline travel or the private automobile, the Budd company devised the Slumbercoach as an economical way to attract overnight passengers back to the rails. With a capacity of 40 passengers in a 24 single room plus 8 double room plan, the Slumbercoaches offered a lower cost alternative positioned between coach seating and a first class bedroom on overnight runs. A single aisle in the center of the car was flanked by the single and double rooms on each side.

With 18 cars built new between 1956 and 1959, these cars with their distinctive staggered windows could be seen on some of the USA's most famous trains such as the North Coast Limited, Denver Zephyr, National Limited, Texas Eagle and many more.

As delivered, the 18 car Slumbercoach fleet comprised of the following:

- Baltimore & Ohio, 5 cars
- Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy, 4 cars
- Missouri Pacific, 1 car
- New York Central, 4 cars
- Northern Pacific, 4 cars

Later, in 1964 the NP would take ownership of the B&O and MP cars and at least 2 cars ended up with BN lettering briefly in 1970/71. The entire fleet would end up with Amtrak in the 70s and 80s with all cars converted to head end power. Most lasted into the mid to late 90s when they were finally retired and replaced with more modern equipment such as the Superliner II and Viewliners. Most of the fleet still exists today in various states including in museum collections and in private ownership. One car – Loch Ness – has been fully restored by Webb Rail and is operated as a private car.

All-new from the ground up, the Rapido Slumbercoach features:

- Designed from original blueprints
- All models based on the as-built steam heat-equipped cars
- Full Rapido level of underbody detail including separate pipes and conduits
- Full multicolor interior detail including roomette doors
- Constant track-powered interior lighting (DC and DCC)
- Accurate GSC 41-ND0-11 trucks with disc brake detail
- Etched-metal end gates and sprung diaphragms
- Rapido's renowned stainless-steel finish
- Separately applied name boards
- Available in multiple paint schemes and a generic painted model ready for custom liveries.

Order your Slumbercoaches and bring economical comfort to your passenger trains today!

MSRP
\$119.95 USD \$139.95 CAD

ORDER DEADLINE:
MAY 16th, 2022

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 USA: PO BOX 796 • HESKONUM • CONNECTICUT • 06461
 Tel. 905.474.3314. Fax. 905.474.3325. Visit. www.rapidotrains.com

Have an overnight train? You won't want to miss out on the [HO Scale Budd Slumbercoaches](#)! Remember the order deadline - May 16th! We'll have a video up before then.



That NPCU sure looks nice... Anyone need more? (hint...hint...)

HO Scale Horizon Passenger Cars

[The HO Scale Horizon passenger cars](#) have made their return and on May 16th, 2022, they will depart for production. Let's run through a quick overview of these cars before then.



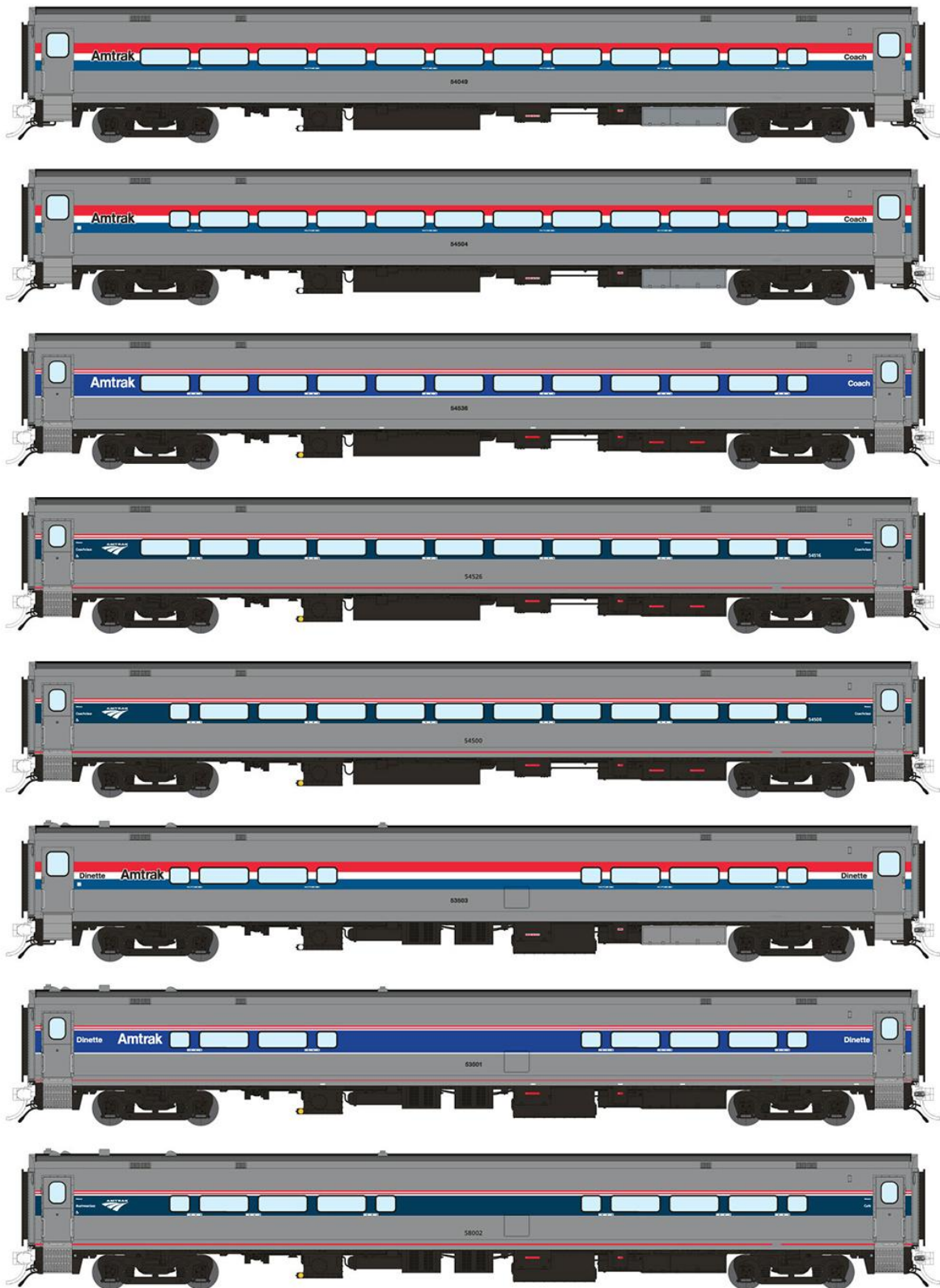
In addition to all-new car numbers, we are also offering an all-new car: the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) cars! These feature a second smaller window on the left side of the car where the normal sized window would be. These particular [HO Scale Horizon Passenger Cars](#) also have a 72-seat capacity, whereas normal coaches have 82 seats.



Want to know more about the [HO Scale Horizon Car](#) features? Check them out here:

- Coach, Dinette, Club-Dinette cars
- All-new ADA Coach cars
- All-new car numbers
- Full underbody and interior detail
- Correct GSI G70 trucks with metal wheelsets
- Accurate painting and lettering
- Tinted windows
- Improved interior lighting in both DC and DCC
- Independently-controllable end marker lights
- Metal side grab irons

All the schemes? Why, of course! Scroll on down!



Do you like shiny graphics? Do you like reading numbers that are helpful for ordering? Well you're in luck! Click the image below to see everything you need to know about the Horizon passenger cars



Introduced by Amtrak in April 1989, the Horizon fleet (initially known as the Amfleet IIIs) were based on the Pullman-Standard Comet-series commuter cars built since 1970. The new Horizon fleet consisted predominantly of two basic car types - Coach and Dinette - with 86 and 18 cars respectively forming the 104-car order placed with Bombardier.

Over the years, the Horizon cars have remained largely unchanged from their as-built appearance, with the only predominant visual differences being the evolution of the Amtrak paint schemes from Phase III through Phase VI. However, two key changes that occurred include the replacement of the original power sliding doors with manually-operated parlor doors and the replacement of the fold-down stairs with fixed steps.

The Rapido Horizon cars will feature the same great attention to detail you've come to expect, including free-rolling wheels, detailed underbodies, flicker-free interior lighting and more.

The Rapido HO scale Horizon cars feature:

- Coach, Dinette, Club-Dinette cars
- **All-new** ADA Coach cars
- Full underbody and interior detail
- Correct GSI G70 trucks with metal wheelsets
- Accurate painting and lettering
- Tinted windows
- **Improved** interior lighting in both DC and DCC
- Independently-controllable end marker lights
- Metal side grab irons

MSRP \$109.95 USD \$129.95 CAD

Pre-order Deadline and Delivery TBA



Mark down on your schedule: May 16th, 2022. That's the day the [HO Scale Horizon Passenger Cars](#) depart for their turn at the factory. Make sure you get on board so you don't miss out!



Second Section - April 2022

Lot's of new items have just arrived and many more are on they way into the [warehouse](#). Let's have a look at our upcoming live stream, some tooling updates, and arrival updates.



April 7
7:00 PM EDT



RAPIDO
f LIVE



Upcoming Shows

Tonight, April 7th at 7PM EST, we will once again host another Rapido Live on our [Facebook](#) page! Join Jordan, Jason and the team as they discuss the new products, April order deadlines, what Rapido is currently up to and answer any questions you want on the current state of products we offer. That's 7pm EDT, April 7th, 2022 - see you there!

If you're reading after the live event, you can still watch it on our [Facebook](#) page.



Shipping and Arrival Updates

LOTS of new items are arriving, both at your dealer or to our warehouse soon! What could they be? Let's find out:

- [HO Scale Barrel Ore Cars](#) - ***in stores!***
- [HO Scale EP-5 Locomotives](#) - ***in stores!***
- [HO Scale Amtrak F40PH Locomotives](#) - ***shipping now!***
- [N Scale New Look Bus](#) - ***shipping soon!***
- [HO Scale F59PH Locomotive](#) - ***shipping soon!***
- [HO Scale Chevrolet Caprice/Impala](#) - ***shipping soon!***
- [N Scale VIA F40PH-2D Locomotives](#) - ***arriving in June!***
- [HO Scale Metrolink Bilevel Cars](#) - ***Metrolink - arriving in June!***
- [N Scale Procor GP-20 Tank Cars](#) - ***arriving in June!***

As we mentioned last newsletter, all of our shipments that left China recently have been delayed due to closures and port/shipping congestion. We are doing our best to track and corral these shipments, but please be aware some items might arrive a bit later than expected.

Right now, the N scale New Looks and HO scale Caprices are arriving in Toronto and the HO scale F59PH locomotives are on a train crossing Canada. So it won't be long for these!



They're at your hobby shop now! [The HO Scale Barrel Ore Cars](#), that is.



The long awaited [HO Scale EP-5](#) is also in stores now!



Ready to ship! The [Amtrak Later Phase F40PHs](#) are leaving the building.



Get ready to ride the [N Scale New Look Bus](#).



California Dreamin'. The [F59PHs](#) look great!



Get excited for [HO Scale Caprices!](#) They're almost here!



The [HO Scale Metrolink Bilevels](#) will be first to hit the market, sometime in June.



Hooray! Another N Scale update! The [GP20 Tanks](#) will ship in June... we hope!

Factory and Tooling Updates

Have a look at some of the latest photos from our factories!



Here's the [N Scale B-100 Boxcar](#) on the assembly line. Look for them soon!



[HO Scale 52' Mill Gondolas](#), anyone? They're almost ready.



A handful of [HO Scale 52' Mill Gondolas](#) await to have their floors attached.



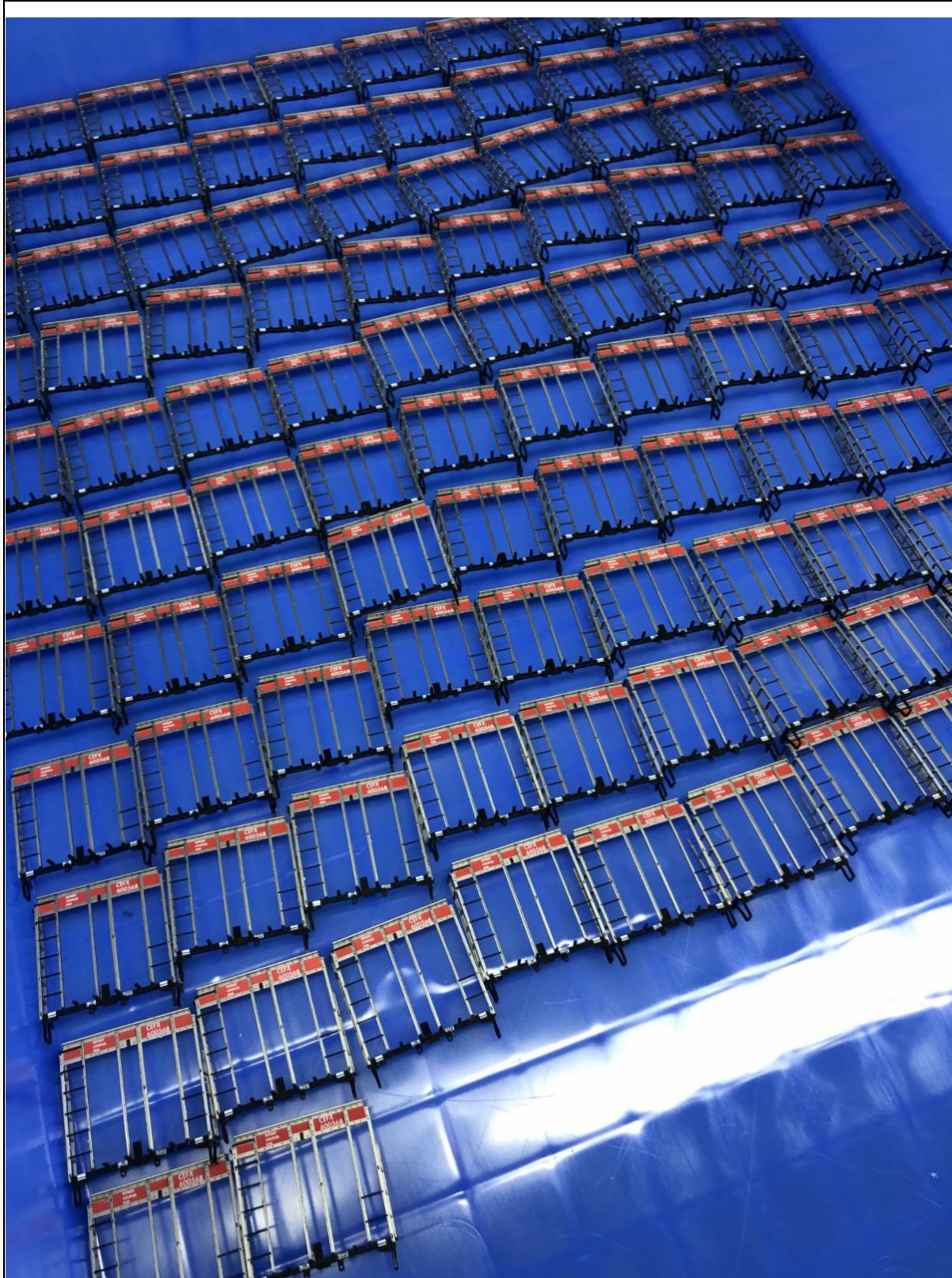
The underfloor for the [HO Scale 52' Mill Gondola](#).



