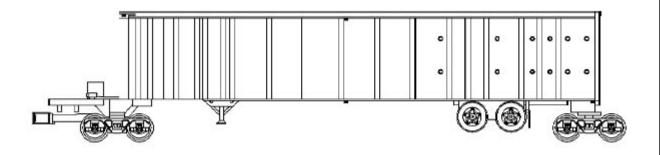


# **ROADRAILER®** and CouplerMate®

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

ART-46800 - 01



# **ARISTO-CRAFT TRAINS**

060904 NEW

# ARISTO-CRAFT TRAINS

Dear Model Railroader,

This RoadRailer® is a highly detailed #1 Gauge 1/29<sup>th</sup> scale model, and is suitable for both indoor and outdoor operation. It has been designed and manufactured to our usual high specifications. Please read this manual thoroughly before operation.

Should you have any questions regarding operation, proper usage or maintenance required on this or any other Aristo-Craft product, please do not hesitate to contact us at the following address:

#### ARISTO-CRAFT TRAINS / Polk's Modelcraft Hobbies, Inc.

698 South 21st Street, Irvington, NJ 07111 USA

Tel: (973) 351-9800 Fax: (973) 351-9700

e-mail: aristo@mindspring.com Web Page: www.aristocraft.com

Our customer service department phones are open from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

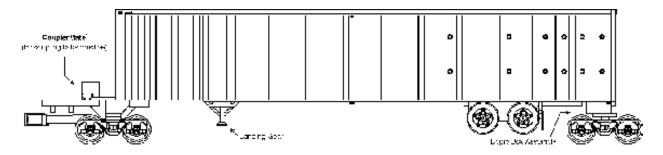
#### **Prototype Information**

The modern RoadRailer® system is built by **Wabash National Corporation**. The RoadRailer® system is perhaps the ultimate in the evolution of the intermodal/TOFC concept. Why put the trailer on the flat car when all you need to do is put the trailer on a set of railroad trucks?

Each RoadRailer® trailer rides on a single 2 axle freight truck. Each RoadRailer® trailer is connected to the next with a tongue and pin connection. The lead trailer is connected to the locomotives with an adapter bogie called a "CouplerMate®". Strings of 100 or more RoadRailer® trailers can be pulled by a single locomotive.

RoadRailer® and CouplerMate® are registered trademarks of Wabash Technology Corp., All Rights Reserved. Used with permission.

www.wabashnational.com



#### **Model Information**

Perfect for your modern Aristo-Craft large scale locomotives, Aristo-Craft's 53' RoadRailer® system is among the most contemporary models ever made for G-gauge. Our 53' RoadRailer® trailers come with realistic paint schemes, metal wheels on fully sprung roller bearing trucks, and 2 trailer to trailer drawbars, allowing for 3 different tongue lengths, enabling operation on curves as small as 8' diameter. This model is sure to add to the "WOW" factor of any G-gauge layout The RoadRailers® are designed to run in groups either in a dedicated unit train or as a block on the end of a train. While theoretically possible to do so, it is not recommended to pull cars behind RoadRailers.

Aristo-Craft does not recommend operating RoadRailers® on curves where the diameter is less the 8 feet (4 foot radius) or through switches with a smaller then 10 foot diameter (5 foot radius).

#### RoadRailer® (ART-46800 Series) Features:

- Single Pack includes 1 RoadRailer® Trailer and 1 CouplerMate®
- 3 Pack includes 3 RoadRailer® Trailers and 1 CouplerMate®
- Sprung roller bearing style trucks with rotating bearing caps and Metal Wheels
- Operating AAR-Design knuckle coupler (On CouplerMate® Transition Bogie)
- 2 trailer to trailer drawbars, allowing for 3 different tongue lengths
- Realistic painting & authentic detailing
- A companion line of Tractor Trailers

#### Installation of detail parts

Raised (shorter) landing gear for rail operations.

Lowered (longer) landing gear for parked trailer.

Raised rear bumper for rail operations (see page 12).

Lowered rear bumper for road.

Landing gear crank goes on driver's side of trailer.

5<sup>th</sup> wheel pin NOT provided because trailer designed either to be used on rails or as a static display.

## **Storing Unused Parts**

To reduce chance of loss, placing unused parts in a small plastic bag, and then storing them inside trailer before re-installing underframe/floor may be helpful.

#### **Trailer Disassembly (screw removal)**

There are three screws along the centerline of the underframe of the trailer. Removal of these three screws will allow the underframe/floor to be removed. Removal of some or all of the screws will be necessary for proper modifications of the RoadRailer® trailer, including changing draw bar tongues or installing the CouplerMate® on rear of trailer.

