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F-3 Diesel Freight Set Operation Manual



Thank you for purchasing this RailKing product.
PLEASE READ BEFORE USE AND SAVE

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CAUTION: ELECTRICALLY OPERATED PRODUCT:

Not recommended for children under 10 years of age. M.T.H. recommends adult supervision with children ages 10 - 16. As with all electric products, precautions should be observed during handling and use to reduce the risk of electric shock.

WARNING: When using electrical products, basic safety precautions should be observed, including the following: Read this manual thoroughly before using this device.

- M.T.H. recommends that all users and persons supervising use examine the hobby transformer and other electronic equipment periodically for conditions that may result in the risk of fire, electric shock, or injury to persons, such as damage to the primary cord, plug blades, housing, output jacks or other parts. In the event such conditions exist, the train set should not be used until properly repaired.
- Do not operate your layout unattended. Obstructed accessories or stalled trains may overheat, resulting in damage to your layout.
- This train set is intended for indoor use. Do not use if water is present. Serious injury or fatality may result.
- Do not operate the hobby transformer with damaged cord, plug, switches, buttons or case.
- The transformer was designed to operate on regular US household current (120 volt, 50-60 Hertz). Do not connect to any other source of power.
- To avoid the risk of electrical shock, do not disassemble the transformer unit. There are no user-serviceable parts inside. If the unit is damaged contact M.T.H. Service for instructions.
- The transformer is equipped with an internal circuit protector. If the circuit protector trips, unplug the power cord from the electrical wall outlet, check your layout for any short circuits. The circuit breaker will reset automatically when the short is removed from the circuit.
- Unplug the transformer from the electrical wall outlet when not in use.
- Do not use this transformer for other than its intended purpose.

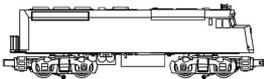
Transformer Ratings:

Input: 120 VAC, 60 Hz Only, Output: Z-750: 21VAC 3.75A75W; Z-1000: 14VAC 80W or 18VAC 100W
This product may be protected by one or more of the following patents: 6,019,289; 6,280,278; 6,281,606; 6,291,263; 6,457,681; 6,491,263; 6,604,641; 6,619,594; 6,624,537; 6,655,640. ©2005, M.T.H. Electric Trains, Columbia, MD 21046

Set Up Checklist

- Assemble RealTrax®
- Connect the transformer.
- Lubricate the engine.
- Place the engine and cars on the track and couple them together.
- Apply power to run as described in the Basic Operation section of these instructions.

Set Includes

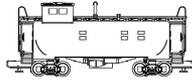


Diesel Engine with Proto-Sound® 2.0

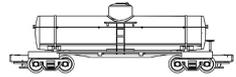
(Engine and cars are for example only.
Your set may contain different models than shown.)



Flat Car



Caboose



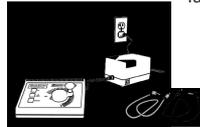
Tank Car



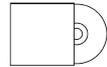
12-Pieces
O-31 Curve RealTrax



Lighted
Lock-On



Controller with Wiring Harness
and Transformer



CD-Rom/DVD

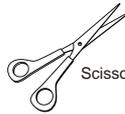
Tools Needed



Philips Screwdriver



Pliers



Scissors



Cotton Swab or Rag



RailKing Maintenance Kit or
Light Household Oil and Bearing Grease

You can obtain replacement parts and replacement instructions from the M.T.H. Parts Department

e-mail: parts@mth-railking.com

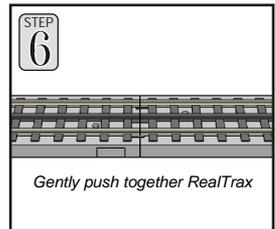
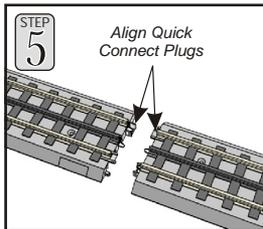
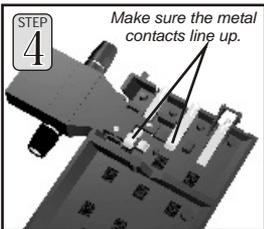
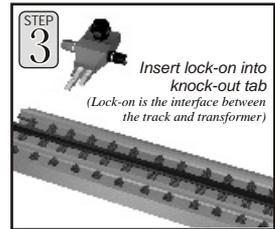
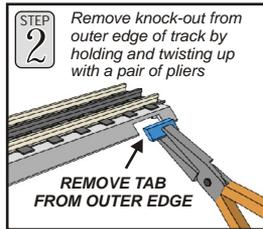
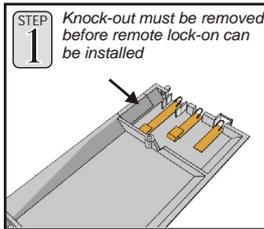
phone: 410-381-2580