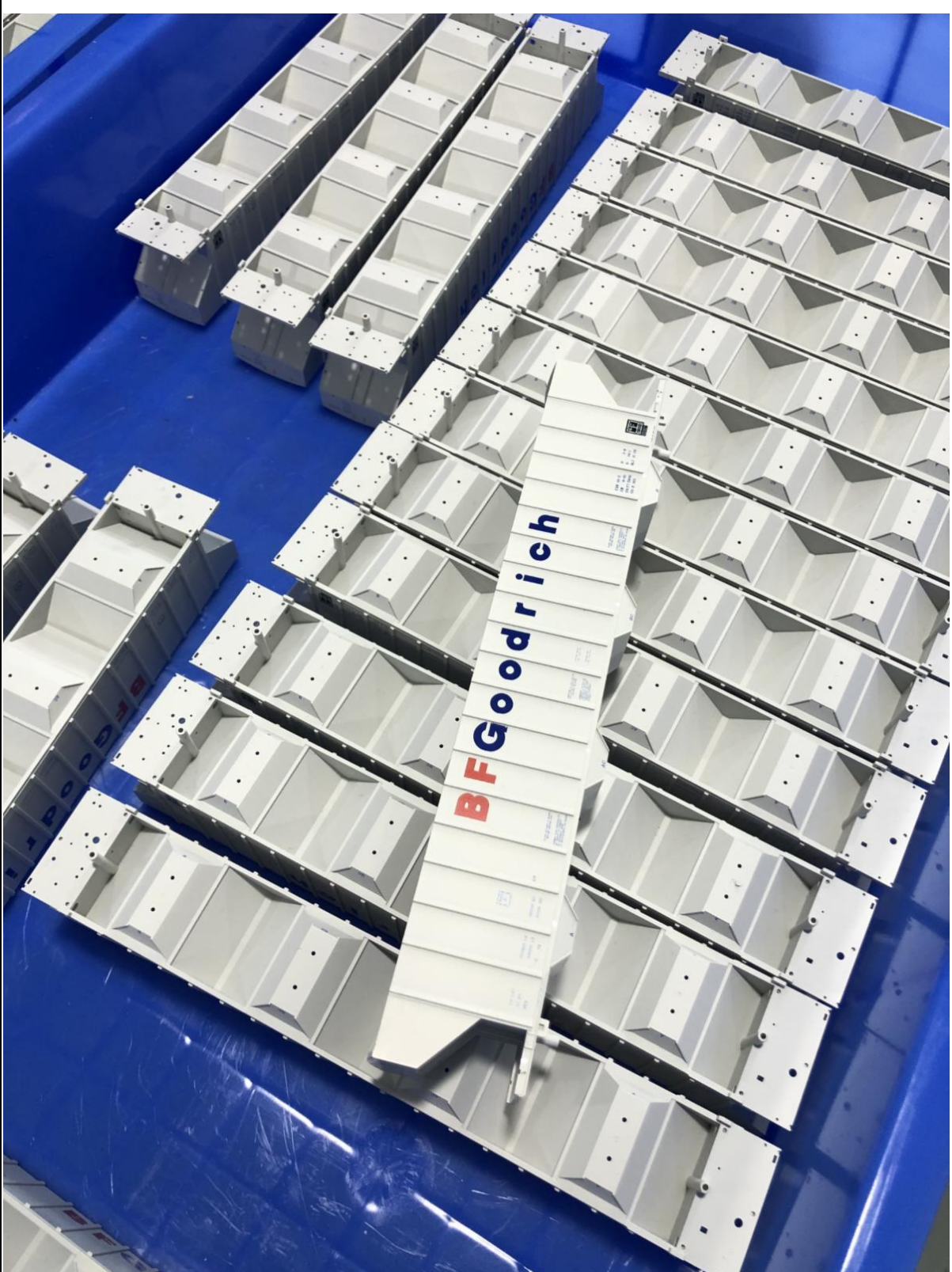
[HO Scale E8](#) chassis, all ready for the bodies. These are the Amtrak anniversary units.



Just look at all of that amazing underbody detail on the [HO Scale AutoFlood III Hoppers!](#)



Lots of [HO Scale AutoFlood II](#) end cages!



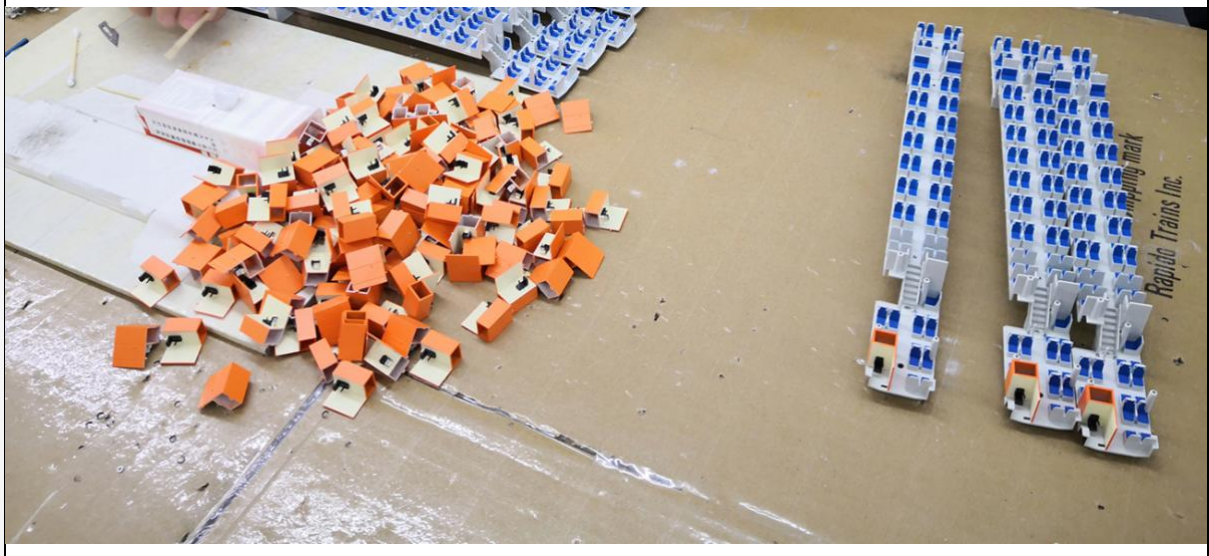
BF Goodrich [5820 Hopper Cars](#) have their lettering applied.



That's a lot of Union Carbide side signs! They'll look great on the [HO Scale 5820 Hoppers](#).



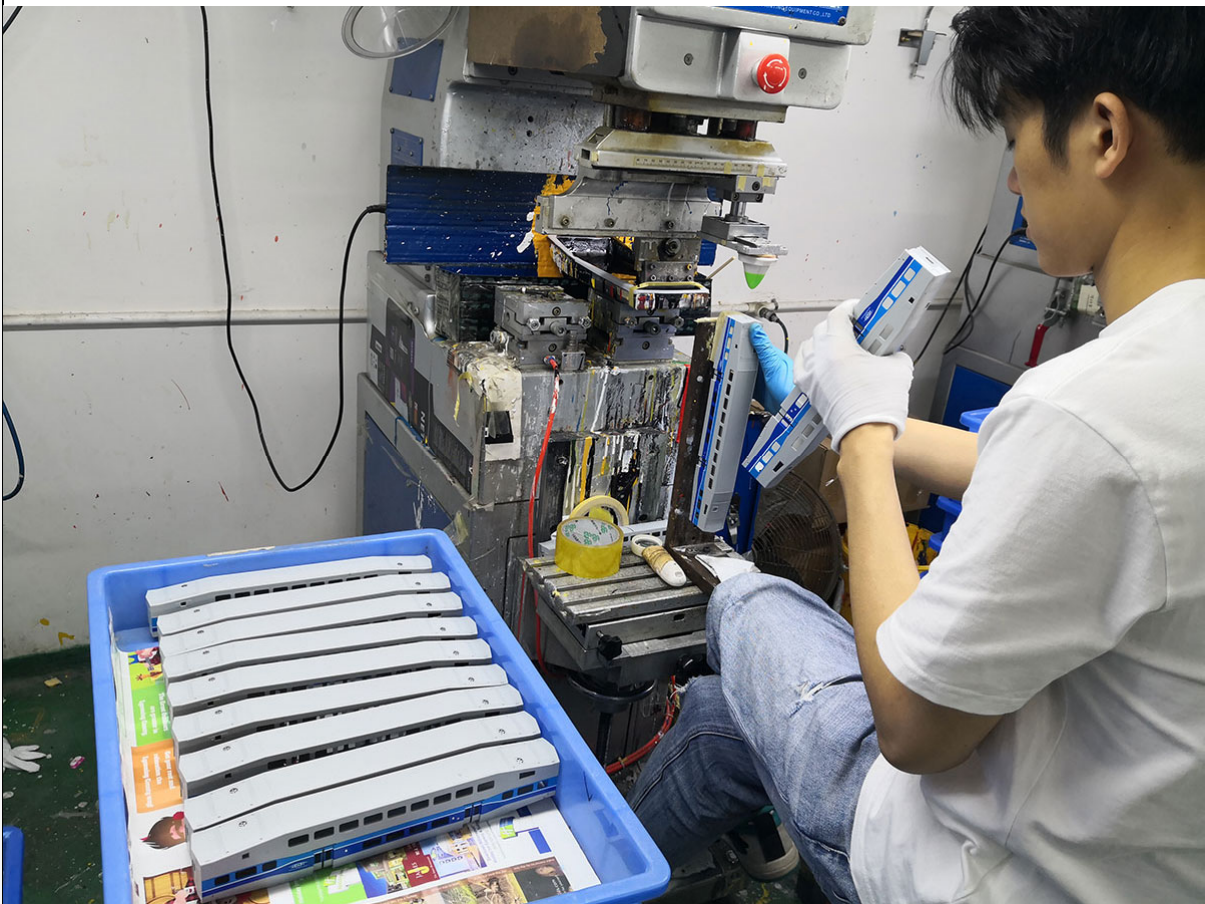
Piles of HO Scale Bilevel underframes and seats!



Check out those interior colors of the [HO Scale Bilevels!](#)



[HO Scale Bilevel](#) underframes all lined up.



Printing the lettering on the AMT [HO Scale Bilevel](#) bodies.



*It's the Rapido crew! That's Craig, Craig and Craig...er Craig, Matt and Dan.
Photo courtesy of Craig Walker.*

The Denver Trip By Craig Walker

In March 2020, we at Rapido Trains attended the [Rocky Mountain Train Show](#) in Denver, Colorado. The week after, everything ... and we mean EVERYTHING! ... shut down thanks to COVID-19.

Now, two years later, we (Dan Darnell representing Markham, Ontario; Matt Gentry making the trek from southern Indiana and Craig Walker escaping southern California) once again attended the Rocky Mountain Train show, and everything has changed! Well, one thing changed – the show's location, as its former location had been razed. This year's Rocky Mountain Train Show was very well attended, and the new facility had more room than the previous one.



The Rocky Mountains, somewhere down there. Photo courtesy of Craig Walker.

Attending our first train show in two years was a great chance to catch up with our friends in the model railroad industry. And then, the most amazing thing happened – the show opened to the public! And we were immediately thrown into the frenzy of catching up with more old friends, as well as making new friends, as we showed off a whole lot of upcoming models: PA-1s, E8s, the Rohr Turboliner, U25Bs with high and low noses, F59PHs and the bilevel commuter cars, the Santa Fe RR-56 mechanical reefer, Procor 5820 cuft covered hoppers, Budd Slumbercoaches, 40' box cars for SP, GN and UP, MLW M420s, new RS-11s, Canadian 66' bulkheads and others.

It was great to finally get to show off these new models, and answer questions from our customers. Sure, we made up some of the answers, but that's not important... is it?



The incredible Colorado Railroad Museum layout. Photo courtesy of Craig Walker.

We also met up with our old nemesis: the concrete floor. Our legs feel much better by now, though. Thanks for the pain, concrete floor!

While visiting the Mile-High City we stopped by the [Colorado Railroad Museum](#) in Golden and also headed north to Greeley one evening to see (again for some of us, and for the first time for, well, Craig) the [Colorado Model Railroad Museum](#) (thanks for the invite, Michelle!). The CMRM is the home of an extremely impressive model railroad layout. Each of these museums is well worth your time when you visit Colorado.



*John Parker's "BNSF Fall River Division" layout with a familiar sight.
Photo courtesy of Craig Walker.*

We were also fortunate enough to get an invitation to John Parker's unbelievable "[BNSF Fall River Division](#)" layout, and he even had a few of our locomotives front and center for others to view. Thanks for the invite, John!

Now that shows are opening up again, we at Rapido Trains look forward to seeing you in person, and we hope to see you soon!

This was a light month for announcements, but that means we must be working on something **BIG**. Stay tuned to future newsletters to find out!

Until then,

Bobby

Bobby Allard

**You made it happen! The BC and P&W M420s will happen!
Rapido Trains Inc.**

USA: PO Box 796, Higganum, CT 06441
Canada: 500 Alden Road, Unit 21, Markham, ON L3R 5H5

Check out our YouTube channel, Facebook page and Twitter!



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Sent by rapido3@rapidotrains.com powered by



Rapido's all-new model of the E8/9 breaks new ground and promises to be the most accurate plastic model of these iconic locos yet. Designed from a 3D laser scan of Union Pacific E8 #942 at the Southern California Railway Museum to ensure that those impossible-to-guess contours are bang-on accurate. This was backed up by months of research, referring to hundreds of photos and numerous blueprints to ensure that they had the correct details for each version of the locomotive that are offered.

