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Freight Cars of Every Description

Thank you for your interest in Resin Car Works and this kit. Resin Car Works is not a business in the traditional sense. Its purpose is to share in the fun of prototype railroad freight car modeling and their operations with others to provide unique and different equipment that isn't readily available. Several friends assisted with various production phases so it's not quite a one-man operation. To list a few who helped with the production of this kit I would like to thank: Andrew Dahm of Westerfield Models for the castings; Pete Hall for building the first kit and drafting the instructions; Ted Culotta for the decals; Ken Soroos for his help with formatting the instructions, insert sheet and labels; and, as always, Eric Hansmann, the keeper of the website and blog.

This is a "CRAFTMANS" level resin kit and its construction should not be attempted by anyone who has not built similar types of models or who doesn't have a knowledge of prototype freight car construction and components. The kit consists of a one-piece resin body and detail parts; Plano Model Products etched ice hatch latch bars; Tichy PFE built-up reefer underframe, turnbuckles, ice hatches and platforms, and K and AB brake sets; A-line stirrups; Tahoe Models truck sideframes; Tom Madden's cast airline "T's"; Speedwitch decals; and assorted wire sizes. The modeler is to supply any small styrene bits, couplers, weight, wheels and small screws needed to complete the model.

INSTRUCTIONS

The instructions and related materials are available in PDF form on the RCW website, www.resincarworks.com. This allows us to include car histories, in-progress model photos, completed model photos, and prototype photos. The website instructions also allow much more detailed step explanations, suggestions, and many in-progress kit-building photos. All photos can easily be enlarged on your computer or tablet. These should be very helpful in producing as accurate a model as possible with some meaningful background information.

Please locate and download this material from the RCW website as soon as possible after purchasing this kit. As with all web information, there is no guarantee that it will be available indefinitely.

Kit No. 16.01

Pacific Fruit Express / Western Pacific R-30/40-9 Reconditioned Wood Reefers



P.F.E. Western Pacific 52626, 1941, Will Whittaker photo, Tony Thompson collection



P.F.E. Western Pacific, HO model and photo by Peter Hall

WARRANTY

All sales are final. There will be no exchanges or returns. Resin Car Works will replace any part(s) found to be defective due to manufacturing or shipping to the original purchaser within the first 30 days after shipment. The damaged part(s) must be sent back with your request for replacement. As these are limited production kits, don't ask for replacement of parts that you damage or lose after the 30-day period.

LIABILITY

Resin Car works will not be responsible or held liable for any and all personal injury and/or health problems, short and/or long term that may result from the use and/or misuse of tools, adhesives, materials, castings, paints or any and all other product(s) used to construct and/or contained in this kit. This kit contains polyurethane castings. Although non-toxic in its cured state, dust is created during filing, sanding and drilling. Air circulation and/or ventilation should be provided. Always work in a well-ventilated room. Wear a dust mask or respirator and safety glasses for protection. Always wash your hands when you're finished working.

HISTORY

An excellent and complete history of these cars along with all Pacific Fruit Express reefers is available in **Pacific Fruit Express PFE 2nd Edition** by Anthony W. Thompson, Robert J. Church and Bruce H. Jones from Signature Press, for \$75 each. For a general history, please reference Sunshine Models Prototype Data Sheet (PDS) #25C, Pacific Fruit Express R-30/40-9 Rebuilt 40' Reefers, a copy of which can be found on the extras page for this kit on the Resin Car Works web site. A good on-line source for PFE modeling and onther information is Dick Harley's site at <https://harley-trains.smugmug.com>. For more modeling techniques, see **Essential Freight Cars: 15, PFE Ice-Cooled Reefers**, by Ted Culotta in the August 2004 issue of Railroad Model Craftsman.

CONSTRUCTION

It's recommended that before you start construction that you familiarize yourself with the additional information and photos on the Resin Car Works website www.resincarworks.com that pertain to this kit. Especially helpful are a series of prototype drawings that show the placement of the various car parts.

- First give the resin parts a good cleaning with Dawn and a toothbrush to remove any mold releasing agents. A light sanding of joints also helps parts to bond.

- The cast parts are best attached with ACC. When the term "cement" is used in these instructions, it refers to ACC. ACC is a strong adhesive which dries quickly. It can easily attach a part where it is not supposed to be. It will glue skin. Be careful. Place a few drops on a plate of glass and use a wire or pin to transfer small amounts of ACC to the area to be joined. Always wear safety glasses. ACC debonder is a useful tool for removing smudges of ACC from surfaces where it shouldn't be. Place a drop on the offending spot and wipe up.

- GOO or other such products are not recommended for construction, except in small quantities, as it will soften the casting material.

- When a measurement is given, it's in prototype feet and inches.

- When the word "scrap" is used, it is referring to an item that the modeler is to supply.

A NOTE ON TRUCKS

These cars rode on a variety of trucks, one of the more common being a Barber Lateral Motion truck. Brian Leppart of Tahoe Model Works commented that the best truck for these sorts of PFE reefers is TMW #009. Spring plank, spring spacing and Barber Lateral Motion Device details all match. #009 also appears close to what's under WP 50263. These trucks are the ones supplied in the kit.