mail: 7020 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia MD 21046-1532

Getting Started

Assembling RealTrax®

The quick connectors and built-in roadbed allow you to set up RealTrax anywhere, including carpeted surfaces.

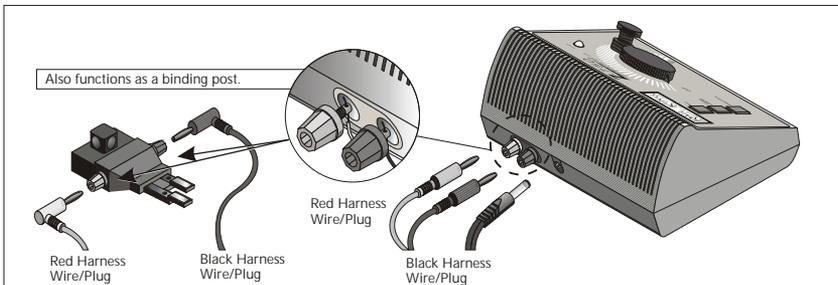


Connecting the Transformer

The transformer included with this set provides an easy-to-use, safe power source for AC-powered trains and accessories.

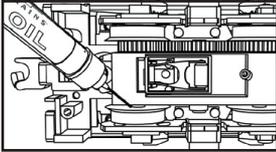
To complete the connection between the track and the transformer, simply plug in the color-coded wire harness that was included in your set and plug the transformer into your wall outlet.

- Plug the wire from the transformer into the Z-Controller's center port.
- Connect the Wires from the Z-Controller to the Lighted Lock-On, being sure that the wires are connected from red-to-red and black-to-black.
- Unplug when not in use

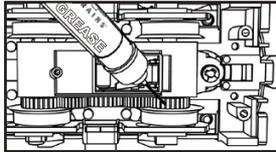


Lubricating and Greasing the Engine

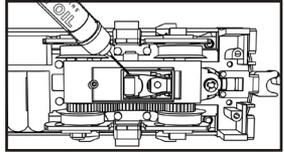
Lubricate all exposed moving parts before operating using a multi-purpose, plastic-compatible oil (available with M.T.H.'s Maintenance Kit, sold separately) or a light household oil. Follow the lubrication points.



Lubricate Axles

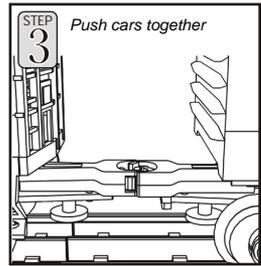
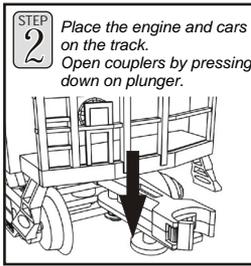
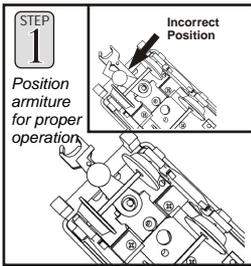


Grease Gears



Lubricate Pick-Up Rollers
(Do Not Lube the Flat Part of Pick-Up Rollers)

Coupling the Engine and Car



Basic Operation

The Throttle knob controls how fast your train will travel.

- Turn the throttle knob up ½-way, until the engine and caboose lights shine bright.
- Put the engine into motion by pressing the Direction button on your transformer once. (hold it for approximately 1 second)

If the engine does not begin to move as soon as you firmly press the Direction button, you may not have sent enough voltage to the track to make the train move. Turn the throttle up a bit higher until the train begins to move.