Heartland Hobby Wholesale is excited to announce a series of **exclusive paint schemes** on this amazing locomotive. Many have **new detail parts** made expressly for these particular models!

Quantities will be limited, order today!

ALL MODELS ARE DC/DCC/SOUND
\$356.95 A-UNIT MSRP
\$674.95 A+B SET MSRP

Rapido's E8/E9 models feature:

- 3D laser-scanned body shell
- Accurate nose and roof contours
- Prototypically correct nose details
- Prototypically correct back end details
- Two different sides – with and without lifting lug covers
- Three different steam generator options
- 36" fan, 48" fan or non-dynamic brake options
- Single- or dual-headlight configurations
- Freight or passenger pilots
- Three styles of side grills
- Skirted or non-skirted fuel tanks
- Original square, sloped or Hyatt roller bearing journal boxes
- Heavy die-cast chassis
- Smooth running drive system with all wheels powered
- Accurate E8 sounds provided by ESU LokSound
- Complete lighting effects
- Numerous road-specific detail parts in both plastic and etched metal.



Erie (E8A)
Two-tone Green Scheme

Item	Description
<input type="text"/>	28550 #820
<input type="text"/>	28551 #821
<input type="text"/>	28552 #824
<input type="text"/>	28553 #825



Pennsylvania (E8A)
Late Simplified Scheme

Item	Description
<input type="text"/>	28560 #4283
<input type="text"/>	28561 #4307



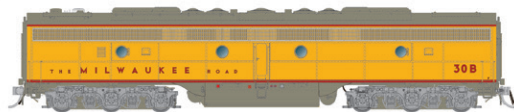
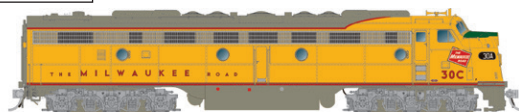
Milwaukee Road (E9A)
UP Yellow and Gray Scheme

Item	Description
<input type="text"/>	28554 #30A
<input type="text"/>	28555 #35A



Rock Island (E8A)
Delivery "Rocket" Scheme

Item	Description
<input type="text"/>	28562 #646
<input type="text"/>	28563 #649



Milwaukee Road (E9A+B Sets)

Item	Description
<input type="text"/>	28556 #30C, 30B
<input type="text"/>	28557 #34A, 34B



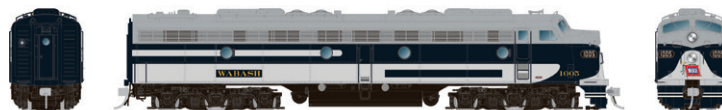
Southern (E8A)
Black "Tuxedo" Scheme

Item	Description
<input type="text"/>	28564 #2923
<input type="text"/>	28565 #2924
<input type="text"/>	28566 #2925
<input type="text"/>	28567 #2926



New York Central (E8A)
Experimental Green Scheme

Item	Description
<input type="text"/>	28558 #4053
<input type="text"/>	28559 #4083



Wabash (E8A)
"Bluebird" Scheme

Item	Description
<input type="text"/>	28568 #1005
<input type="text"/>	28569 #1008
<input type="text"/>	28570 #1009

All Artworks are preliminary and are subject to changes and revisions before final production

HO
SCALE

Budd

Slumbercoach BY RAPIDO



Travel in efficient and economical style!

KALUZA-MUELLER COLLECTION

Continuing Rapido's tradition of highly detailed passenger cars, we are proud to introduce the all-new **Budd Slumbercoach in HO scale!**

In the mid 1950s, with passengers quickly switching to airline travel or the private automobile, the Budd company devised the Slumbercoach as an economical way to attract overnight passengers back to the rails. With a capacity of 40 passengers in a 24 single room plus 8 double room plan, the Slumbercoaches offered a lower cost alternative positioned between coach seating and a first class bedroom on overnight runs. A single aisle in the center of the car was flanked by the single and double rooms on each side.

With 18 cars built new between 1956 and 1959, these cars with their distinctive staggered windows could be seen on some of the USA's most famous trains such as the North Coast Limited, Denver Zephyr, National Limited, Texas Eagle and many more.

As delivered, the 18 car Slumbercoach fleet comprised of the following:

- Baltimore & Ohio, 5 cars
- Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy, 4 cars
- Missouri Pacific, 1 car
- New York Central, 4 cars
- Northern Pacific, 4 cars

Later, in 1964 the NP would take ownership of the B&O and MP cars and at least 2 cars ended up with BN lettering briefly in 1970-71. The entire fleet would end up with Amtrak in the 70s and 80s with all cars converted to head end power. Most lasted into the mid to late 90s when they were finally retired and replaced with more modern equipment such as the Superliner II and Viewliners. Most of the fleet still exists today in various states including in museum collections and in private ownership. One car – Loch Ness – has been fully restored by Webb Rail and is operated as a private car.

All-new from the ground up, the Rapido Slumbercoach features:

- Designed from original blueprints
- All models based on the as-built steam heat-equipped cars
- Full Rapido level of underbody detail including separate pipes and conduits
- Full multi-color interior detail including roomette doors
- Constant track-powered interior lighting (DC and DCC)
- Accurate GSC 41-NDO-11 trucks with disc brake detail
- Etched-metal end gates and sprung diaphragms
- Rapido's renowned stainless-steel finish
- Separately applied name boards
- Available in multiple paint schemes and a generic painted model ready for custom liveries.

Order your Slumbercoaches and bring economical comfort to your passenger trains today!

MSRP
\$119.95 USD \$139.95 CAD

ORDER DEADLINE:
MAY 16TH, 2022



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RAPIDO

**HO
SCALE****Build Slumbercoach**

DEALER INFO:

AMTRAK (PHASE 1)

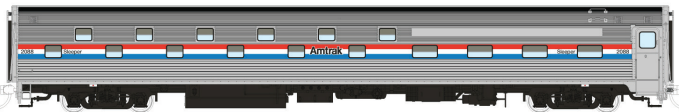
1971-1980



- 141001 — #2024 LOCH SLOY
- 141002 — #2026 LOCH LOMOND
- 141003 — #2027 LOCH NESS
- 141004 — #2028 LOCH TARBET

AMTRAK (PHASE 3)

1981-1996



- 141005 — #2081 LOCH LONG
- 141006 — #2088 LOCH LEVEN
- 141007 — #2092 LOCH ARKAIG
- 141008 — #2093 LOCH KATRINE

BALTIMORE & OHIO

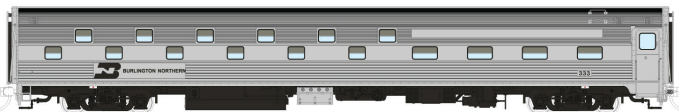
1958-1964



- 141009 — #7700 SLUMBERLAND
- 141010 — #7701 DREAMLAND
- 141011 — #7702 RESTLAND
- 141012 — #7703 SLEEPLAND
- 141013 — #7704 THRIFTLAND

BURLINGTON NORTHERN

1970-1974



- 141014 — #333 LOCH TAY
- 141015 — #1489 LOCH RANNOCH

CHICAGO, BURLINGTON & QUINCY (NP)

1965-1970



- 141016 — #335 LOCH ARKAIG
- 141017 — #336 LOCH AWE

OWNERSHIP OF THESE CARS WAS TRANSFERRED FROM NORTHERN PACIFIC IN 1965 FOR USE ON THE JOINT NP/CB&Q NORTH COAST LIMITED. ALTHOUGH THEY RETAINED THE NP LETTERING, THEY WERE SUB-LETTERED CB&Q.

MISSOURI PACIFIC

1959-1964



- 141018 — #699 SOUTHLAND

NEW YORK CENTRAL "SLEEPERCOACH"

1959-1964



- 141019 — #10800
- 141020 — #10801
- 141021 — #10802
- 141022 — #10803

NORTHERN PACIFIC

1959-1970



- 141023 — #325 LOCH SLOY
- 141024 — #326 LOCH LEVEN
- 141025 — #327 LOCH LOMOND
- 141026 — #328 LOCH NESS

PAINTED, UNLETTERED

- 141099 — PAINTED, UNLETTERED

PAINTED, UNLETTERED CARS COME WITH DECORATED "SLUMBERCOACH" AND "PULLMAN" BOARDS, AS WELL AS VARIOUS LENGTHS OF UNDECORATED NAME BOARDS, IN A POLYBAG.



Amtrak (ex Burlington Northern) Slumbercoach #2031 "Loch Tay", among a colourful consist of Amtrak equipment in 1973 while still sporting the simple graphics of its previous owner. It would ultimately receive Amtrak graphics around 1975. Bob Forge Photo.

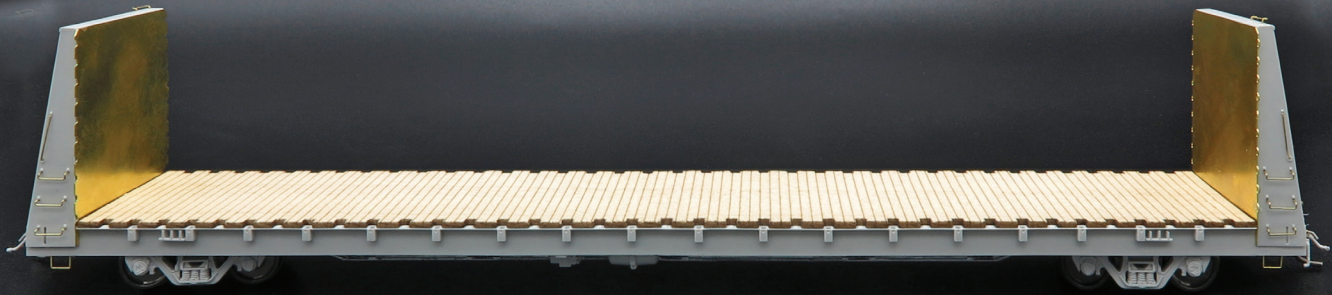
MSRP \$119.95 USD \$139.95 CAD**ORDER DEADLINE: MAY 16TH, 2022**

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RAPIDO

**HO
SCALE**

CANADIAN 62' BULKHEAD FLAT CAR



*It's NOT all Canadian!
Check out the BNSF schemes, too.*

Order Deadline
APRIL 15th, 2022

MSRP	Single Car	\$54.95	US
	6-Pack	\$329.70	US
	Single Car	\$64.95	US
	6-Pack	\$389.70	US

Rapido Trains Inc. is proud to offer another Ultimate Canadian freight car!

This beauty is the first accurate model of a Canadian 62ft bulkhead flatcar ever produced. For years Canadian modellers have had to put up with American prototype cars painted to represent these classic cars, but no more!

Our HO model is based on cars that were built in huge quantities in the 1970s to early 1980s, and will be right at home on any layout based from the late 1973s to today.

This car design is a true work horse of the industry.... Loaded with everything from finished wood, building materials, sheet steel, pipe, structural steel, heavy equipment. These cars have been fitted with log bunks, stake sides for moving coils of wire, and canvas tops to protect cargo and many have rebuilt to center beam style cars.

The Canadian 62' Bulkhead Flatcar features:

- Three different bulkhead variations
- Laser-cut wood deck (two styles)
- Four different jack pad styles
- Two different end sills
- Etched metal bulkhead end sheet
- Etched metal: deck, tiedown loops and cross over end platform
- Separate grab irons installed at the factory
- 100-ton Barber S-2-c trucks, with metal wheels
- Rapido metal knuckle couplers



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RAPIDO

DEALER NAME:

**HO
SCALE**

CANADIAN 62' BULKHEAD FLAT CAR



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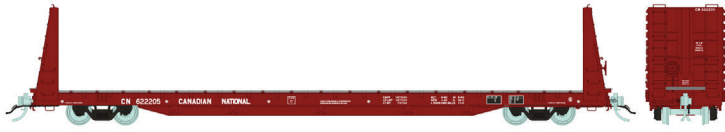
PRELIMINARY ARTWORK. SUBJECT TO CHANGES OR REVISIONS BEFORE PRODUCTION.

CP Rail (Action Red)

Item #	Road #	Item #	Road #
6-Pack #1	317000, 317054,	Single Car	Road Number
147001	317082, 317099,	147001A	Randomly Selected
	317105, 317168		

CP Rail (Action Red)

Item #	Road #	Item #	Road #
6-Pack #1	317410, 317422,	Single Car	Road Number
147002	317471, 317483,	147002A	Randomly Selected
	317502, 317508		



PRELIMINARY ARTWORK. SUBJECT TO CHANGES OR REVISIONS BEFORE PRODUCTION.



PRELIMINARY ARTWORK. SUBJECT TO CHANGES OR REVISIONS BEFORE PRODUCTION.

Canadian National (Mineral Brown)

Item #	Road #	Item #	Road #
6-Pack #1	620005, 620010,	Single Car	Road Number
147003	620025, 620036,	147003A	Randomly Selected
	620306, 620408		

CNIS (Mineral Brown)

Item #	Road #	Item #	Road #
6-Pack #1	621003, 621008,	Single Car	Road Number
147004	621012, 621024,	147004A	Randomly Selected
	621031, 621047		



PRELIMINARY ARTWORK. SUBJECT TO CHANGES OR REVISIONS BEFORE PRODUCTION.



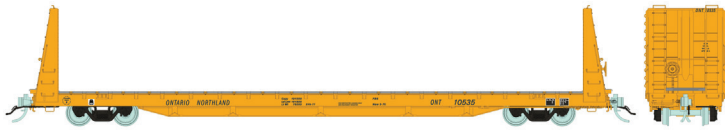
PRELIMINARY ARTWORK. SUBJECT TO CHANGES OR REVISIONS BEFORE PRODUCTION.

