



Decal 157/Parts Set P119 - Detroit, Toledo & Ironton 41' Mill Gondola



circa 1947, courtesy of Richard Brennan

History

In 1941, The Detroit, Toledo & Ironton received an order of gondolas from Greenville Steel Car. While the inside length was only 41'6", the cars bore a striking resemblance to the AAR-design gondola, which had an inside length of 52'6". The DT&I cars resembled a truncated version of the AAR gondola. The cars were used in general service as well as for auto frame loading, as shown in the included image.

As built the cars used capacity data with apostrophes where appropriate. These were eliminated at late 1940s repaintings. The cars were painted an oxide hue of freight car red. The auto frame cars included a stencil indicating this service, as shown in the fourth panel from the near end in the photo.

Our Decals - Please Read!

The decals you are about to use are some of the finest, most complete ever offered. Every effort has been made to ensure their accuracy. All characters and emblems were created individually to replicate the prototype.

The decal paper we use is extremely thin. This is done to try to eliminate any telltale traces of the decals once they are on the model. However, this also means that extra care must be taken in applying the decals to the model. When the decals are slid off the paper backing, they tend to curl under the bottom of the paper. Use the following techniques to apply our decals. Start with a glossy surface as decals do not adhere to flat coats without leaving lots of trapped air. Save yourself trouble beforehand and apply a clear gloss coat if your model is not already painted with a gloss color. To apply the decals,

cut the necessary pieces from the sheet and dip into water. Then place the decals on a sheet of paper towel for a few moments to allow the decal to loosen from the backing. Slide the decal so that there is enough paper exposed to grab with tweezers. Once you have grasped the paper backing with tweezers, slide the edge of the decal that is overhanging the paper back on to the top of the paper. The tweezers will not allow the decal to entirely cover the paper, meaning that the decal will "gather" at some point. This is ideal. Place some water on the model where the decal is to be located using a fine brush. Lay the paper on the model while still holding with tweezers and slide the decal on to the model. We use a very old and dull Xacto knife for just this purpose. Anything dull will work. If you use something with a sharp point, it may catch on the decal and create havoc. If the decal folds over on itself, just slide the decal away from the folded portion. This will "right" the decal. Gently slide the decal into position and then leave it alone. Let it dry completely! Once it has dried completely, decal setting solution can be added by touching a brush laden with solution at the edge of the decal. We use Champ's solution. Capillary action will pull it under the decal. Once the solvent has been added, again leave the decal alone until it has dried completely! After it has dried, you can then proceed to prick or slice where there is trapped air and reapply decal setting solution. After you are satisfied with the results, apply a clear flat coat (we use Tamiya XF-86 Clear Flat) to the decals and either you are done or are

SPEEDWITCH MEDIA

speedwitchmedia@gmail.com — www.speedwitchmedia.com

ready to weather. Sit back and admire your creation!

If you manage to ruin a part of the decal for any reason, please write via email or letter, telling use very specifically what portion of the decal you need replaced and we will send a replacement so that you can finish your model.

Recommended model: Athearn kitbash à la Prototype Rails 'Shake-n-Take' project (find Shake-n-Take group on Yahoo! Groups for more information), Proto 2000 kitbash or Speedwitch parts set P119.

A step-by-step build of the model can be seen at: prototopics.blogspot.com, search "DT&I"