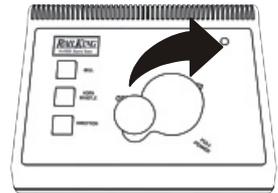
Operation Buttons

Throttle To increase or decrease track voltage, and therefore train speed, turn the throttle control knob. Turning it clockwise will increase voltage and speed, while turning it counterclockwise will decrease voltage and speed. The engine will maintain the speed you set after you release the throttle until you turn it again to change the voltage and speed.

Horn/Whistle - To sound the whistle, firmly press the Horn/Whistle button. The horn will sound for as long as you continue to depress the button. It will stop when you release the button.

Bell - To sound the bell, firmly press the bell button. The bell sound will continue until the bell button is firmly pressed a second time.

Direction Your train is programmed to start in neutral. The train will always cycle neutral-forward-neutral-reverse with each press and release of the direction button. The engine is programmed to restart in neutral each time the track voltage is turned off for 25 seconds or more.



Speed Control

M.T.H. engines equipped with Loco-Sound have speed control capabilities that allow the engine to maintain a constant speed up and down grades and around curves, much like an automobile cruise control. You can add or drop cars on the run, and the engine will maintain the speed you set.

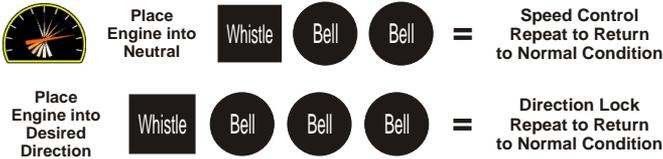
While the engine is programmed to start with the speed control feature activated, you can opt to turn it off. This means the engine's speed will fall as it labors up a hill and increase as it travels downward. It is also affected by the addition or releasing of cars while on the run. To maintain a constant speed when speed control is turned off, you need to adjust track voltage yourself.

To turn speed control on and off, put the engine in neutral, then quickly tap the transformer's Whistle button one time then quickly tap the Bell button two times, allowing approximately ½ second to lapse between each quick button press. Repeat the 1 whistle, 2 bells code to return it to the other condition. **You will want to do this during the initial neutral upon start-up if you ever couple this engine to another engine that is not equipped with speed control to avoid damaging the motors in either engine.** Each time you shut down the engine completely, it will automatically turn speed control on.

Direction Lock

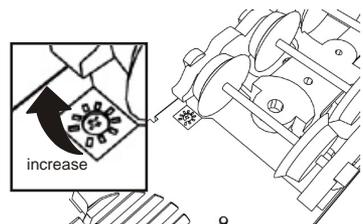
You can lock your engine into a direction (forward, neutral, or reverse) so that it will not change directions. To do this, put the engine into the direction you want or into neutral, to lock it into neutral, run it at a very slow crawl (as slowly as it will move without halting), and quickly but firmly tap the Whistle button once followed by three quick taps of the Bell button, allowing approximately 1/2 second to lapse between each quick button press. The engine will not change direction (including going into neutral) until you repeat the 1 whistle, 3 bells code to return the engine to its normal condition, even if the engine is kept without power for extended periods of time.

Timing Chart				
Press Whistle Short & Firm	1/2 Sec. Pause	Press Bell Short & Firm	1/2 Sec. Pause	Press Bell Short & Firm
Total Time Lapse: 1 1/2 Seconds				



Manual Volume Control

To adjust the volume of all sounds made by this engine, turn the master volume control knob located under the tender clockwise to increase the volume and counter-clockwise to decrease the volume.

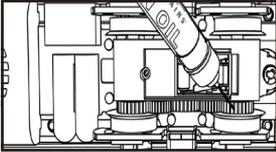


Maintenance

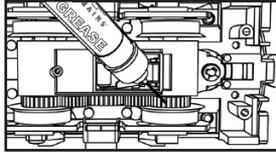


Lubricating and Greasing Instructions

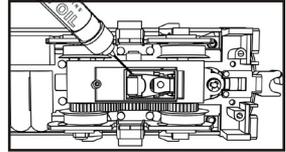
The engine should be oiled and greased in order to run properly.



