

News and views from up and down the line...

Factory representatives from Kadee have been showing samples of a new modern roller bearing truck with cast springs that eliminates the unrealistic see-through effect common to the firm's trucks. Another desirable feature of the new truck is non-metallic sideframes. Rumor suggests that Kadee may redo the sideframes on its entire line of HO trucks with the new dielectric material.

Blackstone Models was pleasantly surprised at the large number of advance reservations it received after plans to produce an HOn3 scale High Side D&RGW Gondola were initially announced. As a result, the company opened

reservations in November for a second group of eight additional road numbers for the narrow gauge cars. Blackstone says it will hand-apply different side stake and splice variations during production to insure authenticity and a wide range of variation in the finished models.

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The hand application of side stakes is evident on this preproduction sample of Blackstone's new HOn3 D&RGW High Side Gondola.

Con-Cor says the add-on sleepers for its N scale Union Pacific M-10000 Streamliner will be ready for shipment before the end of January. The cars will be decorated in UP brown and yellow.

Division Point has completed negotiations with Korean brass builder Boo-Rim Precision to produce a short run of Canadian National Railways class U-2e and U-2f 4-8-4 Northern steam locomotives in O scale. Production is expected to be limited to just 105 pieces.



Pre-production sample of Division Point's O scale Class U-2E 4-8-4 Northern is decorated as Canadian National number 6167.

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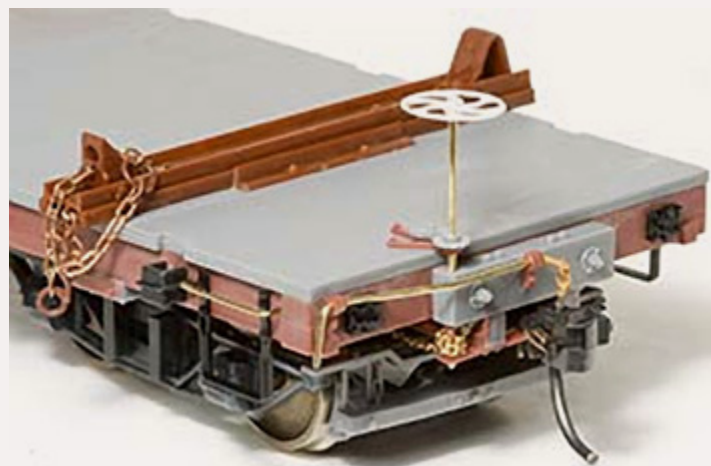
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Narrow gauge log bunks are coming soon from Foothill Model Works in the form of a 20-foot steel bunk logging car. The freelance On30/On3 styrene model is designed to look like a flat car that has been converted to haul logs through the addition of steel log bunks on the deck.



Detail of Log Bunks on Foothill Model Works new On30/On3 kit.

Just in time for Christmas, Kato will release a 4-car set of N scale passenger cars decorated to match its previously released 1953-era Santa Fe Super Chief. Identified as Set C, the new quartet of ACF-built sleepers includes Palm Haven, Palm Top, Regal Gate and Regal Hunt.

Red Caboose will have both kit and ready-to-run versions of its N scale Evans Coil Car ready early in January month. The assembled cars will be available in several different CSX schemes including yellow hoods, blue hoods, and with both C&O and Chessie Kitty logos. Red Caboose recently completed a special run of PRR X-29 Merchandise Service Box Cars with patch panels exclusively for the Amarillo Railroad Museum. To order the ready-to-run HO cars visit www.amarillorailmuseum.com.

Mullet River Models -- the Wisconsin-based outfit that has built a solid reputation for creating prototypically authentic laser-cut wood body kits -- is preparing to release an O scale kit for the Gould System Standard Caboose. Owner Glenn Guerra says the cars will be accurate for Western Pacific, Missouri Pacific and Rio Grande. The MP cars will be the rebuilt version with standard passenger car steps while the WP and Rio Grande cars will have tender-style steps. Glenn expects to have the kits ready for shipment before the end of January.



Mullet River's new Gould System caboose kit will be similar in concept to its previously released Big Four caboose shown here fully assembled and ready for the paint shop.



On3 and On30 versions of San Juan Car Company's ready to run D&RGW long caboose with round roof are now in stock.

