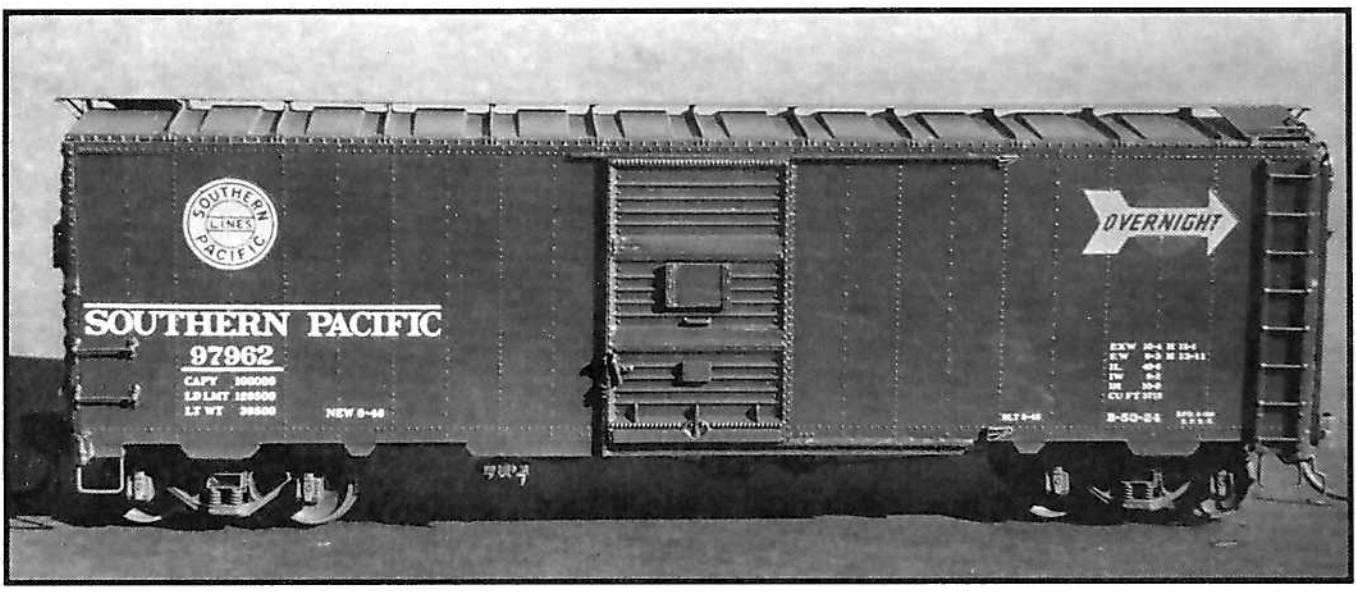




S.P. B-50-24 1944 AAR Design 10' IH ACR Side Overnight and Express Boxcars



The Southern Pacific's Overnight Service cars were as unique as the road's flamboyant Daylights. To reflect the nighttime movement, the assigned cars bore black paint with lettering of white, red and yellow. The S.P. had for years offered overnight merchandise service, using the B-50-15/16 outside braced boxcars, some of which had their wood sheathing replaced with steel sheeting. The service was inaugurated on the LA-San Francisco route, but was progressively expanded to other routes.

The Overnight painted cars were not restricted to the solid trains of Overnight cars or to on-line service. Many photos--most notably M.D. McCarter's shot of an Overnight car in Indiana only months after being built--confirm off-line use.

The B-50-24s arrived in 1945, 450 for Overnight service and 50 for head-end mail/express service. The fifty express service cars were painted in the S.P. dark olive green with dulux gold lettering. The Overnight cars received Nos. 97620-98069, while the express cars received 5700-5749.

The S.P. B-50-24s were part of the road's early postwar strategy of building AAR 1944 design boxcars to a 10' inside height, something shared with such roads as the B&O, NYC,

WM, NH and CNJ. The cars were most noteworthy, however, for their use of Alternate Center Rivets sides, abbreviated to ACR. There was an extra vertical row of rivets in the middle of each section of the steel sides which tied the sheathing to a vertical post. This design--most common on the U.P. and to a lesser extent the Cotton Belt--allowed use of lighter steel. While the S.P. retained the idea of 10' IH cars for a few more years of construction, they did not repeat the ACR sides.

The B-50-24s were built by Mt. Vernon with welded underframes. All cars received the ASF ride control trucks. Some express cars got Allied Full Cushion trucks between 1947-54, later still they received 6' express trucks. The express service cars had steam and signal lines and a small card holder to the left of the door. All cars got Miner power hand brakes.

The Sunshine kits use gray urethane castings, injection molded plastic roof and commercial detail parts. The kits come with an etched stainless steel Morton style running board. Full instructions and a Prototype Data Sheet are included. Decals are proprietary. Appropriate trucks are available separately.

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- ___ Kit #32.1 S.P. ACR side B-50-24 with etched metal running board and white, red and yellow ltrng for black car, \$29
- ___ Kit #32.2 S.P. ACR side Express B-50-24 with etched metal running board and dulux gold ltrng for dark olive car, \$30
- ___ TP46 Plastic, black, non-magnetic ASF A-3 Ride Control trucks with metal wheelsets, \$5.00
- ___ Part #D1 Kadee No. 5 couplers, \$1.25

Name DISCONTINUED Street SEE NEXT PAGE →

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Add \$3.00 for shipping per five kits in U.S. (MO residents add 5.975%), Canada \$5.60 for two kits
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