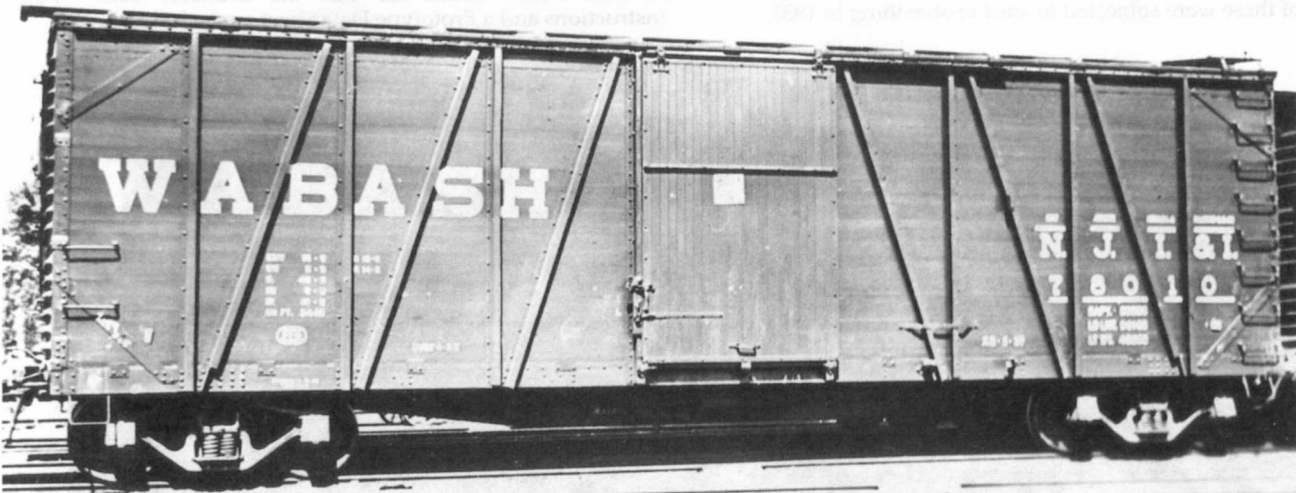




**SUNSHINE
MODELS**

Wabash & NJI&I 10' IH Autocars



The Wabash owned over 5000 single sheathed autocars during the steam and early diesel era, perhaps unequalled for this design among the major U.S. and Canadian railroads. The road sat astride the major arteries of the automobile construction industry in both countries and its need for a plentiful supply of autocars was obvious.

The cars were purchased throughout the Twenties. Though all of the cars were outside braced with a radial roof and fishbelly underframe, their dimensions grew in size as the decade proceeded. The first block of 1000 cars and some replacement cars had an 8'6" inside width. With succeeding blocks, the width was 9'. In the mid-Twenties the cars had a 10' IH, 11' door openings with wood doors, ARA cast side frame trucks and 5/5/6 Murphy ends. The first innovation in 1926 was 3/3/3 Dreadnaught ends and steel 11' doors. By 1928 the inside height increased to 10'3", then 10'4", with 12' door openings and steel Youngstown doors. A few of the older designs were scattered in the late Twenties as replacement cars were built. All cars had a 40 ton capacity.

The subjects of this kit release are cars with 10' IH, both narrow and wide inside width and 11' door openings covered with both wood and steel 1 3/4 doors. In addition, the cars rebuilt to 6' door openings are included.

The Wabash's subsidiary New Jersey, Indiana and Illinois, also owned cars of these designs. Though the 9' IW cars were purchased from it by the Wabash and re-lettered WAB, the NJI&I retained 195 cars of the 8'6" IW designs in 1948, of which 166 were 6' door rebuilds, 78000-199 series, and 29 were wood 1 1/2 door cars, 3000-199 series.

The Wabash autocars had wood running boards. The hand brake was a non-powered ratchet style appliance. Brakes were initially KC, but later AB.

The cars were painted boxcar red. Lettering was white. The block "WABASH" was inserted between the vertical and diagonal braces. "AUTOMOBILE" was applied to the car side opposite the company name on cars with wide door openings.