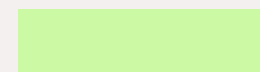
John Parker of San Juan Car Company told the Old Yardmaster that round roof version of his Denver & Rio Grande Western long cabooses have just arrived from overseas and are being inspected and packed for shipment to those customers who placed advanced orders. This limited production run of On3 and On30 cars are decorated in Flying Rio Grande as well as pre-40's style of lettering with each style available in five different car numbers. A painted but unlettered car is also available. Other variations include two different ladder styles and different cupola windows. All versions of the long-awaited cars have glazed windows and automatic knuckle couplers.

Scale Color Key:

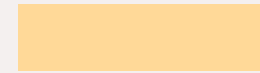
N scale news



HO scale news



O scale news



To highlight the news by scale, click the appropriate scale button below.



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Impressive handcrafted brass pilot model of Precision Scale's new D&RGW 2-8-8-2. Production quantities are scheduled to arrive in December.

Precision Scale is close to delivering its long-awaited HO scale imported brass D&RGW 2-8-8-2 Steam Locomotives. The project includes several different versions of both class L-131 and class L-132 of the massive locomotive. If all goes well delivery could be completed before Christmas.

Shipments began in late November for the HO scale Canadian Light Rail Vehicle project produced jointly by Custom Traxx and Bowser. The unpowered version of the CLRV kit includes a one-piece resin body shell, roof details including a pole shroud. Front and rear windshields cast in clear resin are also included. The powered version adds an aluminum floor, a Bowser traction drive, a trolley pole and base pivot, brass trolley catcher casting, pole hook, four resin truck sideframes and four pewter sideframe mounts. Visit www.customtraxx.com for full details.

Westerfield's latest HO resin kit is a modernized R7 reefer prototypically accurate for FGEX, NX and Matheson Dry Ice car with a Hutchins roof, as well as for an NX car with a lap seam roof.



HO scale modernized R7 Matheson Dry Ice car is the latest resin kit from Westerfield.

Yes, it's a model!



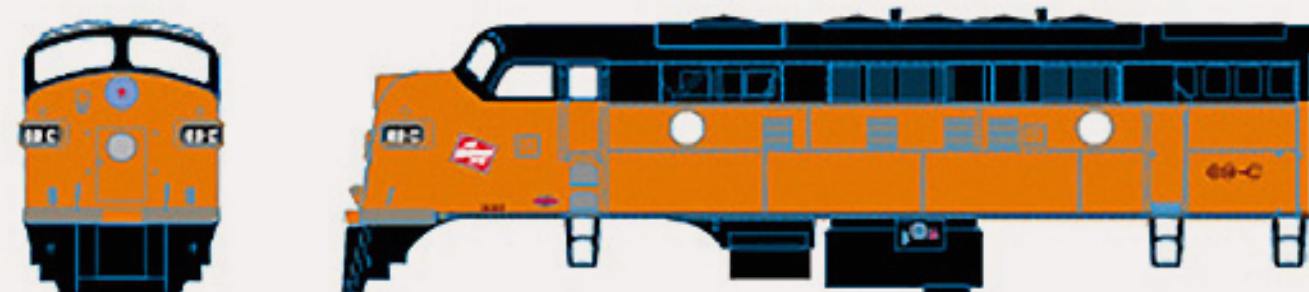
Branchline will soon release a ready-to-run HO model of Southern Railway's Pullman 12-1 Sleeper "Knickerbocker" decorated in the unusual silver Shadowline scheme.



Southern Railway's unique Pullman "Knickerbocker" will be available shortly in HO scale from Branchline.

Although Bachmann slipped its original delivery date of November, the company now says it will definitely deliver its upgraded HO scale Santa Fe 2-10-4 steam locomotive to dealers in December. The new version of the model, originally released more than twenty years ago, will have RP-25 wheel contours, a new five-pole motor and be DCC equipped for speed, direction and lighting.

Athearn is quoting delivery in May 2009 for Genesis F7A and F7A-B sets decorated for Milwaukee Road. They will be available both with and without sound.



The paint scheme for Athearn's Milwaukee Road F7 units is depicted in this artists rendering for the Genesis body shells.



One of Model Railroad Hobbyist's more innovative sponsors is UPbids.net — they're a new auction web site for model railroaders. If you know anything about buying and selling on eBay, then you automatically know somewhat how UPbids.net works.

However, UPbids.net has several interesting differences. First, UPbids caters to just model railroaders. The thought of an auction site designed and built for model railroaders by model railroaders seems *most appealing*.