Lubricate Axles



Grease Gears

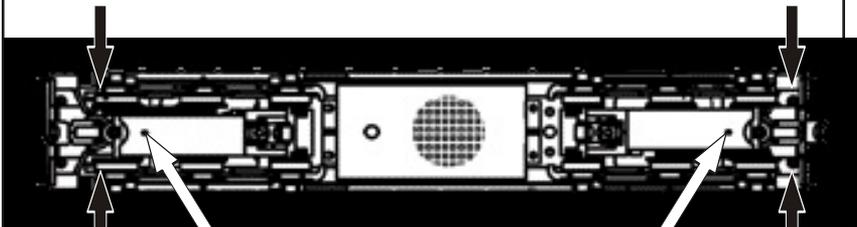


Lubricate Pick-Up Rollers
(Do Not Lube the Flat Part of Pick-Up Rollers)

Regularly lubricate all axles and linkage components and pickup rollers to prevent squeaking. Use light household oil, such as that found in M.T.H.'s maintenance kit. Do not over oil. Use only a drop or two on each pivot point. The locomotive's internal gearing was greased at the factory. Grease engine every 50 hours of use or one year. Use a lithium based grease and follow the greasing instructions. The locomotive's internal gearing was greased at the factory. Grease engine every 50 hours of use or one year. Use a lithium based grease and follow the greasing instructions.

STEP
1

Remove the four Phillips screws from the chassis then lift the body away from the chassis.

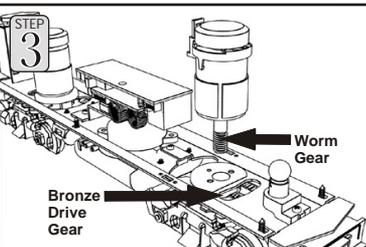


Motor
Mount
Screw

Motor
Mount
Screw

STEP
2

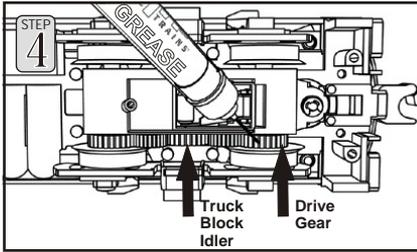
Remove the truck blocks from the chassis by unscrewing the large phillips motor mount screw on the bottom of each truck block.



Bronze
Drive
Gear

Worm
Gear

- Once the motor mount screw has been removed, pull the motor away from the truck block and lightly coat the motor worm gear and bronze drive gear (in the truck block) with grease.
- Reassemble the truck and motor, being careful not to pinch the pickup and ground wires between the truck block and motor mount.
- Repeat the procedure if engine has more than one motor.
- Reassemble the chassis and body, being careful that the wires are not caught between the body and chassis, as this can lead to a short that may damage the electronics beyond repair.



- Lubricate the outside truck block idler and drive gears with grease occasionally.

Cleaning the Wheels, Tires and Track

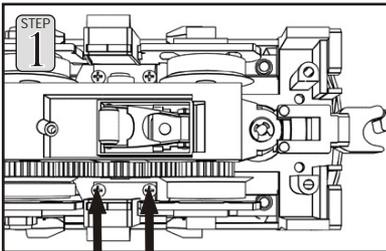
Periodically check the locomotive wheels and pickups for dirt and buildup, which can cause poor electrical contact and traction and prematurely wear out the neoprene traction tires. Wheels and tires can be cleaned using denatured (not rubbing) alcohol applied with a cotton swab.



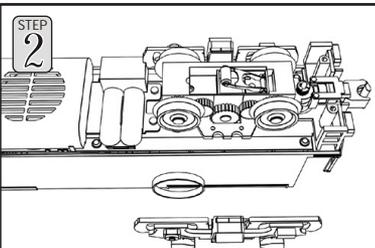
To clean the track, use RailKing Track Cleaning Fluid and a clean rag or denatured (not rubbing) alcohol. Unplug the transformer and wipe the rails of the track, turning the rag frequently to ensure that you are using clean cloth on the rails. Because the manufacturing process leaves a coating on RealTrax center rail, you should clean the rails after the first 30 minutes of use (you may notice an electrical smell during initial use as the coating wears off; this is normal). Thereafter, keep an eye on the track and clean it when it gets dirty to ensure good electrical contact and to lengthen the life of the tires.

Traction Tire Replacement Instructions

Your locomotive is equipped with two neoprene rubber traction tires on the rear set of flanged drivers. While these tires are extremely durable, you may need to replace them at some point.