British Columbia (Dark Green)

Item #	Road #	Item #	Road #
6-Pack #1	866503, 866532,	Single Car	Road Number
147005	866568, 866678,	147005A	Randomly Selected
	866698, 866739		

BCIT (Dark Green / Int'l Scheme)

Item #	Road #	Item #	Road #
6-Pack #1	818000, 818006,	Single Car	Road Number
147006	818010, 818053,	147006A	Randomly Selected
	818112, 818119		



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Ontario Northland (Yellow Scheme)

Item #	Road #	Item #	Road #
6-Pack #1	10535, 10538,	Single Car	Road Number
147007	10539, 10540,	147007A	Randomly Selected
	10542, 10549		

BNSF Railway (Mineral Brown)

Item #	Road #	Item #	Road #
6-Pack #1	545701, 545702,	Single Car	Road Number
147008	545801, 545804,	147008A	Randomly Selected
	545822, 545725		



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BNSF Railway (ex BC Patch)

Item #	Road #	Item #	Road #
6-Pack #1	545719, 545723,	Single Car	Road Number
147009	545724, 545737,	147009A	Randomly Selected
	545743, 545786		

Iowa Chicago & Eastern (ex BC Patch)

Item #	Road #	Item #	Road #
6-Pack #1	66004, 66008,	Single Car	Road Number
147010	66009, 66010,	147010A	Randomly Selected
	66015, 66017		

Undecorated - Single Car

Item #	Style
147097	Marine Industries - Early Version
147098	Marine Industries - Late Version
147099	National Steel Car

Order Deadline
APRIL 15th, 2022

MSRP

Single	\$54.95	US
6-Pack	\$329.70	US
Single	\$64.95	CAD
6-Pack	\$389.70	CAD



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RAPIDO

DEALER NAME:

**HO
SCALE**

AUTOFLOOD III RAPID DISCHARGE HOPPER By Rapido

DEALER
NAME

Exclusive road names only available through



FEPX

First Energy Generation Corp



Item #
6-Pack #1 Single Car
169035 169035A
Road #
050001, 050023, 050057, 050088, 050121, 050174
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

LNTX

Alliant Energy



Item #
6-Pack #1 Single Car
169036 169036A
Road #
8003, 8011, 8019, 8026, 8034, 8042
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #2 Single Car
169037 169037A
Road #
8048, 8055, 8063, 8072, 8084, 8096
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

MBKX

Mitsui Rail Corp



Item #
6-Pack #1 Single Car
169038 169038A
Road #
3005, 3010, 3017, 3023, 3034, 3041
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #2 Single Car
169039 169039A
Road #
3056, 3068, 3077, 3083, 3099, 3106
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

XCLX

Xcel Energy



Item #
6-Pack #1 Single Car
169040 169040A
Road #
060002, 060014, 060028, 060031, 060046, 060059
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #2 Single Car
169041 169041A
Road #
060070, 060082, 060094, 060105, 060111, 060127
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

The AutoFlood III Coal Hopper features:

- Die-cast frame and floor for optimum car weight
- Full interior rivet and K-member details
- Super-detailed end cages including separate air and brake piping
- Barber S-2 100-ton Trucks with metal wheels
- Hopper bays feature highly-detailed outlet gates
- Etched, see-through end cross-over platforms
- Full end detail, including uncoupling levers
- Separate grab irons installed at the factory
- Accurate paint and lettering
- Removable coal load included
- Multiple road numbers available for each scheme
- Available in singles or multi-packs*
- Multi-packs boxed for individual sale



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RAPIDO



AUTOFLOOD III RAPID DISCHARGE HOPPER



**Order Deadline
APRIL 15th, 2022**

MSRP

6-Pack **\$233.70/\$281.70** US / CAD

Single Car **\$38.95/\$46.95** US / CAD

Matt Gentry Photo
Alliance, NE
July 4, 2017

Coal. Black Diamonds.

This important commodity is best transported across the country by rail. That's where the AutoFlood III rapid discharge hopper car enters the conversation.

Production began on these all-aluminum body railcars in 2004. What followed was thousands of orders for these rapid discharge hoppers, which have traversed almost all of North America. With millions of tons of coal per year being mined and hauled out of various locations across the continent, you would be hard pressed to not have seen one of these prototype cars in a modern day coal train.

This 4200 cubic foot, exterior post prototype (not to be confused with other types of prototype exterior-post or interior post models) is primarily used as a rapid discharge car, which can unload their cargo in a matter of seconds via the bottom bay doors. However, the car can also be equipped with a rotary coupler at the A end of the car (or on both ends on double-rotary cars), as indicated by the color blocks on the cars' ends, for either bottom discharge or rotary unloading based on the infrastructure at the final processing facility.

The AutoFlood III Coal Hopper features:

- Die-cast frame and floor for optimum car weight
- Full interior rivet and K-member details
- Super-detailed end cages including air and brake piping
- Barber S-2 100-ton Trucks with metal wheels
- Hopper bays feature highly-detailed outlet gates
- Separately applied end cross-over platforms
- Separately applied uncoupling levers
- Accurate paint and lettering
- Removable coal load included
- Multiple road numbers available for each scheme
- Available in singles or multi-packs*
- Multi-packs boxed for individual sale

*Dealers must order multi-packs.

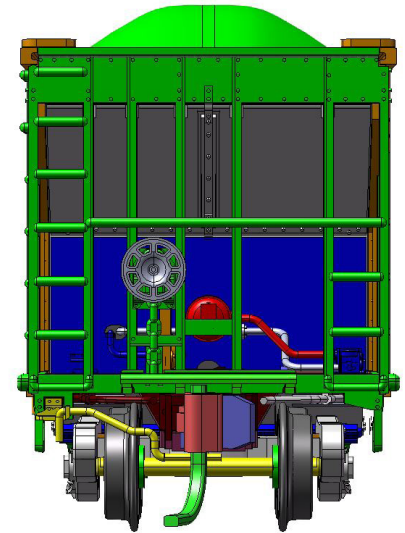
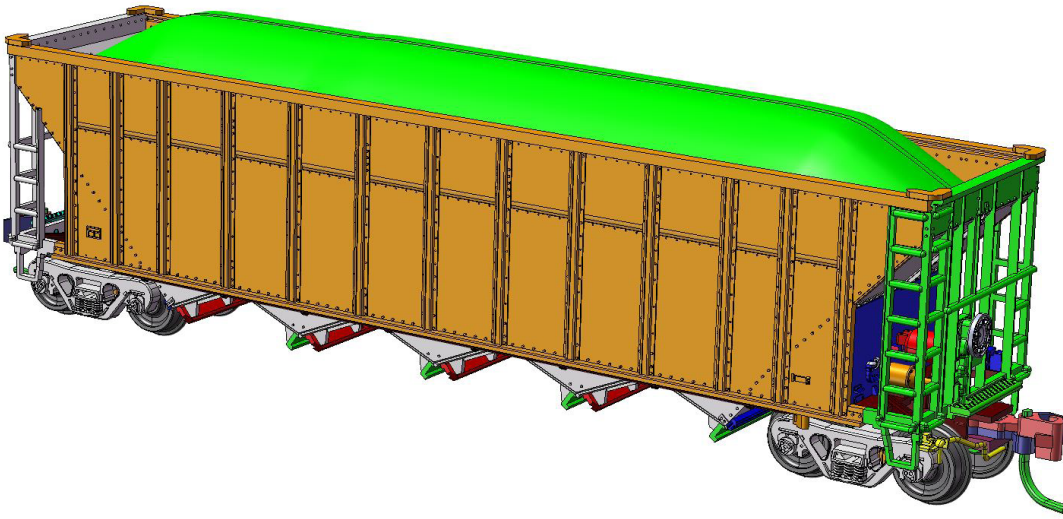


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AUTOFLOOD III RAPID DISCHARGE HOPPER



BNSF Railway - BNSF



Item #
6-Pack #1
538001 Single Car
538001A

Road #
652830, 652855, 652884, 652900, 652921, 652954
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #3
538003 Single Car
538003A

Road #
653077, 653109, 653135, 653166, 653212, 653247
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #2
538002 Single Car
538002A

Road #
652973, 653245, 653287, 653000, 653023, 653036
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #4
538004 No single cars
Order in multiples of 6 only
Unnumbered

CIT Group - CEFX



Item #
6-Pack #1
538006 Single Car
538006A

Road #
600428, 600441, 600482, 600498, 600516, 600527
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #3
538008 Single Car
538008A

Road #
600600, 600612, 600626, 600644, 600568, 600673
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #2
538007 Single Car
538007A

Road #
600530, 600547, 600555, 600568, 600580, 600593
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #4
538009 No single cars
Order in multiples of 6 only
Unnumbered

Double Rotary car



Single Car Road #
538005 699623

Indiana Railroad 2,000,000th Carload special



Single Car Road #
538010 600480

6-Pack **\$233.70/\$281.70** MSRP
Single Car **\$38.95/\$46.95** US / CAD

Order Deadline
APRIL 15TH, 2022



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RAPIDO



AUTOFLOOD III RAPID DISCHARGE HOPPER



Gulf Power Company - GLFX



Item #
6-Pack #1 Single Car
538011 538011A

Road #
8001, 8017, 8022, 8035, 8047, 8053
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #3 Single Car
538013 538013A

Road #
8099, 8103, 8109, 8116, 8121, 8125
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #2 Single Car
538012 169012A

Road #
8058, 8062, 8070, 8076, 8085, 8092
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #4 No single cars
538014 Order in multiples of 6 only
Unnumbered

GATX Corporation - GGPX



Item #
6-Pack #1 Single Car
538015 538015A

Road #
1752, 1734, 1746, 1767, 1779, 1783
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #3 Single Car
538017 538017A

Road #
1739, 1757, 1788, 1817, 1802, 1811
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #2 Single Car
538016 538016A

Road #
1795, 1801, 1814, 1820, 1808, 1776
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #4 No single cars
538018 Order in multiples of 6 only
Unnumbered

Western Resources, Inc. - KPLX



Item #
6-Pack #1 Single Car
538019 538019A

Road #
6115, 6101, 6123, 6134, 6148, 6152
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

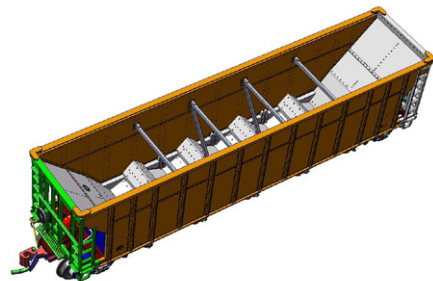
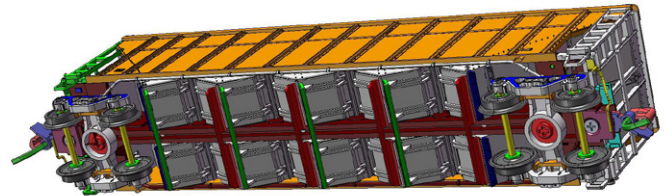
Item #
6-Pack #3 Single Car
538021 538021A

Road #
6222, 6109, 6113, 6128, 6137, 6142
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #2 Single Car
538020 538020A

Road #
6163, 6177, 6184, 6193, 6202, 6219
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #4 No single cars
538022 Order in multiples of 6 only
Unnumbered



Carolina Power & Light - PGNX



Item #
6-Pack #1 Single Car
538023 538023A

Road #
1100, 1111, 1119, 1125, 1132, 1144
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #3 Single Car
538025 538025A

Road #
1202, 1207, 1211, 1214, 1180, 1196
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #2 Single Car
538024 538024A

Road #
1153, 1162, 1169, 1174, 1185, 1191
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #4 No single cars
538026 Order in multiples of 6 only
Unnumbered

Union Pacific - CMO



Item #
6-Pack #1 Single Car
538027 538027A

Road #
504395, 504250, 504273, 504288, 504294, 504302
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #3 Single Car
538029 538029A

Road #
504366, 504374, 504386, 504402, 504409, 504259
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #2 Single Car
538028 538028A

Road #
504318, 504323, 504337, 504341, 504354, 504360
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #4 No single cars
538030 Order in multiples of 6 only
Unnumbered

6-Pack **\$233.70/\$281.70** MSRP
Single Car **\$38.95/\$46.95** US / CAD

Order Deadline
APRIL 15TH, 2022



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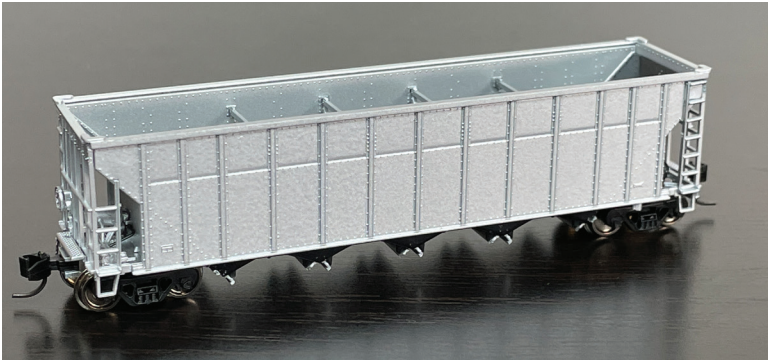


AUTOFLOOD III RAPID DISCHARGE HOPPER

By Rapido

DEALER
NAME

Exclusive road names only available through



FEPX

First Energy Generation Corp



Item #
6-Pack #1 Single Car
538033 538033A

Road #
050001, 050023, 050057, 050088, 050121, 050174
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

MBKX

Mitsui Rail Corp



Item #
6-Pack #1 Single Car
538036 538036A

Road #
3005, 3010, 3017, 3023, 3034, 3041
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #2 Single Car
538037 538037A

Road #
3056, 3068, 3077, 3083, 3099, 3106
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

LNTX

Alliant Energy



Item #
6-Pack #1 Single Car
538034 538034A

Road #
8003, 8011, 8019, 8026, 8034, 8042
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #2 Single Car
538035 538035A

Road #
8048, 8055, 8063, 8072, 8084, 8096
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

XCLX

Xcel Energy



Item #
6-Pack #1 Single Car
538038 538038A

Road #
060002, 060014, 060028, 060031, 060046, 060059
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

Item #
6-Pack #2 Single Car
538039 538039A

Road #
060070, 060082, 060094, 060105, 060111, 060127
(Single car randomly selected from these numbers)

The AutoFlood III Coal Hopper features:

- Die-cast frame and floor for optimum car weight
- Full interior rivet and K-member details
- Super-detailed end cages including air and brake piping
- Barber S-2 100-ton Trucks with metal wheels
- Hopper bays feature highly-detailed outlet gates
- Separately applied end cross-over platforms
- Separately applied uncoupling levers
- Accurate paint and lettering
- Removable coal load included
- Multiple road numbers available for each scheme
- Available in singles or multi-packs
- Multi-packs boxed for individual sale