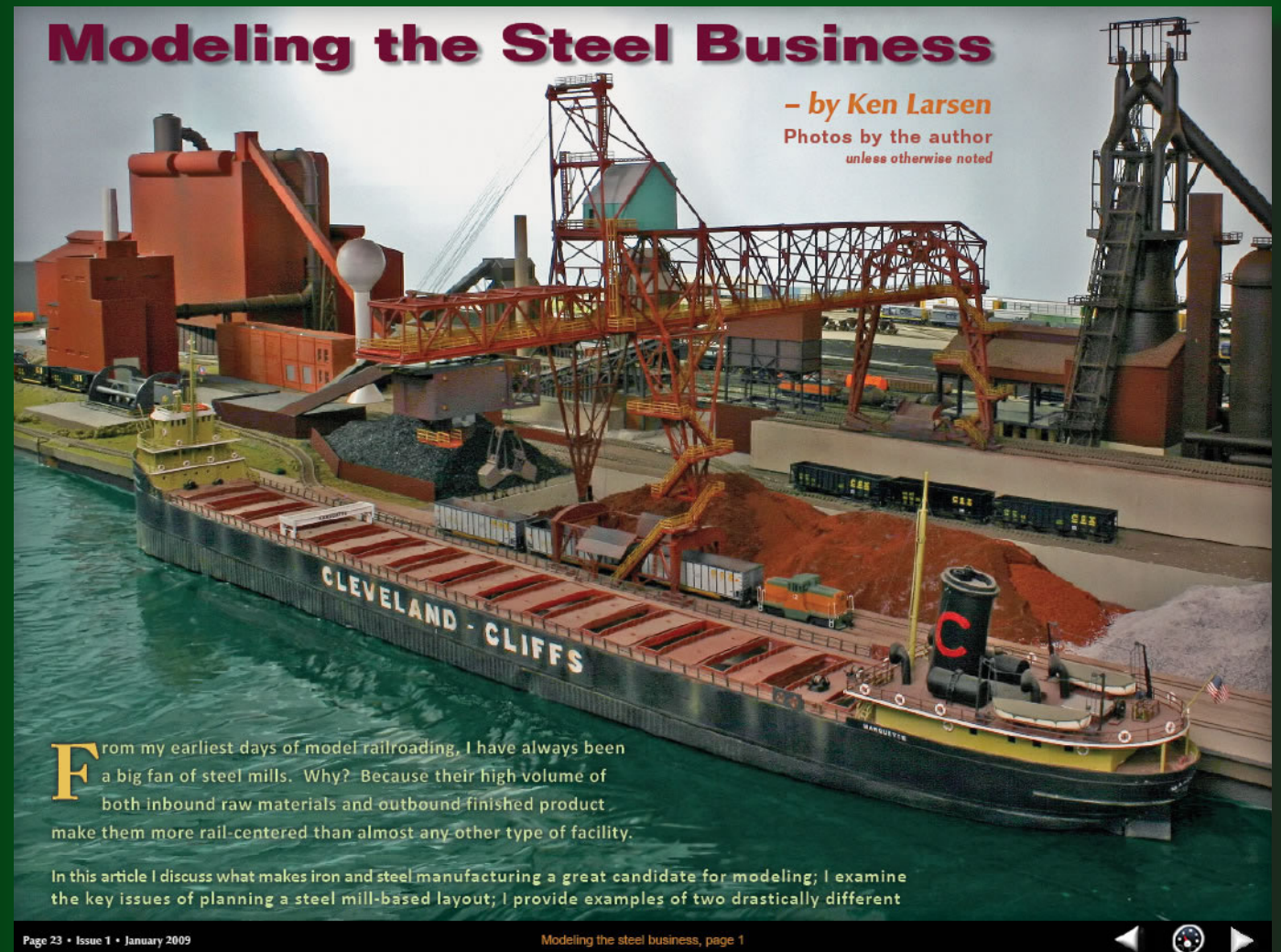
Second, UPbids has a more reasonable auction listing price structure than eBay.

Basic listings are free, and you only pay UPbids a small percentage of the item's sales price when it sells. This means items listed with UPbids don't cost you *anything* unless they sell.

We wish UPbids.net well, and encourage you to go take advantage of their site!

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Issue 1 sneak peek ...



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