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SUNSHINE MODELS

Box 3054 Salinas CA 93912

Missouri Pacific 45' Steel Gondola Paneled and Non-Paneled Side Versions

From the late 1930s until late 70s the Missouri Pacific Railroad and its subsidiaries owned a block of all steel gondolas with paneled sides. Found throughout the country until their retirement to company service, they provided a unique symbol of the MoP. The cars were employed in all the standard jobs for gondolas, but one interesting use was to carry silica sand from the White River Division to glass plants in the northeast U.S. The cars had an interior length of 45' and an interior height of 45". This gave them a capacity of 1634 cubic feet and 100000 lbs. They were given the "GB" designation. These 2400 cars were constructed in 1937, 39 and 42 by Mount Vernon and Pressed Steel Car Cos. The parent company took 1775 cars and numbered them 22000 to 23774. The International Great Northern received 175 in the 15100 to 15274 block. The Missouri-Illinois had 100 in their numbers 2100-2199. The St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico received 350 and numbered them 15275 to 15624. The New Orleans, Texas and Mexico received none. The Official Railway Equipment Register of October, 1948 shows 2395 remained in service, indicating a durable car.

The parent's DeSoto, Missouri Shops built a similar car in 1948. It was identical in most respects, differing primarily in the replacement of paneled sides with plain sides. The change reduced the capacity of the car to 1590 cubic feet. DeSoto built 1000 cars and distributed 840 to the parent, 80 to the IGN and 80 to the St.LB&M. The parent's car numbers followed those of the paneled side cars, 23775 to 24614. The IGN placed their cars in the range 14920-999, while the St.LB&M numbered theirs 15625 to 15704. The railroad apparently intended more 45' cars, because the M.P. cars were placed in a block ending in 24774, 160 beyond the last car. However, the DeSoto gondola design changed in 1949 to a 52'6" long, 45" height fishbelly side gondola.

The Sunshine Models kit employs modern styro-urethane casting, that is, flexible styrene impregnated urethane resin casting, to duplicate the major parts of the car. Car is unpainted. Commercially available detail parts, such as Cal-Scale AB brake sets and Detail Associates stirrups, have been added. A specialized decal set is included with each kit. Five pages of instructions with prototype photos and history is included, also.

The kit is available directly from Sunshine Models, P.O. Box 3054, Salinas CA 93912. Kits sell for \$22.00 each plus \$1.95 for shipping of up to five kits. California residents, please add 6% sales tax.

Please send me the following Sunshine Models kits:

- ___ Missouri Pacific 22000 series Panel Side Gondola, \$22.00
- ___ Missouri Pacific 23775 series Non-Panel Side Gondola, \$22.00

Enclosed is \$ _____ for the kits. Please ship to:

Name _____

Street _____ City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