- Remove two screws from below truck side.
- Remove the truck sides from the truck block.
- Make sure the old tire has been completely removed from the groove in the drive wheel, using a razor blade or small flathead screwdriver to pry away any remains.
- Clean the groove using a cotton swab and denatured alcohol.



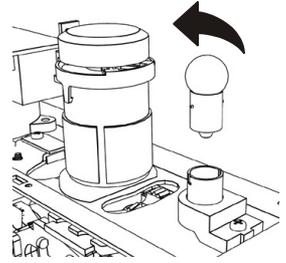
- Slip the new tire onto the wheel. You may find it useful to use two small flathead screwdrivers to stretch the tire over the wheel.
- If you twist the tire while stretching it over the wheel, you will need to remove and reinstall the tire. Otherwise your engine will wobble while operating.
- Make sure the tire is fully seated inside the groove. Use a razor blade to trim away any excess tire that doesn't seat itself inside the groove properly.
- Reassemble the truck sides to the truck blocks.

Locomotive Light Bulb Replacement

Follow the cab removal instructions found in the Greasing Instructions section of this booklet (page 11).

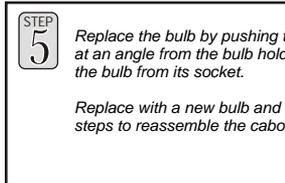
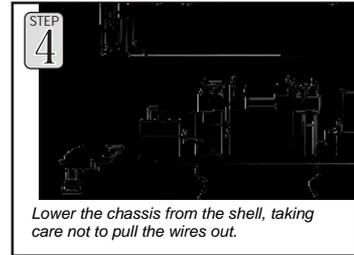
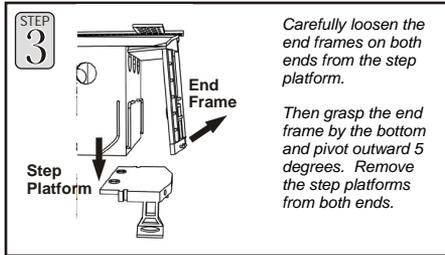
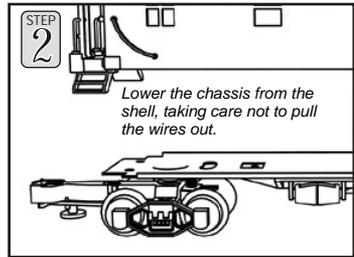
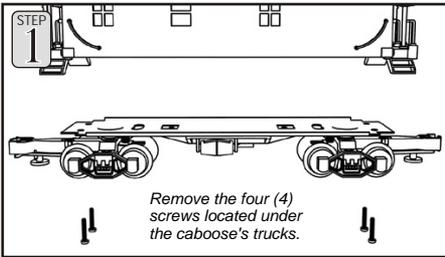
- Rotate the headlight bulb counter-clockwise to remove.

You can obtain replacement bulbs directly from the M.T.H. Parts Department.



Caboose Light Bulb Replacement

To replace the interior light bulbs follow these instructions and see the diagrams below



Quick-Start DVD

The included Quick-Start DVD demonstrates the start-up and basic operation of this set as well as other information about model railroading. You may find it helpful to view the DVD before operating this set.

RailWare Interactive CD ROM

M.T.H. provides a free RailWare CD ROM in each Ready-To-Run set. It is full of helpful information on M.T.H. product history, track planning software, a dealer finder, and information and video clips on Loco-Sound and Proto-Sound 2.0. Follow the directions below to use the CD ROM.

Minimum System Requirements: Pentium 100, 16MB RAM, Windows 95 or later, CD ROM drive, Sound Card, display properties set to greater than 256 colors. The CD will not work on a Mac OS unless you run VirtualPC®.

Running RR-Track Software

You may run the RR-Track software directly off of the CD ROM or you may install the software to your hard drive.

1. On the Desktop, click on the icon that says My Computer.
2. Find your CD ROM drive.
3. With the M.T.H. CD ROM in the drive, double click on the icon for the CD ROM drive.
4. Find the folder on the CD ROM entitled INSTALLATION.
5. Choose the folder inside entitled RRTRAXSETUP.
6. Run the file in that folder called SETUP.EXE and follow the directions it provides.