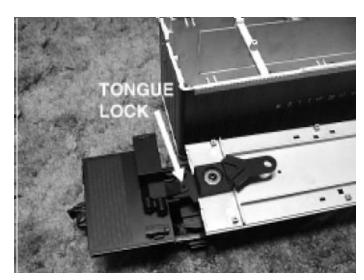
## Removal of CouplerMate® from front of trailer

- 1. Remove screw from fifth wheel pad.
- 2. If necessary with small flat head screw driver, disengage tongue pin from tongue lock on CouplerMate® by gently lifting tongue lock (see photo below).

The short drawbar tongue is used with the CouplerMate®. If you are removing the CouplerMate® in order to run multiple RoadRailers® in a train, a second drawbar with a longer tongue is included and should be installed (see page 7).

The lead RoadRailer® in your train requires the use of the CouplerMate® to couple to the locomotive.

The photo shows the CouplerMate® mounted on the front of the trailer underframe/floor. For clarity, the underframe was removed from the trailer body for the photo.



#### Change out of drawbar tongue

Due to different needs, drawbars of different lengths are provided. One drawbar has a medium tongue that is recommended for greater then 10' diameter curves. This drawbar also has a short tongue for use with the CouplerMate®. The second drawbar has a long tongue and is recommended for 8'-10' diameter curves. The short tongue is close to scale length and is only recommended for attaching to CouplerMate®.

- 1. Remove front and middle trailer mounting screws.
- 2. Lift (flex) trailer underframe to allow removal of drawbar tongue.
- 3. Unscrew and remove drawbar tongue.
- 4. Install and screw drawbar tongue of desired length in place.
- 5. Replace trailer underframe and reinstall front and middle trailer mounting screws.

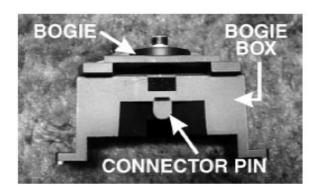
The photo shows the longer drawbar tongue mounted on the front of the trailer underframe/floor after the underframe was removed from the trailer body.

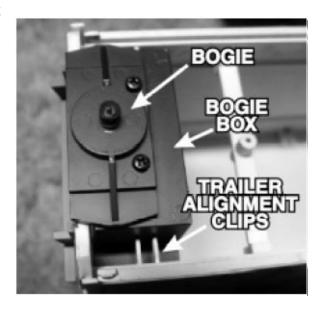


#### Removal of Bogie Box Assembly (consists of Bogie Box, Bogie, and freight truck).

- 1. Remove rear underframe/floor mounting screw.
- 2. Lift (flex) trailer underframe/floor to allow removal of Bogie Box Assembly.
- 3. Gently rotate Bogie Box assembly towards rear of trailer to allow Bogie Box to pass trailer alignment clips.
- 4. Lift Bogie Box Assembly from trailer.
- 5. Reinstall rear underframe/floor and mounting screw.

Note: the truck was removed from the Bogie in the pictures for clarity.





## Removal/Installation of Bogie from Bogie Box

Remove two screws securing Bogie to Bogie Box. Rotate freight truck as necessary to allow clearance for screwdriver.

When installing Bogie, make sure the connector pin end of the Bogie Box is oriented towards the rear of the trailer. The Bogie has a front and a rear. The front of the Bogie has the two screw holes for mounting the Bogie to the Bogie Box. When installing on Bogie Box, Install Bogie so rear overhangs the pin end of the Bogie Box.

## **Installation of Bogie Box Assembly**

- 1. Remove rear underframe/floor mounting screw.
- 2. Lift (flex) trailer underframe/floor to allow installation of Bogie Box Assembly.
- 3. Slide Bogie Box Assembly into position on trailer underframe. Make sure Bogie Box Assembly is oriented correctly with connector pin end of the Bogie Box oriented towards rear of trailer.
- 4. Rotate Bogie Box assembly towards rear of trailer to allow Bogie Box to pass trailer alignment clips.
- 5. Reinstall rear underframe/floor mounting screw.

The photo shows the underside of the trailer underframe/floor after the longer drawbar tongue was mounted in place of the CouplerMate® at the front of the trailer.



# **Installation of CouplerMate® to Rear of Trailer**

For ease of installation, remove freight truck from CouplerMate®.

- 1. Remove rear underframe/floor mounting screw.
- 2. Remove Bogie Box Assembly and Bogie from Bogie Box

The Bogie Box has two ends. One end has a pin for attaching additional RoadRailer® Trailers. The second end does not have a pin. The end without a pin will be turned towards the rear of the trailer for installation of the CouplerMate®.

