



EMPIRE BUILDER



BRASS CAR SIDES

Passenger Car Parts for the Streamliners



In 1951, the Great Northern Railway re-equipped its premier train, the 1947 Pullman-Standard *Empire Builder*, with all new cars from ACF and P-S. In 1955, three Budd Vista Dome coaches replaced the three 48-seat coaches, and one Budd "View" series Great Dome Lounge was added to each trainset. The observation cars were exchanged and reconfigured. A number of cars were owned by the CB&Q and SP&S at various times. Please refer to our catalog sheets and the references for car numbers and names. A typical late-1950's summer consist with part numbers for BRASS CAR SIDES in brackets and the body kit code follows.

1	Storage Mail 275-series	
1	Baggage-Mail 37-42 (ACF)	[173-43 discontinued] R
1	Baggage-Dorm 1200-1205 (ACF)	[173-18 closeout] R
1	60-Seat Foot-rest Coach 1209-1214 (ACF)	[173-14 discontinued] R
3	48-Seat Vista Dome Leg-rest Coaches 1320-1335 (Budd)	[173-20 discontinued] C
1	48-Seat Leg-rest Coaches 1215-1231 (PS) Extra car	[173-12] R
1	Coffee Shop Lunch Counter "Ranch" Lounge 1240-1245 (ACF)	[173-10 discontinued] R
1	Diner (Lake Series) 1250-1255 (ACF)	[173-15 discontinued] R
1	Great Dome "View" Lounge 1390-1395 (Budd)	[173-27 closeout] B
2-3	7-4-3-1 "River" Sleeper 1260-1274 (P-S)	[173-11 discontinued] R
2-3	6-5-2 "Pass" Sleeper 1370-1384 (P-S)	[173-13 closeout] R
1	16-4 "Glacier" Sleeper 1181-1188 (P-S) Spokane-Seattle	[173-25] R
1	Observation Sleeper Lounge (Coolee Series) 1190-1194 (P-S)	

All side sets in this series have been designed to be used directly on Rivarossi [*not* IHC] "1930" (**R**) 85' coach and sleeper bodies, Con-Cor Budd dome coach (**C**) or Bachmann full-dome (**B**) bodies, without the need to shorten the plastic car. Non-dome car sides may also be used with our No. 101 Basic Body Kit. The Train Station Products No. 807 PS/ACF core kits have many nice features, but have a scale-length of 82'4", which is 6" shorter than the prototype. Thus, our earlier GN sides are too long to be used with the TSP core kit without modifications. The various construction methods are outlined on the back of this sheet. We offer HO and N-scale sides for the 1947 *Empire Builder*, *Western Star*, *Winnipeg Limited*, *Internationals*, and *Red River* which are described in other sheets.

REFERENCES

- GN Pictorials Vols. 3-5 by John F. Strauss, Jr. (Four Ways West Pub.)
- GN Color Guide to Freight and Passenger Equipment by David Hickcox (Morn. Sun)
- The Official P-S Library Vol. 3 GN-NP-SP&S by Randall & Ross (RPC Pub. O.P.)
- The Passenger Car Library Vo. 3 Western Roads by W. David Randall (RPC Publications)
- Passenger Cars 3 by Hal Carstens (Carstens, 2007) pp. 288-9 "River" sleepers
- Some Classic Trains by Arthur Dubin (Kalmbach, later Interurban, O.P.)

Streamliner Cars Vols. 1 P-S, 2 Budd, 3 ACF by David Randall (RPC Publications)
Car Names, Numbers and Consists by Robert Wayner (Wayner, out of print)
Illustrated Treasury of P-S Passenger Cars Vol. 1 by Mike Kerr (Delta, O.P.)
 "1947 Empire Builder Color Plans", Dec. 1991 *Model Railroader*

RECOMMENDED CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES

Overlay Method. Instructions for modeling the dome cars are covered in a separate sheet, with more references. In the overlay method, plastic surface features and window piers are filed down or trimmed with motor tool, knife and/or saw and the brass sides applied over the existing sides using thick ACC or (tacky-dry) Walthers Goo. Plastic skirts may be retained or removed as desired. The windows are reglazed immediately behind the openings in the brass, presenting a nearly flush appearance. Underbody details may be added or deleted, although those already present provide a realistic appearance.

Basic Body Kits. The Basic Body Kit consists of milled basswood roof, pewter end castings, basswood floor and centersill. Instructions for using the Body Kit are enclosed with each kit. This method is economical and allows for easy placement of underbody and roof details, and a more faithful rendition of the GN cars when more accurate detail parts are chosen and correctly positioned. This method also contributes to the recommended weight of the finished model.

DECALS, PAINTS, AND DETAIL PARTS

<u>Paints</u>	<u>Scalecoat</u>	<u>Floquil</u>	<u>Modelflex</u>	<u>Polly S</u>	<u>Tru-Color</u>
Orange & Green	45, 46		1664,1665	224, 227	TCP-49, 50
Big Sky Blue	56, 11		1663,1602	113, 203	TCP-51, 05
<u>Decals</u>	<u>Champ</u>	<u>Walthers</u>	<u>Microscale</u>		
Orange & Green	PH-45		87153, 87154		
Big Sky Blue	PH-128	52830			

Manufacturers producing detail parts for lightweight passenger cars include Train Station Products, Detail Associates, Eastern Car Works, Custom Finishing, American Limited Models, Precision Scale, Bill's Narrow Gauge Shops (for brass roof vents in particular), and Century Foundry. The Walthers HO Model Railroad Reference Book and manufacturers' web sites are your best sources of information on what is available. We particularly call your attention to: Train Station Products #460 & 461 underbody/floor kits, Century #200 Waukesha A/C, Detail Associates #6601, -02 & -03 grabirons, Custom Finishing Nos. 292 roof and underbody kit, American Ltd. Models #9000 diaphragms, TSP diaphragms, Cal-Scale 353 genemotor and 359 air brake set, trucks: Walthers 933-1035 GSC, MDC 2935. See our supplementary information sheets and online modeler contributions for photos and suggestions.

There is a variety of useful information on our web page www.brasscarsides.com. To receive paper copies of our combined HO and N-scale catalog, reservation sheet, and current bulletin, please send a two-stamp SSAE to **BRASS CAR SIDES**, 715 S. 7th St., Saint. Peter, MN 56082. Address e-mail to info@brasscarsides.com.

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