

DOWN'S MODEL RAILROAD COMPANY

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"S" SCALE TANK CARS

KIT CONTENTS

Each kit contains the following parts:

1. Plastic cylinder for the tank body. The holes have been drilled where needed.
2. Wire handrails for the car ends and for the manway platforms.
3. Wire personnel guards for the sides of the cars.

Several lettered packages containing the following parts:

- A. End platform and tank car end for "A" end of the car.
- B. End platform w/ hole for brake cylinder and tank car end w/ brake housing for "B" end of the car.
- C. Wabco Brake Set - Items T-601 through T-605
- D. Tank Detail Parts - Items T-202 through T-207
- E. Manway Platforms (2)
- F. Brass Ladders (2) and Steps (4).

TOOLS RECOMMENDED

Modeler's Knife
Pin Vise
Squadron White Putty

Gap Filling ACC Cement
Small Drill Set
Extra Fine Sandpaper

Needle nose Pliers
Small File

WARNING

Care should be used when drilling or when cutting with sharp blades. Follow directions on the cement and putty containers and always work in a well-ventilated area. This is a modeler's kit and is not intended for assembly by children without adult supervision.

METAL CLEANING

The metal parts will need to be cleaned of grease, etc. before painting. While several approaches will work, it is recommended the metal be "pickled." The parts can be placed in vinegar until the metal turns dark. After pickling, the metal should be handled with a plastic or rubber glove to prevent a buildup of body oils. Just before painting, the parts can be brushed or dipped with paint thinner for a last cleaning.

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

Please read the instructions, study the diagrams and parts before assembly. The parts have been placed in marked bags to assist with identification and assembly:

First, check the plastic pipe. The pipe has been chemically treated to remove lettering and the gloss surface; however, it will be necessary to wash and dry the pipe.

Second, open the bags marked "A" and "B". A light filing and/or sanding of the two ends will be necessary to remove the flash. Some flash will also need to be removed from the two end platforms, especially on both sides of the cradle. **NOTICE THAT ALL HOLES HAVE BEEN PRE-DRILLED WITH THE EXCEPTION** of the four holes needed for the personnel guards between the two end platforms. These four holes should be drilled with a #60 drill. The holes should be drilled one-eighth of an inch from the outside edge and one-eighth of an inch from the bottom edge of the bolster.

Third, fit the ends into the plastic pipe. This may require some light sanding of the ends. do this by turning the end on sandpaper laying flat on a surface. Alignment notches have been started so the ends will line up properly. The ends should be permanently cemented into the tank. There may be the need to use a putty to smooth the edge where the end and pipe meet. (SEE HINTS)

Fourth, attach the tank parts enclosed in the bags marked "C" and "D" with the exception of the manway (SEE HINTS). Not all of the parts will be used with every car. For example, TK-623 does not call for the use of the stuffing box. It is recommended all of the parts be cemented in place.

Fifth, the bag labeled "E" contains the manway platforms. These are made of pewter and, thus, they can be shaped and flattened as necessary. After filing the unwanted flash, the platforms may be cemented in place. Once dry, the brass handrails can be placed on the platforms. (SEE HINTS)

Sixth, assemble the end platforms using the remaining parts in the bags marked "C" and "D". This should be followed by the brass steps in bag "E" and the end railings found in the larger bag with the manway railings. NOTE: if you are planning to use body mounted couplers, the holes should be drilled and tapped before the detail parts are placed on the platforms. You will notice drill dimples have been provided for both the Kadee #5 and #802 couplers. Also, while grab irons are not provided, dimples have been provided as drill guides for those who desire to add grab irons.

Seventh, prepare the ladders for placement on the car. At the top of the ladder are tabs. These can be bent over and will drop down over the handrail bases. While not prototypical, this will provide greater support for the ladder. For those preferring the ladder to be flush, the tabs should be removed. It will be necessary to shape the ladders to the desired contour of the car. There are long extensions on the bottom of the ladders. The modeler may either plan to have the ladders end at the personnel guards and will need to snip off the ladders at that point. Others may desire to have the ladders fold back and touch the tank. In either case, it may be desired to attach the end platforms and personnel guards and shape the ladders as desired. Upon completion, the car can be disassembled.