The program may ask you for a registration code. If it does type in "M.T.H." and it will run.

Additional track libraries can be obtained directly from RR-Track. See their website for more information www.rtrack.com.

Installing Adobe Acrobat Software

To read some of the electronic documents included on the CD ROM, you will need to install the Adobe Acrobat Reader® if it is not already on your computer. To install the software:

1. On the Desktop, click on the icon that says My Computer.
2. Find your CD ROM drive.
3. With the MTH CD ROM in the drive, double click on the icon for the CD ROM drive.
4. Find the folder on the CD ROM entitled INSTALLATION.
5. Choose the folder inside entitled ACROBAT READER.

*If you are running Windows 95, 98 or NT choose the folder 32 BIT. Run the file AR32E301.EXE and follow the directions it provides.

If you have problems you cannot resolve by using these directions, contact custserv@mth-railking.com or call 410-381-2580 for further help.

Troubleshooting Loco-Sound™ Problems

Although Loco-Sound has been designed and engineered for ease of use, you may have some questions during initial operation. The following table should answer most questions. If your problem cannot be resolved with this table, contact M.T.H. for assistance (e-mail: service@mth-railking.com; telephone: 410-381-2580; fax: 410-423-0009; mail: 7020 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia MD 21046-1532).

Starting Up		Remedy	
When I first turn the power on, the engine will not begin to run.		This is normal behavior. To prevent accidental high-speed start-ups, Loco-Sound is programmed to start up in neutral anytime track power has been turned off for several seconds. See the "Basic Operation" section for more details.	
The engine will not start after I press the Direction button.		You may not be sending enough power to the track to power the engine. Press the throttle up for a few more seconds to increase track power.	
Whistle		Remedy	
I can't get the whistle to blow when I press the whistle button.		You may be pressing the button too quickly. Try pressing the whistle button more slowly, taking approximately one full second to fully depress the button.	
Bell		Remedy	
I can't get the bell to ring when I press the bell button.		You may be pressing the button too quickly. Try	
Lock-out		Remedy	
I can't get the engine to run after I power up the transformer. It sits still with the engine sounds running.		The engine may be locked into the neutral position. Follow the procedure in the "Lock into a Direction" section to unlock the engine's direction.	
The engine won't lock into forward, neutral, or reverse.		Engine speed must be below 10 scale mph (approx. 10 volts or less in conventional mode).	
Volume		Remedy	
The sounds seem distorted, especially when the Horn or bell is activated.		Loco-Sound volume is set too high. Turn the volume control knob on the bottom of the tender counter-clockwise to reduce the volume .	
No sound.		Volume is set too low, adjust volume control knob on the bottom of the chassis clockwise to increase the volume or check connector to speaker.	

Compatibility

While this Ready-To-Run set is equipped with everything you need to operate it, the design allows flexibility. The train will operate on any traditional O-31 or larger O Gauge track system, including the RealTrax[®] included with this set or traditional tubular track. It is also compatible with most standard AC transformers, including the hobby transformer packaged with your set.

Transformer Compatibility and Wiring Chart

Note that many of the operational commands described in these instructions require a bell button, so if you are using a transformer other than the one included in this set and your transformer does not have its own bell button, you should consider adding one to get the full benefit of the system.

Transformer Model	Center Rail	Outside Rail	Min/Max. Voltage	Power Rating	Transformer Type
MTH Z-500	Red Terminal	Black Terminal	0-18v	50-Watt	Electronic
MTH Z-750	Red Terminal	Black Terminal	0-21v	75-Watt	Electronic
MTH Z-1000	Red Terminal	Black Terminal	0-14v 0-18v	80-Watt 100-Watt	Electronic
MTH Z-4000	Red Terminal	Black Terminal	0-22v	390-Watt	Electronic
Lionel 1032	U	A	5-16v	90-Watt	Standard
Lionel 1032M	U	A	5-16v	90-Watt	Standard
Lionel 1033	U	A	5-16v	90-Watt	Standard
Lionel 1043	U	A	5-16v	90-Watt	Standard
Lionel 1043M	U	A	5-16v	90-Watt	Standard
Lionel 1044	U	A	5-16v	90-Watt	Standard
Lionel 1053	U	A	8-17v	60-Watt	Standard
Lionel 1063	U	A	8-17v	60-Watt	Standard
All-Trol	Left Terminal	Right Terminal	0-24v	300-Watt	Electronic
Dallee Hostler	Left Terminal	Right Terminal			Electronic
Lionel LW	A	U	8-18v	75-Watt	Standard
Lionel KW	A or B	U	6-20v	190-Watt	Standard
Lionel MW	Outside Track Terminal	Inside Track Terminal	5-16v	50V.A.	Electronic
Lionel RS-1	Red Terminal	Black Terminal	0-18v	50V.A.	Electronic
Lionel RW	U	A	9-19v	110-Watt	Standard
Lionel SW	U	A	Unknown	130-Watt	Standard
Lionel TW	U	A	8-18v	175-Watt	Standard
Lionel ZW	A,B,C or D	U	8-20v	275-Watt	Standard
Lionel Post-War Celebration Series ZW	A,B,C or D	Common	0-20v	135/190 Watt	Electronic