3. Reinstall Bogie Box in trailer with non-pin end facing rear of trailer. Hold Bogie Box to prevent it from falling into the trailer.

- 4. Place CouplerMate® into position by sliding tongue lock through slot on rear of trailer. This should sufficiently hold the Bogie Box preventing it from falling into trailer.
- 5. Secure CouplerMate® to Bogie Box by installing the two screws formerly used to secure Bogie to Bogie Box.
- 6. Reinstall rear underframe/floor and mounting screw.
- 7. Install 5<sup>th</sup> wheel mounting screw to secure 5<sup>th</sup> wheel pad to trailer.
- 8. Reinstall freight truck on CouplerMate®

The photo shows the underside rear of the trailer after the CouplerMate® was installed at the rear. For clarity, the truck has not yet been replaced in the photo.



#### **Rear Bumper Installation**

RoadRailer® bumpers "flip" up for rail use or down for roadway use.

You can model either rail or road use by selecting one of the two bumpers supplied with your RoadRailer® model.

The photo shows the raised bumper mounted for rail use.



#### Trucks

The trucks are miniatures of the Barber S-2 style of modern roller bearing trucks. The end caps on the axles rotate with the wheels, and each truck has six springs. There are replaceable bushings in each of the journals. These bushings may be lubricated, if necessary, using a good quality **plastic compatible** oil.

#### **Trailer Wheel Positioning**

The trailer wheels can be moved for either of two positions.

Raised for rail operations

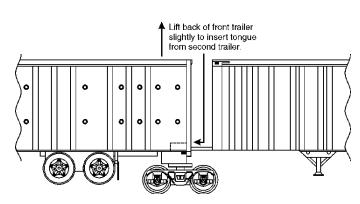
Lowered for road

#### Adding Weight to the RoadRailer®

Additional weight can be added to the RoadRailer® (individual experiences will vary).

#### **Trailer to Trailer Connecting Procedure**

- 1. Place lead RoadRailer® on rails.
- 2. Lift rear of the body of RoadRailer® leaving freight trucks on the rails.
- 3. Slide tongue of second RoadRailer® into slot on rear of first RoadRailer®
- 4. Lower body of first RoadRailer® onto tongue of second RoadRailer®.
- 5. The Bogie Box Pin inside the slot of first RoadRailer® should engage the hole in the tongue of second RoadRailer®.
- 6. Repeat for each RoadRailer® trailer added to the train.



#### **Safety Information**

Aristo-Craft Models are electric devices. Like with all electric devices, proper care and respect of electricity must be kept at all times.

Do not handle while power is being provided. Turn off or disconnect all electrical power sources before handling any model.

Proper adult supervision is necessary for all children.

Aristo-Craft products are recommended for ages 8 and up.



#### LIMITED WARRANTY

All ARISTO-CRAFT TRAINS products are under warranty for five (5) years from the date of purchase against defects in workmanship and/or materials. Proof of purchase *may be required* by ARISTO-CRAFT TRAINS.

This warranty is void and does not apply to any product and/or parts and components which have been improperly installed by the purchaser/owner, abused or damaged in any way through improper operation such as but not limited to derailment, repairs or modifications performed by non-authorized service centers or technicians.

#### SERVICING

Should your ARISTO-CRAFT TRAINS product require warranty service, please return it in the original box, if possible, protected by a proper shipping carton. Send the product fully insured and prepaid. ARISTO-CRAFT TRAINS will not be responsible for any loss or damage incurred during shipping. Be sure to include a brief, but thorough explanation of the problem, together with your name, street address (no Post Office box please), city state or province and country, if outside of the United States. Also include a daytime telephone number so that we may contact you if necessary. Your return address should be clearly marked on the outside of the shipping carton.

The proper payment for shipping and handling, in U.S. funds, should also be included as follows:

Locomotive or complete train set ......\$20.00

Accessories, switches, track, freight or passenger cars, rail cars, tenders, etc. \$10.00

Your check or money order should be made payable to: Polk's Modelcraft Hobbies, Inc. Do not send cash. If your item is not covered by warranty service, you will be contacted and a repair estimate given before any work commences.

The shipping address to be used for returns is as follows:

ARISTO-CRAFT TRAINS / Polk's Modelcraft Hobbies, Inc.

Customer Service Department 698 South 21st Street Irvington, NJ 07111 USA

Tel: (973) 351-9800 Fax: (973) 351-9700

Written confirmation of receipt of returned items will be sent with estimated repair time by the



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