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BRASS CAR SIDES

Passenger Car Parts for the Streamliners

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Illinois Central Series 2614-40 56-Seat PS Coaches [Part No. 173-44]

The Illinois Central's pre-war streamlined coaches (2600-03) for the *City of Miami* established the basic design for the post-war P-S coaches. The major lot divided into two plans and served as the backbone of IC's lightweight coach fleet. The larger of these was the group of twenty-seven 56-seat coaches built to plan 7531 and delivered in early 1947. They were assigned to the best of the IC trains, specifically *The City of New Orleans*, *Daylight*, *Green Diamond*, and *Land O'Corn*, but they also operated on lesser trains in pool service. 18 coaches originally carried place names and the cars were used during Amtrak's first months, but only one (2640) was briefly owned by them. The cars were widely dispersed and many saw several owners, according to David Randall's Streamliner Cars Vol. 1 Pullman-Standard.

BRASS CAR SIDES produced HO-scale photoetched brass sides for these popular coaches from the early 1990's until 2004, in a length that matched the slightly oversized Rivarossi "1930" lightweight plastic cars. That product was requested by IC modelers and was supported with research assistance from Frank E. Willis, and reserved orders from Bob Perrin, Ted Richardson, John Pitts, Scott Lauck, and Barry Thompson. In July of 2006 we redesigned the sides to be used with the popular Train Station Products #807 PS/ACF core kits.

REFERENCES

Pullman-Standard Library Vol. 12 Illinois Central by Randall & Anderson (RPC)
Streamliner Cars Vol. 1 Pullman-Standard by W. David Randall. (RPC Pub. O.P.)
Illinois Central Streamliners 1936-46 by Paul M. Somers. (TLC Pub., 1995)
Illustrated Treasury of P-S Railway Passenger Cars Since 1945 Vol. 1 by Mike Kerr, p. 50 photo of IC 2630 and interior. (Delta, O.P.)
Amtrak Car Diagrams by Robert Wayner. Illustration of former IC 2640. (Wayner, O.P.)
From Zephyr to Amtrak by W. David Randall (RPC Pub. 1972, out of print)
Car Names, Numbers and Consists by Robert Wayner (Wayner, 1972, out of print)
 "City of Miami Coaches" (2600-03 series), *Mainline Modeler*, December, 1985.

DESCRIPTION AND CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES

These sides are etched from 0.010" spring brass sheets and have etched door and surface outlines, as well as grabiron holes and end skirt details. Modelers have the option of either using our Basic Body Kit No. 173-101 or the Train Station Products No. 807 PS/ACF Core Kit.

Train Station Products Core Kit. This kit makes cars of scale length 82'4", which is 6" less than this prototype. However, we have scaled our new sides to fit exactly, as described in the TSP instructions. Modelers are likely to want to add some additional weight for good operation. See reverse side for detail parts sources, paints, and decals. The plans of IC 2600 in the *Mainline Modeler* reference show the location of the underbody and roof details on very similar earlier cars.
Basic Body Kit. This method uses traditional materials and allows for easy placement of underbody

and roof details. It also yields a finished model with good running weight. The instructions enclosed with the kit cover all the basic steps for building the car body. The kit consists of milled basswood roof and floor, pewter cast ends, and NorthEastern wood centersill. The roof and floor require shortening by about 26" scale inches for this particular side pair, since the kit is designed to accommodate our longest HO sides. We recommend that you make a temporary full-length mock-up and then use the sides as the length standard to determine how much roof and floor to trim.

Detail Parts. We call your attention to the following parts which may be of interest in using either construction method. Please refer to the Walthers HO Reference Book and individual manufacturers' catalogs and web sites for illustrations and prices. Train Station Products (TSP), Eastern Car Works (ECW), Precision Scale (PSC), American Ltd. Models (ALM), Cal-Scale (CS), Custom Finishing (CF), Great Western Passenger Car Details (www.gwpcd.com), Bill's Narrow Gauge Shops (BNGS), Century Foundry (CFY), and Detail Associates (DA) produce a variety of passenger car detail parts. Recent detail part additions are listed in our Supplementary Information Sheet (enclosed). BCS will be grateful to hear of additions to these lists of parts, paints, decals and references, and we will include these revisions when these sheets are reprinted.

Trucks (Central Valley 139 & 140, as available from BCS, MDC 2935, Walthers, Con-Cor, Train Station Products #414/416); wheelsets (Jay-Bee No. 106, Kadee 521), Pullman-Standard detail parts kits (CF Nos. 292 & 293); underbody parts kit (TSP #460); axle generator (CS GE-353); roof vents (BNGS various); diaphragms (Walthers or Con-Cor for rubber type, ALM 9000 and TSP for detailed plastic); grabirons and handrails (DA PC 6601 & 6602).

Paints. Modelers are likely to be adding these cars to existing consists and will have their choices of paint already established. Some premixed paints are: IC Orange: Scalecoat #27, Accu-paint #71 (ICG), Modelflex 1673.

Decals: www.streamstylegraphics.com; Champ BRH-15, -17; Walthers 56610, 56820

After painting, reglaze the windows with clear acetate or microscope cover slide behind the openings in the brass for a nearly flush appearance.

See our web pages at www.brasscarsides.com for downloadable versions of all current and archived documentation, as well as photos of cars built by our customers. To receive paper copies of our combined HO and N-scale catalog, reservation sheet, and current bulletin, please send a two-stamp SSAE to: **BRASS CAR SIDES**, 715 S. 7th St., St. Peter, MN 56082-1435. Dealer terms are available. Address e-mail to info@brasscarsides.com. We solicit e-mail reservations for proposed new items. Revised April 29, 2013