Service & Warranty Information

How to Get Service Under the Terms of the Limited One-Year Warranty

When you suspect an item is defective, please check the operator's manual for standard operation and trouble-shooting techniques that may correct the problem. Additional information may be found on the M.T.H. Website. Should you still require service, follow the instructions below to obtain warranty service.

First, e-mail, write, call or fax a M.T.H. Authorized Service Center (ASC) in your area to obtain Repair Authorization. You can find the list of ASCs on the M.T.H. Website, www.mth-railking.com. Authorized Service Centers are required to make warranty repairs on items sold *only* from that store; all other repairs may-- or may not be done at the store's own discretion. If you did not purchase the item directly from the ASC, you will need to select a National Authorized Service Center (NASC). These centers are compensated by M.T.H. to perform warranty service for any customer whose repair qualifies for warranty service. A list of NASC retailers can be located on the M.T.H. Website or by calling 1-888-640-3700. Should the warranty no longer apply, you may choose either an ASC or NASC retailer to service your M.T.H. Product. A reasonable service fee will be charged.

CAUTION: Make sure the product is packed in its original factory packaging including its foam and plastic wrapping material to prevent damage to the merchandise. There is no need to return the entire set if only one of the components is in need of repair *unless otherwise instructed by the Service Center. **The shipment must be prepaid and we recommend that it be insured. A cover letter including your name, address, daytime phone number, e-mail address (if available), Return Authorization number (if required by the service center, a copy of your sales receipt and a full description of the problem must be included to facilitate the repairs. Please include the description regardless of whether you discussed the problem with a service technician when contacting the Service Center for your Return Authorization.***

Please make sure you have followed the instructions carefully before returning any merchandise for service. Authorized M.T.H. Service Centers are independently owned and operated and are not agents or representatives of M.T.H. Electric Trains. M.T.H. assumes no responsibility, financial or otherwise, for material left in their possession, or work done, by privately owned M.T.H. Authorized Service Centers.

If you need assistance at any time email MTH Service at service@mth-railking.com, or call 410 381-2580.

Limited One-Year Warranty

All M.T.H. products purchased from an Authorized M.T.H. Train Merchant are covered by this warranty.

See our website at www.mth-railking.com or call 1-888-640-3700 to identify an Authorized M.T.H. Train Merchant near you.

M.T.H. products are warranted for one year from the date of purchase against defects in material or workmanship, excluding wear items such as light bulbs, pick-up rollers, batteries, smoke unit wicks, and traction tires. We will repair or replace (at our option) the defective part without charge for the parts or labor, if the item is returned to the M.T.H. Authorized Service Center (ASC) where it was purchased or a M.T.H. National Authorized Service Center (NASC) within one year of the original date of purchase. This warranty does not cover damages caused by improper care, handling, or use. Transportation costs incurred by the customer are not covered under this warranty.

Items sent for repair must be accompanied by a return authorization number, a description of the problem, and a **copy of the original sales receipt from an Authorized M.T.H. Train Merchant**, which gives the date of purchase. If you are sending this product to an Authorized Service Center, contact that Center for their return authorization.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may have other rights that vary from state to state. Specific questions regarding the warranty may be forwarded to M.T.H. directly.

Service Department
M.T.H. Electric Trains
7020 Columbia Gateway Drive
.Columbia MD 21046-1532