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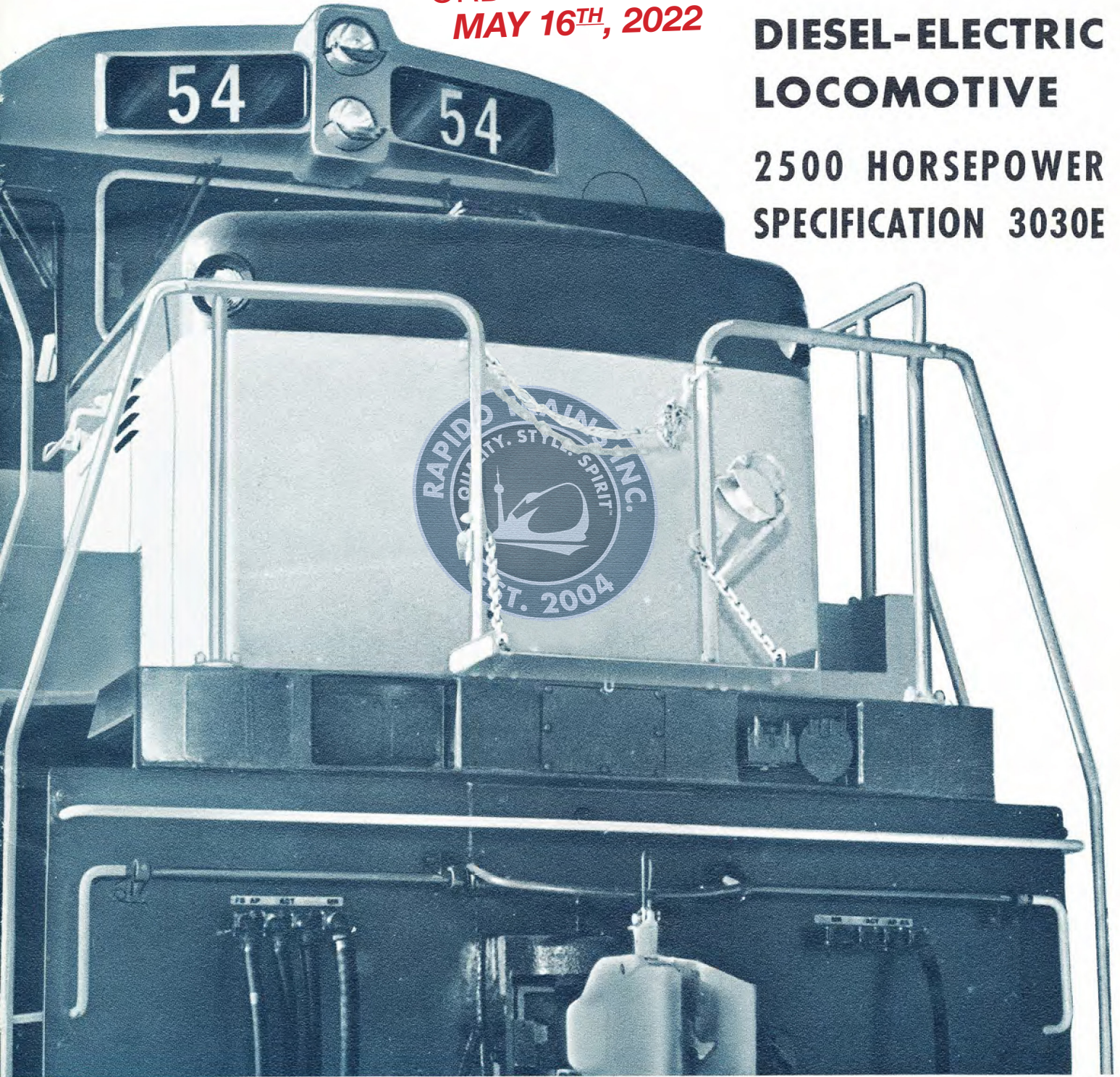
GENERAL ELECTRIC

U25B

ORDER DEADLINE
MAY 16TH, 2022

**DIESEL-ELECTRIC
LOCOMOTIVE**

**2500 HORSEPOWER
SPECIFICATION 3030E**



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GENERAL ELECTRIC U25B

DEALER NAME:

LOCOMOTIVE

HO
SCALE



Photo courtesy of Greg Sommers

ORDER DEADLINE **APRIL 14TH, 2022**

MSRP	No Sound	\$239.95	USD	MSRP	No Sound	\$269.95	CAD
	w/Sound	\$349.95	USD		w/Sound	\$379.95	CAD

General Electric had long been touted as a company that supplied parts for other manufacturers. That would all change with GE's entry into a road-switcher market dominated by EMD and Alco. In the late 1950s, GE's engineers were developing a new V16 engine. What followed was the creation of the U25B road switcher. Available in both high-nose and low-nose variants, GE would sell over 450 U25Bs to a variety of Class I railroads. The U25B would pave the way for future Universal series locomotives.

Many U25Bs lasted into the early 80s on some Class I railroads, others would find their way onto short lines such as TTI. A few made it to museums, such as SP 3100, which was the locomotive that Rapido 3D scanned (as well as spent considerable time backdating the details to reflect an un-rebuilt U25B).

The Rapido U25B locomotive will see features that have never been offered in in any current U25B on the market. From correctly positioned and working class lights (both front and rear), beacons, step lights (only on low nose variants), different phase details, and specific to the road details and parts, along with the trusted silky-smooth drive, this is one locomotive you won't want to miss out on!

The U25B Locomotive features:

- Phase I, II & III units represented in 1st run (Phase IV & other units will come with future runs)
- Single front window style for low nose units (Double front window in future runs)
- Both low- & high-short hood versions
- Early high- & later-low style side doors
- Road specific details for each model
- Working step lights on low-short hood models
- Different exhaust stacks (depending on roadname)
- Road-specific battery box doors on engineer's side
- Road specific air cleaner boxes on rear
- Working inspection lights on all units
- Lighted control stand inside cab
- Different types of fuel & air tanks (depending upon version)



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RAPIDO

GENERAL ELECTRIC U25B

DEALER NAME:

LOCOMOTIVE

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Great Northern (Simplified Scheme)

Road #	Item # (DC/Silent)	Item # (DC/DCC/Sound)
2500	35001 <input type="text"/>	35501 <input type="text"/>
2504	35002 <input type="text"/>	35502 <input type="text"/>
2505	35003 <input type="text"/>	35503 <input type="text"/>
2508	35004 <input type="text"/>	35504 <input type="text"/>



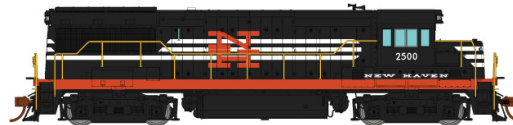
Santa Fe (Pinstripe Scheme)

Road #	Item # (DC/Silent)	Item # (DC/DCC/Sound)
1609	35005 <input type="text"/>	35505 <input type="text"/>
1610	35006 <input type="text"/>	35506 <input type="text"/>
1612	35007 <input type="text"/>	35507 <input type="text"/>
1613	35008 <input type="text"/>	35508 <input type="text"/>



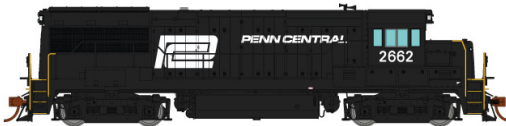
Erie Lackawanna (Gray/Maroon/Yellow - Late)

Road #	Item # (DC/Silent)	Item # (DC/DCC/Sound)
2501	35009 <input type="text"/>	35509 <input type="text"/>
2503	35010 <input type="text"/>	35510 <input type="text"/>
2506	35011 <input type="text"/>	35511 <input type="text"/>
2511	35012 <input type="text"/>	35512 <input type="text"/>



New Haven

Road #	Item # (DC/Silent)	Item # (DC/DCC/Sound)
2500	35013 <input type="text"/>	35513 <input type="text"/>
2504	35014 <input type="text"/>	35514 <input type="text"/>
2508	35015 <input type="text"/>	35515 <input type="text"/>
2509	35016 <input type="text"/>	35516 <input type="text"/>



Penn Central (With Logo)

Road #	Item # (DC/Silent)	Item # (DC/DCC/Sound)
2662	35017 <input type="text"/>	35517 <input type="text"/>
2667	35019 <input type="text"/>	35519 <input type="text"/>



Penn Central (Without Logo)

Road #	Item # (DC/Silent)	Item # (DC/DCC/Sound)
2664	35018 <input type="text"/>	35518 <input type="text"/>
2667	35019 <input type="text"/>	35519 <input type="text"/>



Union Pacific (High Nose)

Road #	Item # (DC/Silent)	Item # (DC/DCC/Sound)
625	35021 <input type="text"/>	35521 <input type="text"/>
626	35022 <input type="text"/>	35522 <input type="text"/>
627	35023 <input type="text"/>	35523 <input type="text"/>
628	35024 <input type="text"/>	35524 <input type="text"/>

ORDER DEADLINE

MAY 16TH, 2022

MSRP

No Sound **\$239.95** USD

w/Sound **\$349.95** USD

No Sound **\$269.95** CAD

w/Sound **\$379.95** CAD



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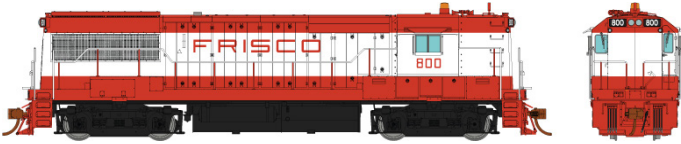
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GENERAL ELECTRIC U25B

DEALER NAME:

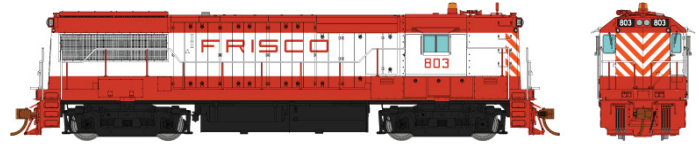
LOCOMOTIVE

**HO
SCALE**



St. Louis-San Francisco (Frisco)

Road #	Item # (DC/Silent)	Item # (DC/DCC/Sound)
800	35025 <input type="text"/>	35525 <input type="text"/>
802	35026 <input type="text"/>	35526 <input type="text"/>
804	35028 <input type="text"/>	35528 <input type="text"/>



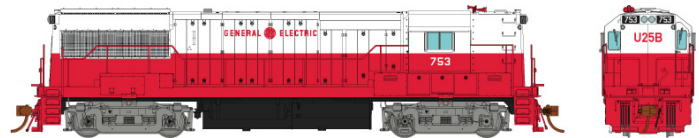
St. Louis-San Francisco (Frisco w/stripes)

Road #	Item # (DC/Silent)	Item # (DC/DCC/Sound)
803	35027 <input type="text"/>	35527 <input type="text"/>



GE Demonstrator (High Nose)

Road #	Item # (DC/Silent)	Item # (DC/DCC/Sound)
2502	35029 <input type="text"/>	35529 <input type="text"/>
2503	35030 <input type="text"/>	35530 <input type="text"/>
2504	35031 <input type="text"/>	35531 <input type="text"/>



GE Demonstrator (High Nose)

Road #	Item # (DC/Silent)	Item # (DC/DCC/Sound)
753	35032 <input type="text"/>	35532 <input type="text"/>

MSRP No Sound **\$239.95** USD No Sound **\$269.95** CAD
w/Sound **\$349.95** USD w/Sound **\$379.95** CAD



ORDER DEADLINE MAY 16TH, 2022



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NEW HAVEN "COUNTY" CARS



Rapido Trains Inc. is pleased to announce the newest release in our New Haven stainless steel series – the "County" cars. As with other cars in this series, these cars have been developed in association with The New Haven Railroad Historical and Technical Association (NHRHTA).

The New Haven railroad took delivery of a group of twenty stainless steel baggage-parlor-lounge cars in 1948. A part of the post-war passenger train modernization, these cars were named after counties served by the New Haven. That part was simple. Now the history of these cars gets more complicated!

The initial 1948 order was delivered in four different interior configurations, but all with baggage compartments, a drawing room, two roomette sleeping accommodations and a mix of parlor seat arrangements.

In 1952 the New Haven determined that they needed more drawing rooms so two of the cars were rebuilt with drawing rooms in place of the baggage section. This conversion was successful enough that four more cars (for a total of six) were also converted. However, these six additional cars included no fewer than three NEW interior configurations! Cars #210-219 somehow escaped the rebuilds and retained their baggage sections throughout their service life.

The "County" cars were some of the longest lasting New Haven stainless steel cars, some serving well into Amtrak.

Rapido's HO scale model covers these cars in both the original baggage variation and the later rebuilt cars. We offer both the original baggage and the later rebuilt bodies and full interior details for each style. Multiple interior parts allow modelers to customize the interior parlor seat arrangements to match specific cars.