FINAL ASSEMBLY

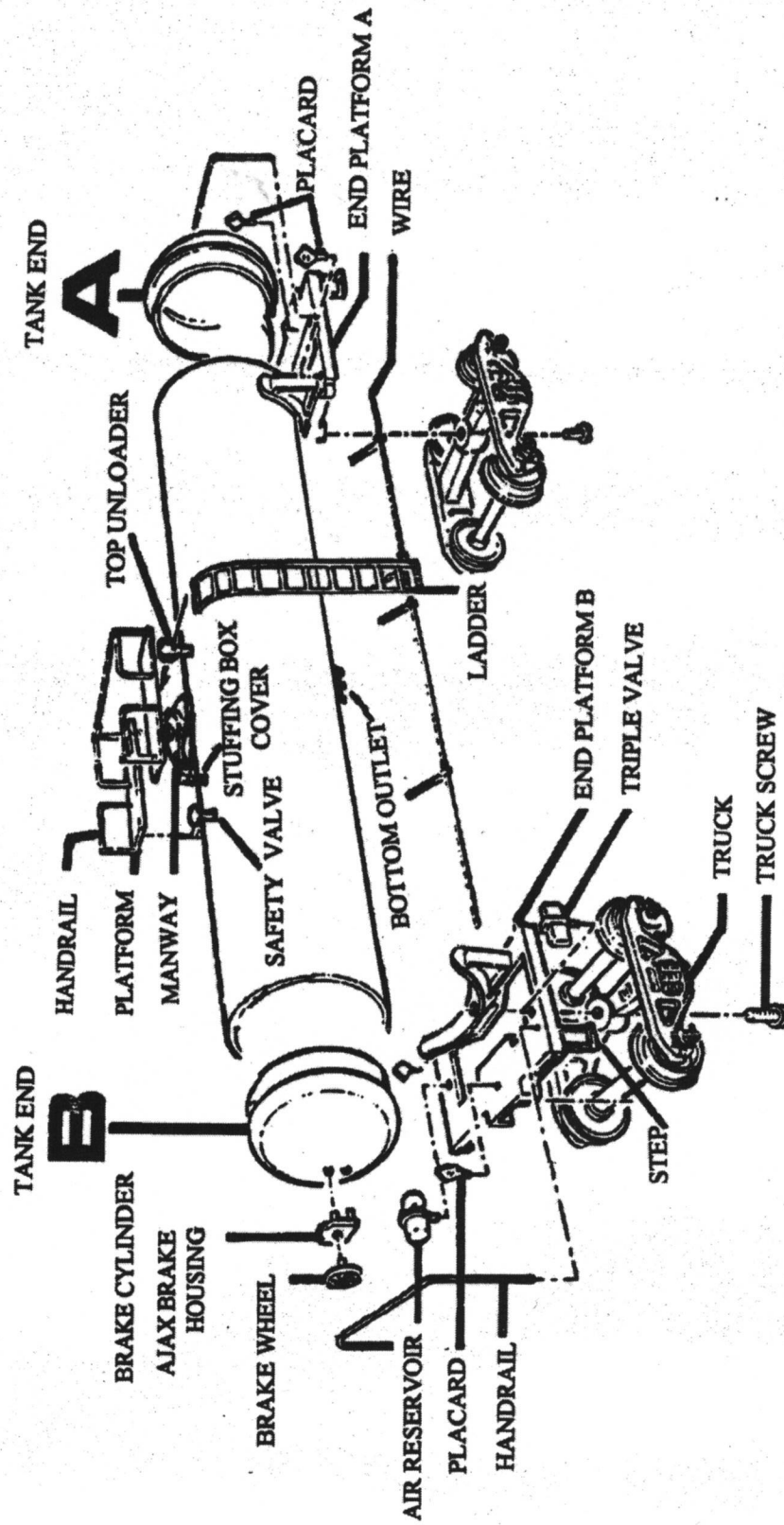
After the car has been painted and lettered, the car is ready for the final assembly. While the order is a matter of choice, the best order would appear to be body mounted couplers (if applicable), personnel guards and end platforms, the provided trucks, followed by the manway.

HINTS

1. When filling, we have be using the newer Squadron White Putty. We fill the cracks, wait about five to ten minutes and then wipe off the excess with a cloth treated with denatured alcohol. Sanding will scratch the pipe. Take proper care, however, when using both of these products.

2. We indicated not cementing the manway into the large hole on the top of the tank. For painting the car, we insert a quarter-inch by approximately six-inch dowel into the hole. Then the car can be painted like a "hot dog" on a stick. Two things to remember, plan for something to hold the stick after you have finished painting, and don't forget to paint the manway cover. The same technique can be used when painting the assembled end platforms.

