

New model reviews

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Now you can spray paint the entire bodyshell in RhB red. If somebody makes an authentically matched model colour paint (perhaps a Swiss model Shop/manufacturer?) please let me know. The nearest available match I could find was Floquil RR135 - Southern Pacific Daylight Red. The roof was sprayed in Floquil RR100 - Old Silver. After the bodyshell had thoroughly dried, I masked up the sides and sprayed on a silver stripe on the mid-height bodyside running strake.

The RhB 'flying snail' logo was a waterslide decal from Wabu-Waibel, No. 244 in white - it should be located centrally under the top-opening bodyside window. Wabu-Waibel decals are obtainable to special order from Victors or direct from the manufacturers, Wabu A.G., Rosengartenstr. 5, CH-8037 Zurich (Switzerland). Telephone 01 444 775. Like all good Swiss businesses, they correspond in English and Swiss Francs !

Now for final assembly. First, glaze all the side windows with your favourite glazing material. I prefer real glass from Clover House. Pack No. 231 gives you 25 pieces of 2.3" x 0.9" x .006" microthin glass. Real glass has the advantages that it doesn't scratch like plastic, nor does static build-up attract so much dust, and it looks much better. Fix one set of end door steps in place then clip the floor pan into the body and glue it in place with a rubber-based adhesive, such as Walthers' "Goo". Clip the roof in place and refit the end corridor connections plus the coach end doors. Next fit two sets of 'silver' folding doors ex-the BEMO 3252 bodyshell (those ex-BEMO 3256 are 'gold' and the wrong colour for this application). Last of all screw in place the 'Type B' bogies ex- BEMO 3256 and plug in to their pre-drilled holes BEMO's wire folding door grab handles (they are the things that look like staples, and come taped to the box carrier tray inside the model's original packaging).

Detail hounds can pick out the black rubber window sealing strips in black and fabricate sets of steps under the Baggage Doors - I made mine out of soldered up brass strip for strength. The roof end insulators and busbar connectors shown in the drawings will be covered later, but can be omitted if you so chose.

REFERENCES. R7:d- t566; p-417, 453, 456, 457, 507, 523, 527, 567. R8: p-pg 156 (lower), 158, 160, 163. (R8 = Die Rhatische Bahn by Franz Marti & Walter Trub (ISBN 3-280-00786-0), Orell Fussli Verlag Zurich (Switzerland), Published: 1972).

NEW MODEL REVIEWS

ROXY. The two motor version of the BLS loco Ae 6/8 (HO) is now on sale. Priced at about £175 it is worth the extra money for the much enhanced pulling power. The body detail is good but one item that is a little disappointing is the fact that the lights being made to scale could not be fitted with bulbs. The weight of the model is just above 600 grammes and the pulling power is excellent. The gearing tended to be a little noisy when pulling a heavy load, but a minute amount of Moly slip grease cured that problem.

AKU. The "HO" scale model of the SBB Be 6/8 III "Krokodile" is a complete rebuild of the Maerklin HAMO locomotive. The model reviewed was the version with the RP 25 wheels and SBB Green paintwork. Detailing is very good, with many brass roof details added, sprung buffers, handrails and HRF detailing plates etc. The whole model was painted with correct colour paints from Old Pullman. This model is also available in brown body colour, and with NEM wheels. An AC motored version is shown on the leaflet with the model. Although rather expensive at £148, it is a beautiful model.