

Hollwedel Special Runs – N Scale

Review by Jim Hinds

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Special runs of N Scale Santa Fe freight cars from Prototype N Scale Models by George Hollwedel (date is original shipping date of model):

BX-57:



- "Chief", road number 31368, Micro-Trains, October 2001.
- "El Capitan", road number 31538, Micro-Trains, February 2002.
- "Super Chief", road number 31396, and "Grand Canyon", road number 31729, Micro-Trains (Two-Pack), November 2002.
- "Chief", road number 31251; "Super Chief", road number 31375; "El Capitan", road number 31501; and "Grand Canyon", road number 31625, Micro-Trains (Four-pack), June 2007.

Micro-Trains makes an excellent, accurate PS-1 boxcar in N Scale. It is based on the 1949 PS-1 production. The BX-57 class was built in 1950. This results in the only flaw in this fine model; the end roof panels should have the stiffening rib but as in 1949, they are missing. The model is accurate otherwise, based on builder's photos. An interesting fact is that this BX-57 class was the only entire class with the train slogans and ship and travel slogans on the opposite sides from standard Santa Fe practice. This anomaly is accurately reproduced on these cars as well as having the roofs painted black, depicting the anti-skid surface used according to Santa Fe practice at the time of delivery.

BX-52



- "Grand Canyon", road numbers 276524 and 276609 (Two-pack), September 2003

These were 1947 built PS-1 boxcars on the Micro-Trains 1949 PS-1 body. The only deviation is in the upper end panels: the 1949 body has six

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stiffening ribs in the upper panel while the 1947 cars had a plain panel. The roofs are correctly painted black, and the lettering accurately matches the builders photos.

BX-27



- "El Capitan", road numbers 136575 and 136834, October 2003

These cars are 1937 AAR boxcars using the Intermountain 1937 AAR boxcar models and depict cars that were repainted between 1940 and 1947 with the system map. The Santa Fe used Duryea underframes on this class of car which are not present on the models. The cars are otherwise accurate, including the black roofs.



- "Texas Chief", road numbers 137753, 137969, 138010 and 138106, July 2006

These are the 1937 AAR Intermountain boxcars depicting cars repainted between 1948 and 1959 with the "Ship and Travel" slogan. Other than the lack of the Duryea underframe the cars are accurate including the black roofs.

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BX-44



- "Scout", road numbers 138800, 138834, 138875 and 138888, July 2005
- "Super Chief", road numbers 139013, 139038, 139069 and 139099, July 2005

These cars were built in 1946 and have the system map. The models are made on the Intermountain "modified" AAR boxcar with the "Murphy" roof instead of the diagonal panel roof applied. The doors and ends are very similar to the prototype but not 100% correct. They have the correct black roofs and the running boards are painted to depict the unpainted galvanized running boards used on the prototype cars.

TK-L



- Water service tank cars, road numbers 100812 and 100869 (Two-pack), June 2006

Santa Fe started adding color

bands to tank cars in the early 1940's to depict the service the cars were assigned to. The TK-L class seems to have been mostly in water service which used the green band. The Micro-Trains 39' tank car is the same general dimensions as the TK-L but does differ in some details. The most obvious is the model's vertical brake staff instead of the prototype design. The underframe differs as well but is very hard to see in N Scale.

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GA-72



- Two-bay hoppers road numbers 78013, 78130 and 78222 (Three-pack), March 2007

Santa Fe bought the GA-72 hoppers from Pullman-Standard in October of 1948. The Micro-Trains model is very close to the GA-72. The outer upper slope bracing spacing might be slightly different, but the cars are otherwise accurate.

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