3. When placing the manway handrails on the car, we place them in position and then cement them to the top of the stanchions. When dry, we then line-up the handrails to the proper height before cementing the other end into the pre-drilled base.



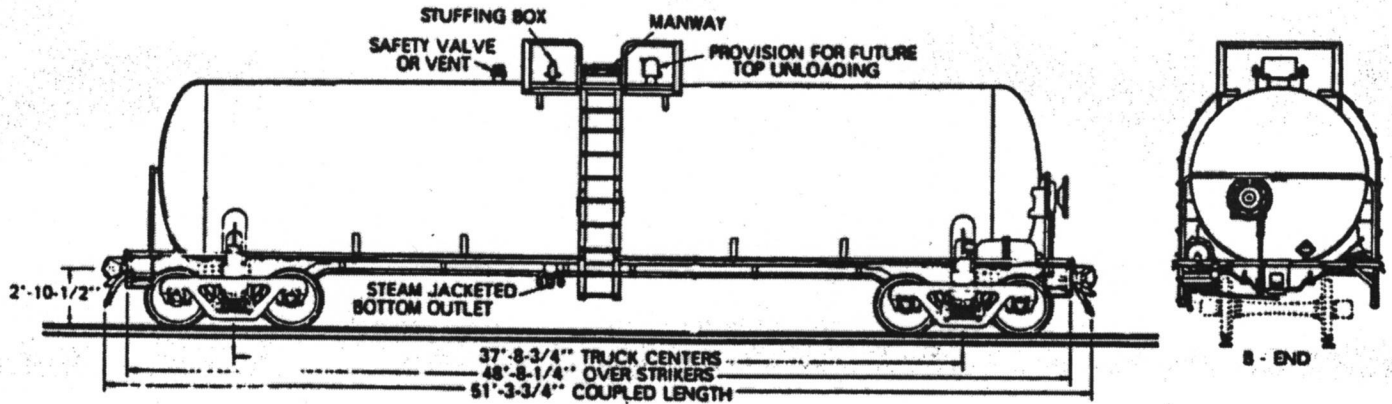
IN CONCLUSION

Thank you for purchasing this tank car kit. We are presently working on plans to bring out other cars of different sizes and configurations. We are also looking at lettering options. Presently we are exploring decals for the kit builder. Also, we are developing the idea of both prepainted and lettered kits, as well as ready-to run cars using additional road names.

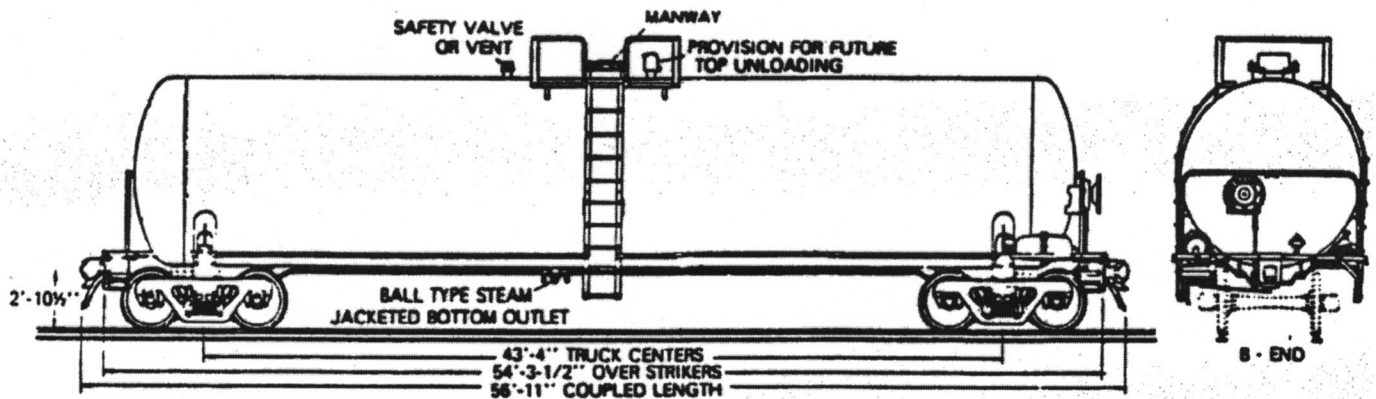
This tank car represents a first attempt to provide the "S" modeler with a line of railroad cars. The efforts, observations and suggestions of many individuals has gone into this project and I am most appreciative of the support which this project has received.

Russ Downs

1/93



TANK CAR KIT TK-600



TANK CAR KIT TK-623