Our model features:

- Accurately designed from original blueprints
- Both original and rebuilt body styles
- Correct tubular cross section
- Rapido's renowned stainless steel finish
- Partial skirting or no skirting as appropriate for each scheme
- Full and correct interior details with extra optional parts
- Track-powered constant lighting for DC and DCC
- Full underbody details
- Operating diaphragms with end gates
- Separate grab irons, factory-installed
- 41-NBO trucks with blackened metal wheels
- 22" minimum radius (18" radius with modification)
- Macdonald-Cartier metal magnetic knuckle couplers



New Haven - Green delivery with Baggage Door and Skirts

Item	Description
<input type="checkbox"/> 134000	Car #207 New London County 16 Lounge Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffet - Phone booth
<input type="checkbox"/> 134001	#201 Suffolk County 29 Lounge Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffet - Baggage
<input type="checkbox"/> 134002	#202 Bristol County 29 Lounge Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffet - Phone Booth - Baggage
<input type="checkbox"/> 134003	#210 Kent County 11 Lounge Seats - 14 Parlor Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffet - Baggage
<input type="checkbox"/> 134004	#214 Windham County 11 Lounge Seats - 14 Parlor Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffet - Baggage
<input type="checkbox"/> 134005	#215 Queens County 11 Lounge Seats - 14 Parlor Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffet - Baggage



New Haven - Green delivery No Baggage Door w/Skirts

Item	Description
<input type="checkbox"/> 134006	#205 Plymouth County 29 Lounge Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffet
<input type="checkbox"/> 134007	#206 Putnam County 16 Lounge Seats - 2 Roomettes - 4 Booths - 3 Drawing Rooms - Buffet - Phone Booth

MSRP- \$129.95 US

\$149.95 CAD

Order Deadline

MAY 16TH, 2022



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RAPIDO

Customer Name _____
Phone Number _____

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NEW HAVEN "COUNTY" CARS



New Haven – McGinnis with Baggage Door w/o Skirts

Item	Description
<input type="checkbox"/> 134015	#203 Dukes County 29 Lounge Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffet - Baggage
<input type="checkbox"/> 134016	#212 Ulster County 11 Lounge Seats - 14 Parlor Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffet - Baggage
<input type="checkbox"/> 134017	#217 Windham County 11 Lounge Seats - 14 Parlor Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffet - Baggage
<input type="checkbox"/> 134018	#219 Bronx County 11 Lounge Seats - 14 Parlor Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffet - Baggage



New Haven - McGinnis No Baggage Door w/o Skirts

Item	Description
<input type="checkbox"/> 134019	#207 New London County 16 Lounge Seats - 2 Roomettes - 4 Booths - 3 Drawing Rooms - Buffet - Phone Booth
<input type="checkbox"/> 134020	#209 Kings County 29 Lounge Seats - 2 Roomettes - 3 Drawing Rooms - Buffet - Phone Booth

MSRP- \$129.95 US
\$149.95 CAD
Order Deadline
MAY 16TH, 2022



Penn Central No Baggage Door w/o Skirts

Item	Description
<input type="checkbox"/> 134021	#7181 Kings County 29 Lounge Seats - 2 Roomettes - 3 Drawing Rooms - Buffet - Phone Booth



Penn Central with Baggage Door w/o Skirts

Item	Description
<input type="checkbox"/> 134022	#7180 Bronx County 11 Lounge Seats - 14 Parlor Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffet - Baggage
<input type="checkbox"/> 134023	#7186 Fairfield County 11 Lounge Seats - 14 Parlor Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffet - Baggage



Amtrak Baggage Door w/o Skirts

Item	Description
<input type="checkbox"/> 134024	#1700 Kent County 11 Lounge Seats - 14 Parlor Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffet - Baggage
<input type="checkbox"/> 134025	#1701 Washington County 11 Lounge Seats - 14 Parlor Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffet - Baggage
<input type="checkbox"/> 134026	#1703 Windham County 11 Lounge Seats - 14 Parlor Seats - 2 Roomettes - 1 Drawing Room - Buffet - Baggage



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USA: PO Box 796, Higganum, Connecticut, 06441, USA
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RAPIDO

Customer Name _____
Phone Number _____

Da: Rapido Trains UK <customerservice@rapidotrains.co.uk>
Inviato: venerdì 1 aprile 2022 13:14
A: news_in@modellismoferroviario.it
Oggetto: April Fool! Or is it?



Rapido UK Newsletter No. 15
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([Click here to view as webpage](#))

Dear Rapido Customer,



APRIL FOO...!

Oh, botheration, it's after 12pm.

ANDY: That was silly of you. Looks like we're actually going to have to make these then.

RICHARD: And let people buy them? I guess you're right.



This is SKU924505, APT-E in InterCity grey. This four-car set is limited to 250 pieces.

APT-E: what might have been

Yes, your eyes are not deceiving you: we have produced [our APT-E](#) in two 'what might have been' liveries.

This project all started when Josh Anderchek, one of Rapido Inc's graphic designers, decided to apply original HST blue/grey livery to the APT-E for a laugh. This spoof artwork looked good. In fact, it looked so good that we decided to make it a reality. And while we were at it, we decided to make an InterCity grey one too.

The 'what might have been' livery range comprises:

SKU924503: APT-E four-car set, BR blue/grey, SOUND-fitted. RRP: £479.95
SKU924505: APT-E four-car set, InterCity grey, SOUND-fitted. RRP: £479.95
SKU924004: APT-E single trailer car, BR blue/grey. RRP: £119.95
SKU924006: APT-E single trailer car, InterCity grey. RRP: £119.95

These sets are limited to 200 pieces and only available with sound. Trailer Cars are limited to just 90 pieces each.

They're all available to order NOW but only on a first-come-first-served basis. If you want one, you'd better get your order in quick. You [can buy from us](#) or from [your local Rapido retailer](#) but only while stocks last.



Here's a rear 3/4 view of the BR blue/grey APT-E. This livery was designed to fit the HST but, with some careful jiggery-pokery from Bill Schneider, it matches the lines of the APT-E well.



Don't you think that InterCity grey also suits the APT-E's shape? This is our favourite.



We've also made a limited number of complementary Trailer Cars too. Here is the InterCity grey one...



...and here is the BR blue/grey one. They both look really smart, don't they? All limited edition and highly collectable. You can [order direct from our website](#) or from [your local Rapido stockist](#).

That's it: go back to enjoying your Friday!

Richard

Richard Foster
Sales & Marketing Manager

You can write to us at Rapido Trains UK, Unit 3, Clinton Business Centre, Lodge Road, Staplehurst, Kent TN12 0QF. Alternatively, you can call us on 03304 609496 or you can e-mail us at customerservice@rapidotrains.co.uk

Check out our YouTube channel, Facebook page, Instagram and Twitter!



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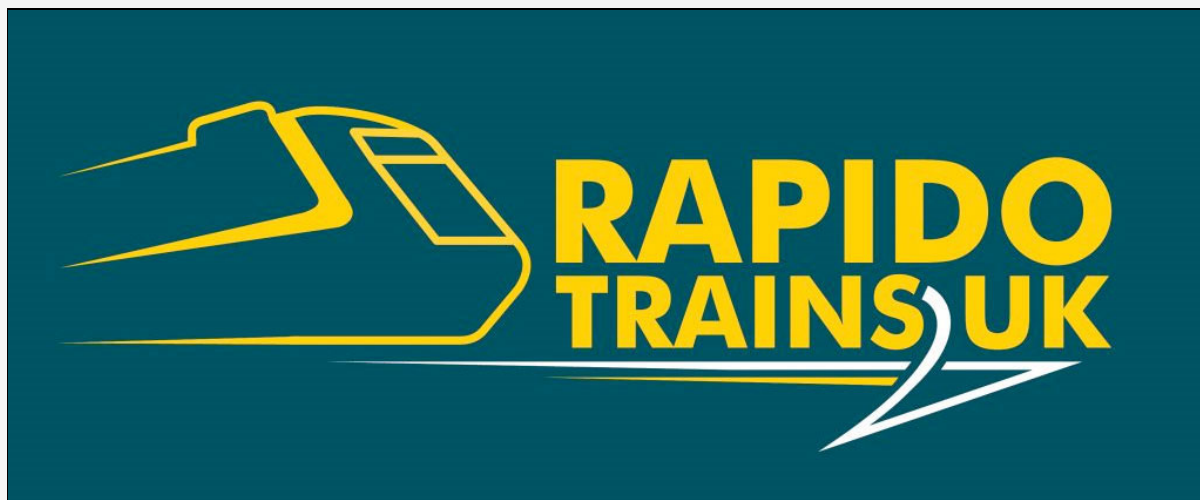
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Da: Rapido Trains UK <customerservice@rapidotrains.co.uk>
Inviato: venerdì 15 aprile 2022 13:11
A: news_in@modellismoferroviario.it
Oggetto: It's another Rapido newsletter - with TWO new tooling announcements



Rapido UK Newsletter No. 16
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Dear Rapido Customer,

We started the last newsletter with a food reference and, as it's Easter, it seems appropriate to do the same again.

You know when you get so many Easter eggs that you don't know which one to start with? Do you crack open the Wispa? Or start on the Kit Kat? (Feel free to replace with your favourite!)

Essentially, it's overwhelming when faced with so much chocolatey goodness.

This newsletter was a bit like that for us. We have so many tasty treats to share with you that we didn't know what to start with. There's so much that it seems almost disrespectful to some of the stuff further down the newsletter.

ANDY: Well, you've certainly not over hyped that! Are you sure you can deliver?

RICHARD: I reckon so. Here's what's in store this issue:

- **New tooling announcement 1**
- **New tooling announcement 2**
- **First Look at Lion**
- **Class 28 and 'Conflat P' order deadline reminder - and video!**
- **VIX ferry van order deadline reminder**

- **Dynamometer Car video**
- **Iron Mink update**
- **Product update**

Plus:

- **Great Model Railway Survey - the results!**

Right, let's rip off the foil and get munching!

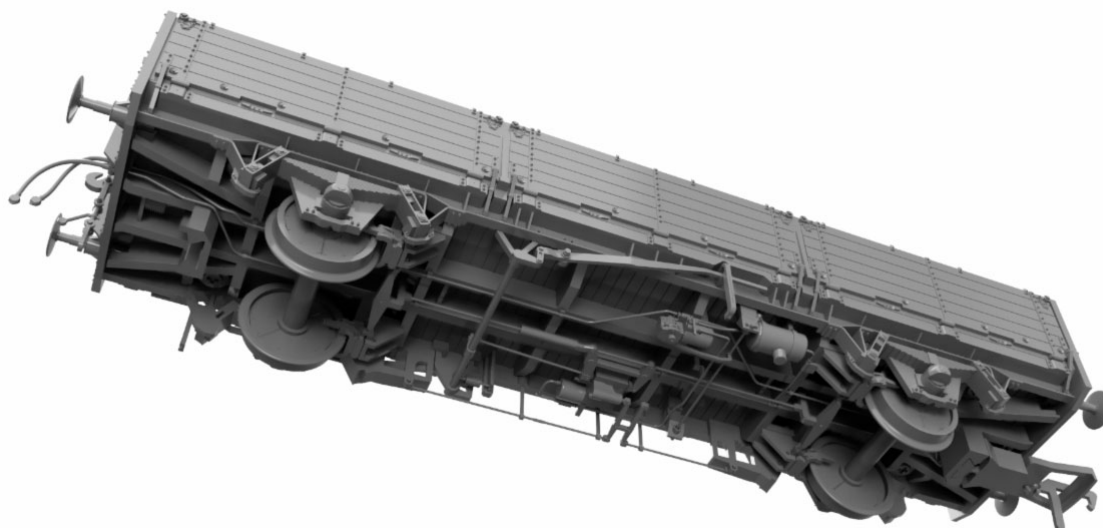


Here is a 3D render, taken from the CAD file of our new 'OO' gauge OAA wagon.

New tooling announcement: OAA wagon

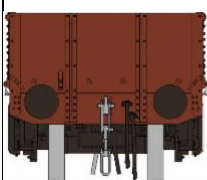
Hot on the heels of our VIX ferry van is another classic wagon of the early 'air brake' era on BR: the 45t Open AB wagon, better known as the OAA.

BR undertook much research to produce a new wagon underframe suitable for the 1970s railway and OAA was the first design to appear with it. Ashford Works built the 100 OAAs (Nos. 100000-100099) in 1971. The new 20ft 9in wheelbase underframe, with air brakes and upgraded running gear, would go on to be used on the likes of the VBA and VDA vans.

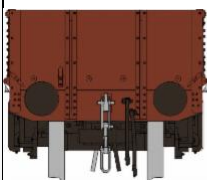


The OAA has all the hallmarks of a Rapido product, including a highly detailed underframe. The model was designed using original drawings as well as help from Peter Harvey from [PH Designs Etchings](#).

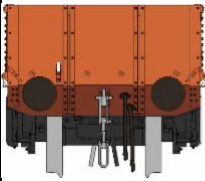
Our new OAA has the body and underframe detail you'd expect from a Rapido model. But we're particularly excited about the liveries that we're planning. We're producing 17 versions and we've gone to great lengths to replicate the myriad changes to the positions of letters, logos and numbers that you can see on these wagons. But we're also planning to replicate where wagons have received repairs and quick repaints, which, in some cases, was nearly the entire wagon.



This is No 100026, in BR bauxite with 'Corpach' pool lettering and a simple 'patched' finish (SKU915007).



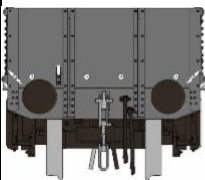
OAA No. 100040 looks to have received more temporary paint than BR bauxite!(SKU915008)



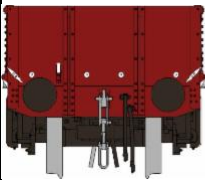
This Railfreight red/grey version (No. 100072) has received a complete new door (SKU915015).

Here's what we're planning to make:

- **915001:** No. 100093, BR bauxite, yellow 'ABN' spot
- **915002:** No. 100018, BR bauxite, yellow 'ABN' spot
- **915003:** No. 100054, BR bauxite, yellow 'ABN' spot
- **915004:** No. 100066, BR bauxite, yellow 'ABN' spot
- **915005:** No. 100016, BR bauxite
- **915006:** No. 100029, BR bauxite, Corpach pool lettering
- **915007:** No. 100026, BR bauxite, Corpach pool, patched finish
- **915008:** No. 100040, 'repaired' finish
- **915009:** No. 100020, Railfreight red/grey (three red plank)
- **915010:** No. 100004, Railfreight red/grey (three red plank)
- **915011:** No. 100081, Railfreight red/grey (three red plank)
- **915012:** No. 100088, Railfreight red/grey, (three red plank) patch finish
- **915013:** No. 100095, Railfreight red/grey (two red plank)
- **915014:** No. 100021, Railfreight red/grey (two red plank)
- **915015:** No. 100072, Railfreight red/grey, (two red plank) patch finish
- **915016:** No. DC1000065, Civil Link grey and yellow
- **915017:** No. 100088, EWS maroon



One of the most eye-catching liveries carried by the OAAs was Civil Link grey and yellow as seen on DC100065 (SKU915016). If you are aware of any other liveries - and if you have pictures - please don't hesitate to [drop us a line](#).

