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Finescale components

LM 310 – Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Steam Railmotor coach end

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Prototype notes

The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway was an enthusiastic user of the steam railmotor concept, which could be used on lightly loaded workings. At the start of the 20th century Hughes designed a class of railmotors that were then built between 1906 and 1911 at Horwich and Newton Heaths. They were comprised of an 0-4-0T locomotive with a semi-permanently attached coach body and used conventional locomotive boilers. A total of 18 units were built.

The Hughes railmotors were operated in a push-pull arrangement whereby the driver was able to operate the unit from either the locomotive or the end of the carriage. This was performed using an arrangement of levers and wires that ran underneath the vehicles and operated the locomotive's controls.

All 18 units were inherited by the LMS in 1923, who numbered the locomotives 10600-17 and gave the trailers separate numbers in the coaching stock series. The first was withdrawn in 1927, and only one survived by nationalisation in 1948.

Kit contents

This kit contains a single coach end, including the corridor door panel. The other end of the railmotor coach was formed by the 0-4-0 tank locomotive itself.

This part may be used to be an aid to the scratchbuilding of rolling stock, or to be used with an existing 4mm model kit. A kit for the Hughes Steam Railmotor is included within the range of Falcon Brass (formerly Jidenco).

Assembly instructions

Before assembly of any etched brass parts, they should be thoroughly clean. This means that they are physically clean as well as chemically clean. Etched brass often has the remains of the etch resist used in the production process on its surface. Additionally, there may be oxidisation of the surface that starts naturally as soon as the metal is cleaned. Neither of these cause harm to the kit. To prepare the surface for soldering I recommend that you clean it physically with a fibreglass "scratch" brush.

The usual convention of folding tabs towards the half-etched line is followed, unless explicitly stated otherwise.

- Cut eight steps from the bottom of the fret and fold each it to form a right-angle. A spare step is included
 in case of sacrifices to the Carpet God. The smaller side of the right-angle is attached to the coach end.
- Attach the steps to the coach end. Working from the bottom of the coach, the four steps on either side of the gangway are attached in the locations:
- a. At the base of the end, on the outer bottom edge of the lowest panel.
- At the top of the lowest panel, centred in the middle of it.
- c. At the top of the middle panel, at the inner edge next to the gangway.
- d. On the beading above the window, centred in the middle of it.
- t. Bend inwards the base of the coach end using the half-etched line on the inside face as a guide. The ledge that is formed provides a positive location for the floor to attach the coach end to the rest of the vehicle.
- Prepare the corridor gangway connection that you intend to use. The gangway door included is attached to the end of this.

Painting

The number of liveries that these coaches wore during their lives is too great to cover here, and I recommend that you refer to the reference book listed below, or the work of the L&YR Society.

In preparation for painting, the finished piece should be thoroughly cleaned to remove all traces of fluxes and other loose debris. In order to aid the adhesion of paint, preparation with a thin coat of self-etch primer is recommended to form an undercoat to the final finish.

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Further information

"An Illustrated History of LMS Locomotives Volume 2. Absorbed Pre-Group Classes Western and Central Divisions" – Robert Essery and David Jenkinson. Oxford Publishing Company, 1985

The Scalefour Society. For all modellers interested in a finescale approach. The Scalefour Society promotes the use in 4mm scale modelling of prototype dimensions for the track gauge and wheel profile. See www.scalefour.org for more information.

The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society. The L&YR Society aims to bring together all those with an interest in the 'Lanky' whether it be in historical research or modelling. It also holds and maintains large collections of photographs and drawings and with its information service points interested parties in the right direction. For information about the Society, please see www.lyrs.org.uk for further details.

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