

New for HOe from Ferro-Train



Rh5090 railcar on the Zillertalbahn

The railcar 5090.001 was delivered in spring 1986 by the Knotz company of Vienna to the ÖBB in Zell am See for the Pinzgau local railways. In 2008, when the route was taken over by the State of Salzburg, the vehicle was given the new number VTs11. In 2012 an exchange was agreed with the Zillertalbahn, whereby the VTs11 was relocated, becoming the only 5090 to be used on the Zillertal. (The ZB did have similar units.) Among other modifications, it was repainted in ZB livery and renumbered VT1. It began regular service from March 2013 and is still in operation today.

The new models of VT1 now have a new circuit board with a NEM 651 decoder socket. Conversion to digital is therefore easy; the Zimo MX622N decoder is recommended. On request, this can be fitted at the factory when ordering, and a sound version is also now available.

Ferro-Train / Leopold Halling
Leopoldgasse 15-17,
A-1230 Wien, Austria.
www.halling.at

Stay-alive solutions from Zimo

Digital decoders – especially sound decoders – benefit from the security of a stay-alive power supply, which smooths any momentary interruptions.

Zimo does not make large expensive power packs but provides space efficient and comparatively cheap but nonetheless very effective solutions. Additional supply times of 1 second or more can usually be achieved, and with the new STACO1 this is now also possible for miniature decoders:

The small STACO1 printed circuit board contains a step-up voltage transformer which drains the capacitors (8V with three, 5.5V with two) almost completely and provides a constant voltage of 10V. This is enough to continue running after contact loss and to supply the sound amplifier (which needs 5V) without interruptions.

The board measures 10mm x 7.3mm x 2mm, and the miniature capacitors are just 4mm diameter x 12mm long. Three capacitors in series provide 100,000µF, but two also work giving about 50% run time. Using separate components enables them to be fitted more conveniently.

The price has not yet been fixed but will be less than €20.00.

Generally, STACO1 can be used for every Zimo MS and MX decoder but would not be useful for the typical larger HO decoders: all variations of MS440 and MS450 (and later MS non-sound decoders) already have a 'direct energy storage connection' for stay-alive-capacitors. Miniature capacitor modules are the best addition to these decoders, and pre-fabricated modules (50,000µF, 16V) are available. www.zimo.at



Rapido North American models to be available via Rapido UK

Since Rapido Trains UK was launched in December 2020, they have often been asked if Rapido North American products could be purchased in the UK.

This will now be possible. Locomotives, rolling stock, and road vehicles in HO and N will be available to order, with simple payment in pounds Sterling.

Explore the range at

www.rapidotrains.co.uk

There is just one caveat: you can only buy North American products while they are available to order in advance. Once the order book has closed, items will be removed from the UK website. Rapido Trains UK do not intend to carry stock of American models.

If you want to buy an existing item, if there is stock, you will have to order direct from Rapido Trains Inc.

www.rapidotrains.com

Corsican book – photos wanted

Marius d'Oriano is a great enthusiast for the railways of Corsica and is in the process of producing a book on the subject with Michel Braun of Editions du Cabri. The book aims to show the evolution of the network and equipment from the time of steam locomotives to today. For

this they are looking for photos of all periods, places, and equipment up to and including 2010.

He can be contacted at mdcorse@hotmail.fr

Although Marius does not speak English, he can get messages translated.

Coming next month

out 17th June

CONTINENTAL MODELLER

JULY 2021 £5.20 (UK)

www.pecopublications.co.uk

FEATURING RAILWAYS FROM AROUND THE WORLD EACH MONTH



• Drei Spurenhof

Graham Lightfoot has a new portable German HO layout which features standard, narrow, and industrial lines.

• Meandering through the Rockies

Stefan Boerma created a small scene in a case set somewhere on the narrow gauge in Colorado at the start of the 20th century.

• El Campello

Travelling abroad for holidays may not yet be possible but Myles Munsey transports us to the coast of Spain with his new HO micro-layout.

• French steam locomotives

Peter Smith has occupied himself during lockdown by scratchbuilding a number representative locomotives for his O gauge dépôt layout.

• Etchu-Yamada

Inspired by visits to Japan – and souvenir purchases – John Garner created a compact N gauge display layout which depicts the transition from city to countryside.

... and much more!