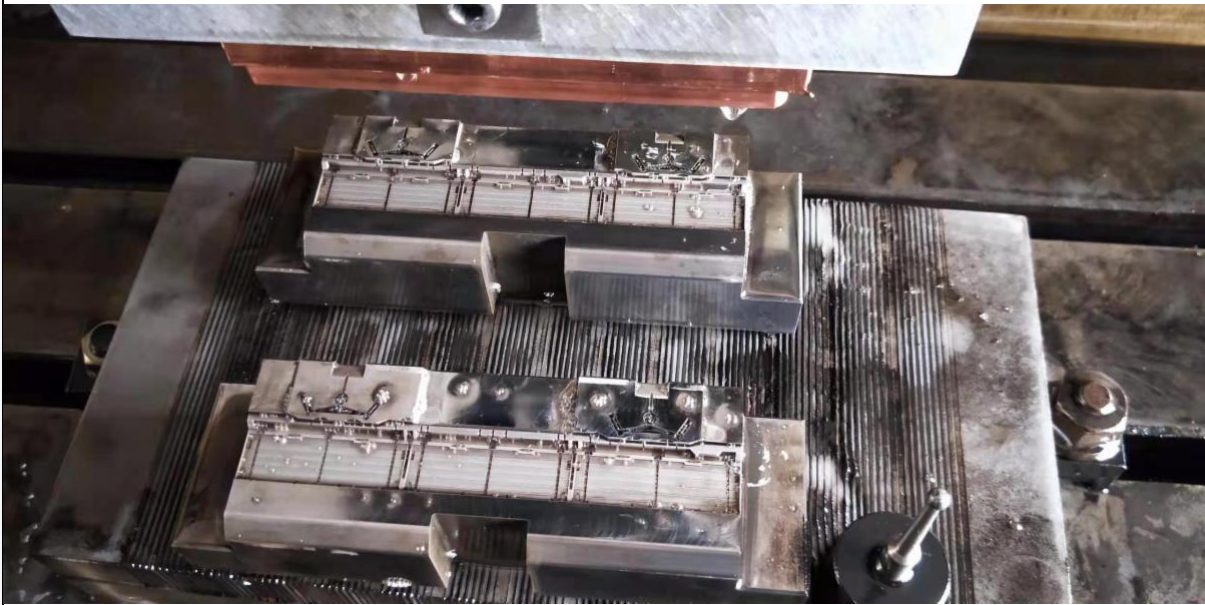


Is there anything that EWS maroon and gold livery didn't suit? No. 100088 (SKU915017) is one of the few EWS OAAs that didn't receive mesh doors. All artworks are for illustrative purposes only.

RRP is £39.95 and the OAA is available to order now [direct from ourselves](#) or from [your nearest Rapido stockist](#). The order book closes on July 1st 2022.

ANDY: You know what we're going to get asked now: what about the Redland versions? Or the ones EWS re-built with mesh doors? Are we going to make those too?

RICHARD: The short answer is 'yes', but one day – and only if the orders for the first batch are strong enough to warrant making a second run. So the message is clear: if you want these other variants, you've got to stump up some cash to [buy these ones first!](#)



The OAAs are in tooling as we speak (here is the body mould under construction). It shouldn't be too long before we can show you an EP sample.



Here's a 3D render taken from the CAD file of the brake vans built new with two verandas.

New tooling announcement: SECR brake van

Did you spot the beautifully subtle Easter egg that Andy left in the video about the SECR vans and ballast wagons?

We couldn't leave something like that dangling for too long so here is the official announcement: we are producing [the South Eastern & Chatham Railway six-wheel brake van](#) in 'OO' gauge!



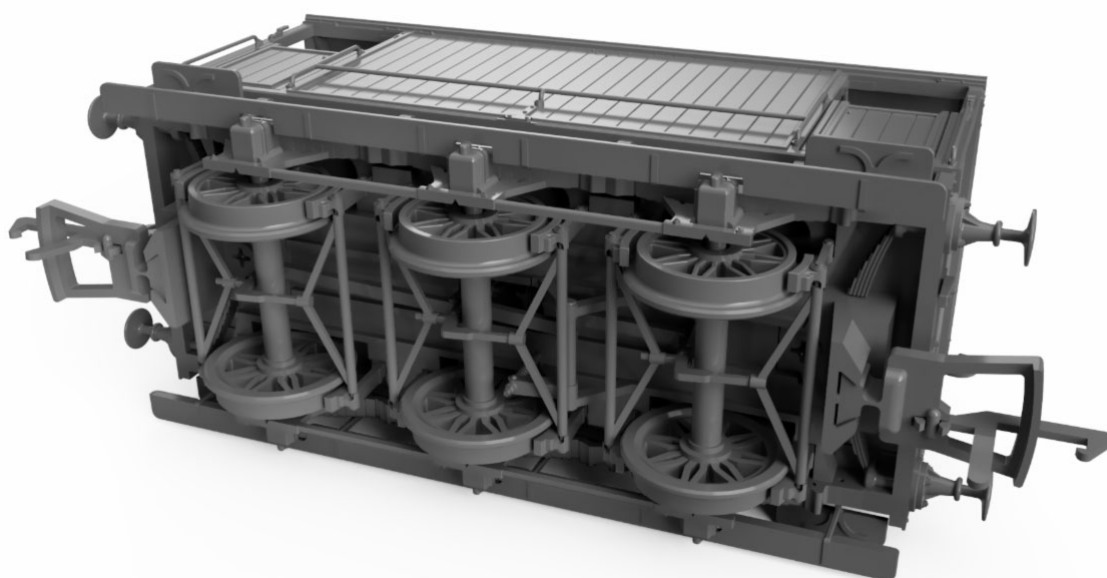
Did you spot this little Easter egg in our video for the SECR vans and two-plank ballast wagons? [Click here](#) to watch the video!



*Here's a 3D render taken from CAD of the dual-veranda vans rebuilt from 1910 onwards.
We've tooled original and rebuilt versions!*

Single-veranda brake vans were originally ordered by the South Eastern Railway in 1898 and heavily influenced by Midland Railway practice. The SECR built a further 40 between 1900 and 1909.

We're producing the dual-veranda design that was introduced in 1910. The SECR built 50 new vans to this design and 25 of the older vans received a second veranda. [We've tooled two bodies](#) to cover detail variations between them.



As with previous Rapido SECR models, these brake vans have been designed in the UK and feature a detailed underframe, split-spoked wheels in brass bearings and NEM pockets.

We're producing [ten versions](#):

- **931001:** No. 2033, SECR grey with black underframe
- **931002:** No. 2036, SECR grey
- **931003:** No. 55382, SR brown with red ends (large lettering)
- **931004:** No. 55389, SR brown with red ends (large lettering)
- **931005:** No. 55384, SR brown with red ends (small lettering)
- **931006:** No. 55366, SR brown with red ends (small lettering)
- **931007:** No. S55429, SR brown with red ends (BR lettering)
- **931008:** No. S55434, BR grey
- **931009:** No. S55371, BR grey
- **931010:** No. 80383, Engineer's black

RRP is £39.95. These models are now in tooling and you can [order direct](#) from ourselves or from [your local Rapido stockist](#).



BR inherited 86 dual-veranda vans and didn't withdraw the last until 1960. This is the only survivor. No. 2010 was built in 1898 as a single-ended van and was later rebuilt with two verandas. BR sold it to the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough and it was saved from there in 1965. It is preserved at the [Kent & East Sussex Railway](#).

Photograph: Mike King



We'll leave you with this look of the brake van's interior detail. Yes, we tool stuff you will never see. They're [available to order now!](#)



Rails of Sheffield has commissioned the single-veranda version of the SECR six-wheel brake van. You can find out more [about it here](#).

Single-veranda exclusive from Rails

We're delighted to announce that [Rails of Sheffield](#) has commissioned an exclusive version of our new six-wheel brake van - but as the single-veranda version!

The single-veranda version features an all-new body on the same chassis as our dual-veranda version. Full disclaimer: it will have the later oil axleboxes rather than the grease versions of the prototype.

JASON: I'll tell you what. If Rails gets orders for 4179 models or more, we'll tool the original greased axle boxes.

RICHARD: So we'll be sticking with the oil axleboxes, then.

Rails has commissioned three versions:

- **SKU931011:** No. 2005, South Eastern Railway red livery
- **SKU931012:** No. 2025, SECR grey with black underframe metalwork
- **SKU931013:** No. 12067, SECR grey with black underframe metalwork

RRP is £39.95 and you can [order them now](#).



Say 'hello' to the first EP of Lion. It's not often that we're left speechless here at Rapido Trains but this is one of those rare occasions!

The *Lion* has landed!

Look at this: it's the first Engineering Prototype of [our *Lion*](#).

What can we say other than 'wow'?

We'll keep the words brief so you can enjoy the photographs of this fabulous model.



We're now giving the sample a thorough going-over but, at first glance, there's very little to criticise - aside from some wobbly wire parts.

Remember that there are two versions to order, with period specific detail combinations:

- **913001:** 1930 condition
- **913002:** 1980 condition

RRP is £179.95 and they're available to order now [direct from ourselves](#) or from your [local Rapido stockists](#). Sound-fitted versions are available to order too, priced £279.95.



Lion looks great from every angle. Plus, unlike some 'OO' gauge Liverpool & Manchester locomotives from other manufacturers, Lion can haul a huge train of 20-odd wagons. We'll share a video in due course but Andy ran out of wagons before Lion ran out of pulling power.

There's a third variant and that's 1950s condition. This, of course, is only available to order in our [The Titfield Thunderbolt™ pack](#), as *Thunderbolt*. Again, you can order [direct from ourselves](#) or from your [local Rapido stockist](#).

STUDIOCANAL has also told us that our range of The Titfield Thunderbolt™ models will be the only such products coming to market, as per our agreement with STUDIOCANAL.



We've gone to town on the footplate detail... as far as Lion's minimal fittings allow!



It shouldn't be too long before we can show you a complete The Titfield Thunderbolt™ train. In the meantime, we'll leave you with this image. If this doesn't convince you to [place an order](#), nothing will...



Did you see the Easter-themed Easter egg that we posted on our social media channels last week? We really ought to re-name ourselves Subtle Trains UK...



RAPIDO TRAINS UK NEWS



STUDIO



RAPIDO HQ



Dan and Andy do their best to convince you to place an order for the Class 28. If their acting doesn't do it, the simply prodigious haulage capacity of the '28' should, which you can see by [clicking here](#) or on the above image.

Order deadline 1 - Class 28 and 'Conflat P'

Did you know that there are only 15 days left... until the order book closes on our first 'N' gauge models, the [Class 28 Co-Bo](#) and [the 'Conflat P'](#)?

To mark this occasion, Warranty Engineer Dan Hull has made his first Rapido Trains UK acting debut. He's also written and directed [this cinematic gem](#), which not only shows off the MetroVick's running qualities and its strength but also how good the sound file is.

[Click here](#), sit back and enjoy!

And, once you've enjoyed, go on and place an order for a [Class 28](#) (or two or six) and [several 'Conflats'](#) (remember that 'Condor' was originally booked to run with 27 'Conflats'). You can order direct from ourselves or your [local Rapido stockist](#).



If Dan's acting doesn't convince you that you should buy a Class 28 and a 'Conflat' his photography should. We could not let the order deadline reminder go without another look at this superb photograph he took on his layout.



May 1st is the order deadline for our fabulous 'OO' gauge VIX ferry van. Ordering before the deadline is the only way to guarantee the model or models you want. You can order [direct from ourselves](#) or from your local Rapido stockist.

Order deadline 2: VIX ferry van

With everything else that's going on, it's easy to forget that May 1st is also the order deadline for the [VIX ferry van](#).

We are absolutely thrilled with how good this model looks and the level of underframe detail is to the standards set by our colleagues in North America. We've gone to great lengths to design original and later end stanchions and, heck, even the doors open.



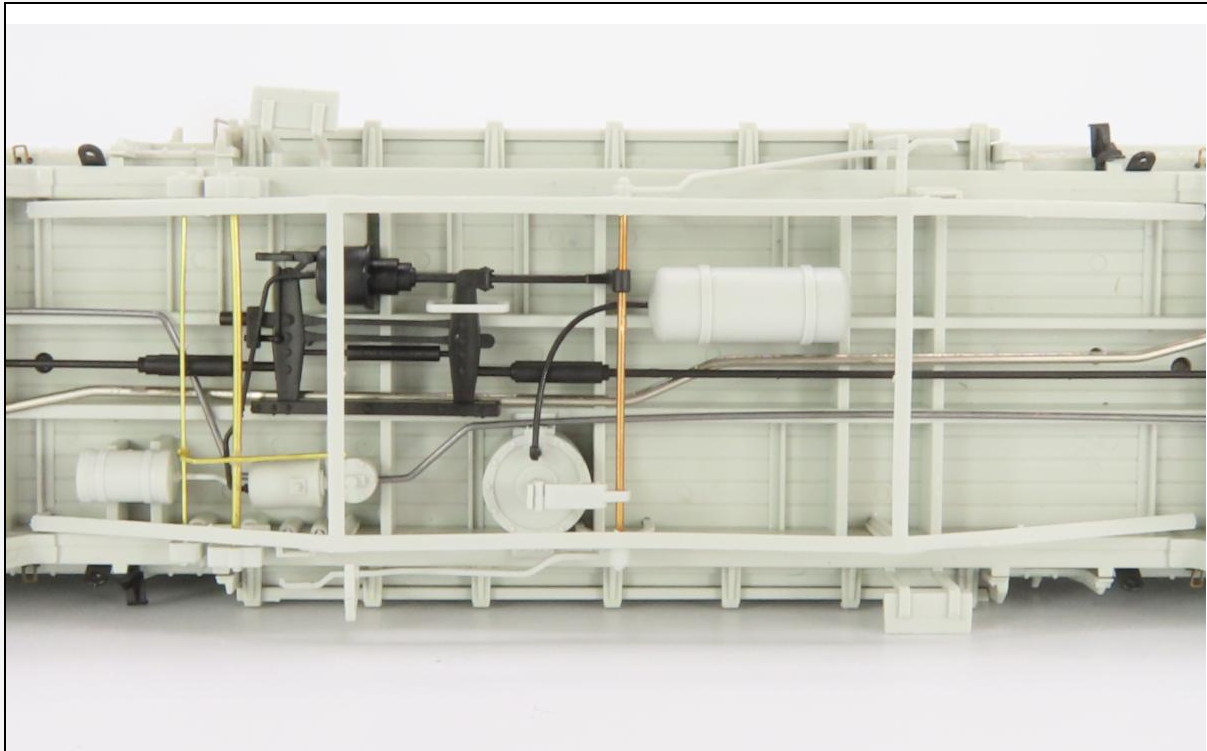
Crisp body detail, a wealth of separately fitted underframe parts, different detail combinations and opening doors - what else does the modeller require from a modern image 'OO' gauge wagon?

So we're a bit disappointed that we haven't had more orders for what promises to be a fabulous model. And you know what happens when orders fall a little short?



That's right. We have to resort to getting animals to sell our products for us.

But seriously, it is getting to the point where we're beginning to wonder whether we should do any more 'modern image' wagons. Our initial orders for pre-Grouping wagons are far above those of our modern image wagons. So if you like what we're doing, make your voice heard by [clicking here](#) (or visiting your local Rapido stockist) and placing an order. Or several! And then no more animals need to be shamelessly exploited to sell model trains.



