



# THE MILWAUKEE ROAD

Route of the Super Dome Hiawathas and  
The Western "Cities" Domeliners



## BRASS CAR SIDES

*Passenger Car Parts for the Streamliners*

RPO-Express 1208-1230 [Part No. 173-52]; 75' Baggage-Dorm 1309-1314 [Part No. 173-57]  
"Touralux" 14-Section Sleeper 5740-5751 [#173-58]; "Touralux-Coach" 5770-5775 [#173-66]  
85' Baggage-Dorm Rebuilds 1350-1352, 1354 [Part No. 173-79]

The Milwaukee Road's roster of baggage-dormitory cars included six 75' cars (1309-1314) built for the 1947 *Olympian Hiawatha* and seven 85' cars (1350-1356) rebuilt from post-war cars when the Milwaukee began handling the UP *City* trains between Chicago and Omaha. Four of these latter cars (1350-52 and 1354) had originally been "Touralux" 14-section "Mountain" sleeping cars (5740-51).

The 75' RPO-express cars (1208-1230) provided a 30' mail compartment, but in the 1960's many were rebuilt as full RPO's with a 60' mail area and renumbered in the 2100-series. The six short-lived "Touralux-Coach" cars (5770-5775) were rebuilt in 1951 to three 550-series coaches and three more "Touralux" sleepers. The references listed below provide a wealth of information and photographs on the Milwaukee Road's passenger operations and equipment. We particularly call your attention to Jim Murrie's skilled craftsmanship, writing and photos in his detailed construction article of 75' baggage-dorm 1314 and "Touralux" 5744 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2016 issue of *The Milwaukee Railroader* (pp. 32-37), published by the Milwaukee Road Historical Association.

Milwaukee Road Color Guide to Freight & Passenger Equipment Vol. 1, Nighswonger and Stauss (Morning Sun). Excellent color photos of these cars are on pp. 16, 26 and 30.

Passenger Cars Vol. 2, by Hal Carstens (Carstens). Plans and photos for coach (p. 132); tap-lounge (p. 194); parlor (p. 145); baggage-dorm (p. 123)

Passenger Cars Vol. 3, by Hal Carstens (Carstens). Plans for "Touralux" (p. 240)

Yahoo Groups MILW and N\_Milwaukee\_Road. See pdf file of Drawings by Rick De Karske of 1947-48 *Hiawathas* in group's archives. Color side illustrations in UP scheme.

The Hiawatha Story by Jim Scribbins (University of Minnesota Press, 2007; Kalmbach, 1970)

Milwaukee Road in Color Vols. 1-4 by several authors (Morning Sun)

Milwaukee Road Remembered by Jim Scribbins (Univ. of Minn. Press, 2008; Kalmbach, 1990)

The Union Pacific Streamliners by Ranks and Kratville (Kratville, 1974)

Streamliner Cars Vol. I & III P-S/Others by David Randall (RPC Pub., O.P.)

Walthers produced O-scale kits for the *Morning*, *Afternoon*, and *Olympian Hiawathas* and some of these sides are partly based on those plans. Send a large two-stamp SSAE for free photocopies.

### CONSTRUCTION NOTES

The Walthers HO conversion method offers the best overall match of roof, underbody, end details and trucks between the prototype and the model. Otherwise, parts for the distinctive Milwaukee Road details are not readily available.

75' RPO-Express and 75' Baggage-Dorm: The brass sides are scale length and when first produced were designed to be used with our Basic Body Kit No. 173-101 or with the Train Station Products No. 807 P-S/ACF Core Kit, shortened to match the 75' sides. In 2009 we slightly shortened the RPO-Express sides to match the length of the Walthers 75' express cars in an overlay conversion.

"Touralux" 14-Section 5740-51: The "Touralux" sides match the 82' 4" length of the TSP No. 807 core kit with minor adjustment. The Walthers 52-seat *Hiawatha* coach and "Valley" parlor cars are about two scale inches longer than the "Touralux" sides. The Eastern Car Works No. 117-1200 core kit or our Basic Body Kit No. 173-101 could also be used and shortened appropriately.

"Touralux-Coach" 5770-75: These sides are designed to be used as an overlay conversion for the Walthers *Hiawatha* coach or parlor cars. They may also be used with our Basic Body Kit, but are a bit long for the TSP #807 core kit.

Our Basic Body Kit consists of basswood roof, pewter cast ends, basswood floor and centersill. The instruction sheet covers the basic steps for building the model. The RPO-Express and baggage-dorm cars include one or two pairs of 3' and 8' or four 8' brass doors, which are designed to be mounted behind the door openings.

The sides are coated with a clear Krylon acrylic. This coating may be left in place on the rear surface, but should be removed from the front side prior to construction and painting. It may be left in place on both surfaces, but at the risk that some paints, particularly those that are water-based, may not adhere as well. The acrylic coating is most easily removed with a paste-type paint remover, but will also come off with acetone or similar solvent. The sides will begin to oxidize, particularly on humid days, as soon as they are stripped, but this is only a cosmetic effect.

Microscope slide cover glass makes a fine window material, but clear styrene or acetate sheet stock is also good, and easier to work with. Of course, final attachment will have to wait the painting and finishing steps. Etched holes have been provided for wire grabirons for those wishing to add these details.

## DECALS AND PAINTS

Milwaukee Orange: Floquil 162. Milwaukee Passenger Maroon: Accupaint 35. Black for roofs: Floquil 17, Scalecoat 10, Accupaint 62. UP Armour Yellow: Floquil 166, Scalecoat 22, Accupaint 67. UP Harbor Mist Gray: Floquil 167, Scalecoat 32, Accupaint 68. Tru-Color, subject to match. Floquil will be old stock, of course, since its closing.

Decal Mfg.	Gold on Mar/Or/Mar	Mar on Or/Mar	UP Red on Yellow/Gray
Petes Custom Decals and Streamstyle Graphics are no longer in business.			
Walthers (disc)	43820 (Olympian)	43810	43840
Walthers (disc)	43850 (Twin)	43830, 43860	
Champ (closed)	PH-54G	PH-54M	PH-113, S-89
Chartpak			red 1/32" stripes

All of our catalog and modeling sheets and forms are available for downloading and printing at [www.brasscarsides.com](http://www.brasscarsides.com). To receive paper copies of our combined HO and N-scale catalog, reservation sheet, and current bulletin, please send a SSAE for two-ounces to **BRASS CAR SIDES**, 715 South 7th St., Saint Peter, MN 56082-1435. Our telephone number is (507) 931-2784. Address e-mail to [info@brasscarsides.com](mailto:info@brasscarsides.com). Revised February 22, 2022.