If a cute dog and cat don't move you to order one of our VIX vans, surely a look at all this fabulous underframe detail will? Look at it: isn't it wonderful? Then all you need to do is [click on this link...](#)

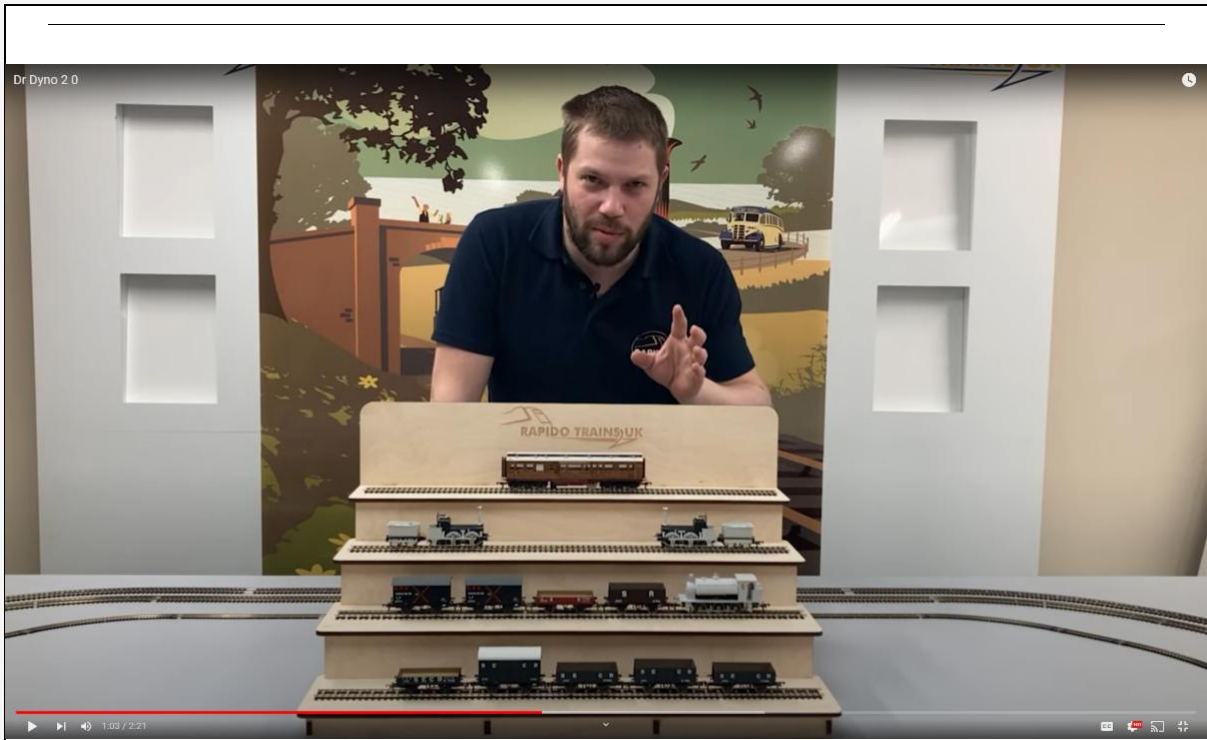
We've been asked a few times where the VIX vans ran in the UK. Well, they were photographed everywhere from Millerhill, Warrington, York and Doncaster in the north, to Wales, Kent, Hampshire and even St Blazey in deepest Cornwall.

But have you ever wondered how far these vans roamed around Europe?



Well, in case you were wondering, this one was photographed at Sakskøbing in Denmark on November 9th 1980 (just seven days after Richard was born!)

JASON: *No, we're not making one in HO scale. In case anyone is wondering...
Photograph: Per Topp Nielsen*



[Click here](#) or on the above image to watch our Dynamometer Car video.

Dynamometer Car 2.0 video

The announcement of a second run of [LNER Dynamometer Cars](#) has gone down a storm if the flood of orders is anything to go by. We couldn't resist helping things along a little bit by using that favourite Rapido tactic of...

ANDY: Shamelessly exploiting cute animals?

RICHARD: No! I was going to say "making a short video".

Without further ado, here's our Dynamometer Car 2.0 video - [click here](#) to watch!



We've decided to make the Dynamometer Car 2.0 moniker popularised on some model railway forums an official title. You can order [your 2.0 here](#) or from your [local Rapido stockist](#). This is a photo from the first run in 2018. Some details have changed. For the better, of course...



The GWR's famous 'Iron Minks' inspired similar designs from a multitude of other builders but our 'OO' gauge model is based on the GWR's Diagram V6 version.

'Iron Mink' clarification

I realise I made a bit of a faux pas in the announcement of our ['OO' gauge 'Iron Minks'](#) last newsletter. I referred to Brecon & Merthyr, Rhymney and Cambrian metal bodied vans and then we received no end of e-mails from customers saying that they could see the Cambrian Railways liveried version but not others.

ANDY: You know, for a supposed journalist, you made a proper pig's ear of that, didn't you?

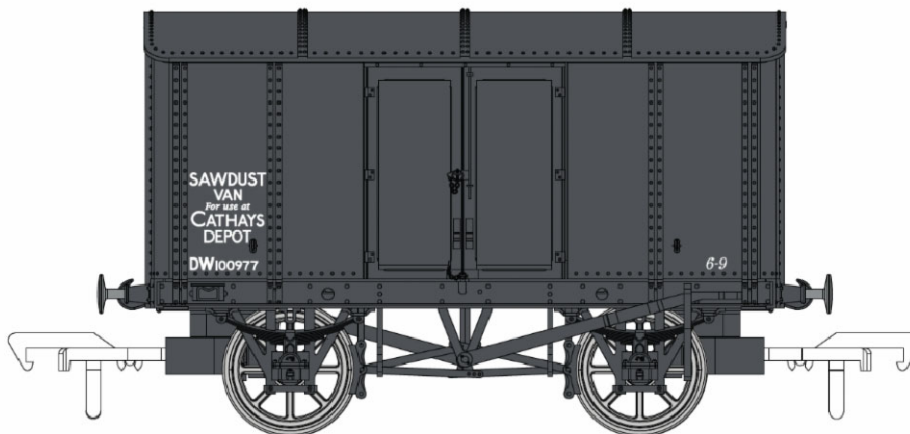
RICHARD: I know, I know!

What I meant to say - but expressed with all the flare and finesse of the Norwich City back four trying to defend a simple set-piece - was this:

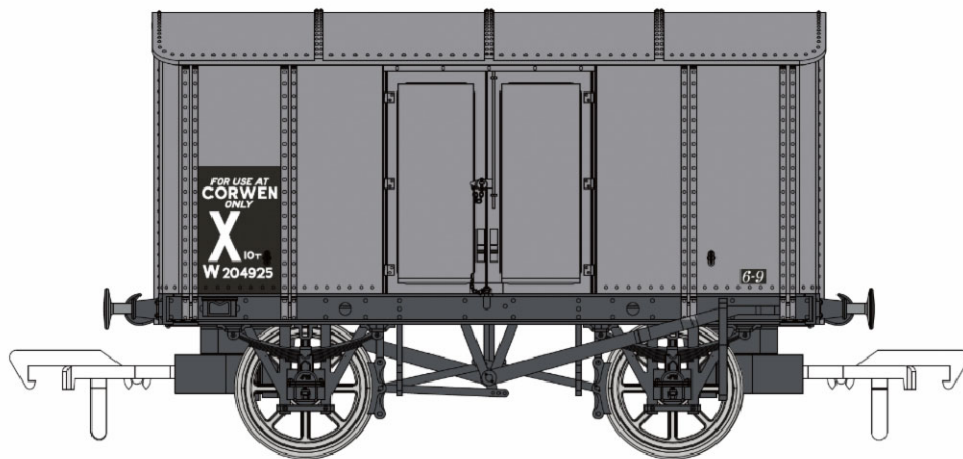
We're actually producing BR liveries on our GWR 'V6' model that, in reality, were actually applied to pre-Grouping designs. We're not actually doing B&M and RR liveries.

ANDY: I think that's cleared that up.

RICHARD: Here are a few more 'Iron Mink' facts:



This is [SKU908018](#), ex-Rhymney Railway No. 1132, finished as Cardiff Cathay's sawdust van No. DW100977. The Rhymney ordered 50 vans from Cravens of Sheffield in 1912 and they were slightly longer and taller than the GWR vans. They became part of the GWR fleet and were re-numbered in the 100954-100999 series. This was the last survivor and condemned in 1961.



The history of the Brecon & Merthyr Railway's 'Iron Minks' is not clear. The book, All About GWR Iron Minks by [the HMRS](#), states that it ordered two batches of vans (slightly longer and lower than the GWR's) from Metropolitan C&W in 1895 and W.R. Renshaw in 1903. No. W204925 (SKU908019) was the last survivor and is believed to be B&M No. 611. Built in 1895, it was withdrawn circa 1955.



We could not leave this subject without a look at the beautiful red Cambrian Railways gunpowder van (918021). The GWR inherited iron vans from six Welsh railways but the Cambrian's pair were the only ones built as GPVs. Nos. 139 and 252 became general merchandise vans but, as GWR Nos. 101633 and 101634, were returned to GPV duty in 1940. They were withdrawn in 1957.

ANDY: I hope that's cleared things up. Don't forget that the order deadline for the whole 'Iron Mink' range is June 1st. So, [get your orders in quick](#) to avoid disappointment.

RICHARD: It's also worth pointing out that the order book for the Diagram O21 four-plank open closes on the same day. As with all our products, you can [order the four-plank from us direct](#) or from your [nearest Rapido stockist](#).

ANDY: How many times have you said 'from your nearest Rapido stockist' this newsletter?

RICHARD: It's what comes of having so much stuff to sell!



Production update

Welcome to the part of the newsletter where we look at what's going on with the rest of the range. It's a bit of a quiet one this month but there'll be plenty more to share with you next time.

Here goes:

[UK903 Hunslet 0-6-0ST:](#) In production!

[UK904 WR '15XX' 0-6-0PT:](#) Good news! The first samples are expected to ship in the first week of May so more on this next time.

[UK914 HR 'Big Goods' 4-6-0:](#) I'm just waiting for five minutes to finish the final corrections for the factory and then we'll be able to start tooling. It shouldn't be long before this popular project makes some real progress!

[UK917 GWR 'Loriot Y' wagon:](#) The moulds for this and [the GWR 'Toad' brake van](#) are finished and the factory started to assemble the first samples on Wednesday. Expect to see more next issue.

[UK919 Wisbech & Upwell tramcar](#): More good news! Designer Linny has finished the initial design so we'll bring you more on this exciting project next time.

[UK920 1:76 scale Bedford OB](#): Tooling has started and we're just putting the finishing touches to the list of OBs that will form the first run. More on this next time.

[UK935 LNER Dynamometer Car](#): In production!

[UK936 LBSCR 'E1' 0-6-0T](#): The poor old 'E1' has taken a bit of backseat in recent weeks but we've had the first set of drawings back from China and I fully intend to get this project moving again in the next couple of weeks.



The Great Rapido Model Railway Survey

Please help us deliver the models that YOU want by completing our survey. All questions are multiple choice and your answers will help us continue to develop the very best models.

84 Questions

START →

Bet you thought we'd forgotten about this, right? Not likely!

The Great Model Railway Survey

There's no 'Thought of the Month' this time because, having closed our Great Model Railway Survey, we thought we'd share some of the interesting stats it revealed, not to mention announce the winners of the prize draw.

We'd like to thank everyone who took the time to complete the Survey. We know that the web platform struggled a bit with the demand at times and we thank you for your patience and understanding.

Everyone who completed the Survey was entered into a prize draw to win money off any purchase direct from Rapido Trains UK and I'm delighted to announce the winners:



The Rapido Trains UK Great Model Railway Survey

Winner: Ian Walker

Jason Stron, President & CEO

Andy Hardy, Operations Manager

Richard Foster, Sales & Marketing Manager



The Rapido Trains UK Great Model Railway Survey

Second prize winner:

Christopher Strange

Jason Stron, President & CEO

Andy Hardy, Operations Manager

Richard Foster, Sales & Marketing Manager



The Rapido Trains UK Great Model Railway Survey

Third prize winner:

Toby Fenwick

Jason Stron, President & CEO

Andy Hardy, Operations Manager

Richard Foster, Sales & Marketing Manager

All three winners have been notified and are now deciding what to spend their winnings on.

ANDY: How about a couple [of VIX vans](#)? Or, better still...

RICHARD: Don't say it!

ANDY: ...one or two [BCT 'New Look' Guys?](#)

RICHARD: Honestly, you can't take him anywhere!

Anyway, the Survey has been very helpful in shaping how we take Rapido Trains UK forward. It has yielded lots of valuable data and some very surprising statistics in some cases whilst confirming what we believed in others.

Here are FOUR TOP FACTS from the survey that we thought we'd share with you:

- 52% of respondents use analogue control whilst 46% use DCC. Yes, 2% did say that they use other forms of control.

JASON: Wind? Breath? Jedi mind trick? We're not sure.

- 60% of respondents put slow speed running as a '5 star' (maximum) requirement.
- 75% of respondents model in 'OO' gauge compared to 14% who model in 'N'. 'EM' and 'P4' accounted for only 4% combined.
- Overwhelmingly modellers want to see more mundane locos, carriages and wagons produced rather than one off oddballs!

JASON: Like VIX ferry vans! Lots and lots of VIXs.

And finally...

For all our customers on the other side of the 'Pond', don't forget that the ['Great British Train Show'](#) is to take place on April 30th/May 1st. It's North America's premier British-outline model railway exhibition and is, naturally, being sponsored by [Rapido Trains Inc.](#)

If you want to see some of our pre-production samples in the flesh, get yourself along to the Jim Archdekin Recreation Centre, Brampton, Ontario over the weekend. You'll also get the chance to chinwag with the Rapido Inc team too.

[Click here](#) to find out more about this show as well as its organisers, [The Platelayer's Society](#).

Well, that's it for another newsletter.

Happy Easter everyone. I'm now off to munch on hot-cross buns...

JASON: And Happy Passover. I'm off to eat cardboard.

RICHARD: I heard that *matzo* is very tasty.

JASON: Right. You can eat it for eight days.

RICHARD: I think I'll end this newsletter now.

Best wishes,

Richard

Richard Foster
Sales & Marketing Manager

You can write to us at Rapido Trains UK, Unit 3, Clinton Business Centre, Lodge Road, Staplehurst, Kent TN12 0QF. Alternatively, you can call us on 03304 609496 or you can e-mail us at customerservice@rapidotrains.co.uk

Check out our YouTube channel, Facebook page, Instagram and Twitter!



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