

# THE POWERLINE UPDATE

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## Merry Christmas

and a

## Happy New Year

Yes it is that time of year again and the team from Powerline Models Pty Ltd, Powerline Direct and the Powerline Production Centre would like to wish all our readers, customers and enthusiasts seasons greetings and best wishes.

With Christmas upon us Powerline would like to remind you that we have great gift ideas for friends, new starters and beginners. Suggestions start with our range of quality train sets which are the best you will buy in Australia. To add to those train sets we have expansion packs, locomotives, passenger carriages and freight wagons. So when shopping for great Christmas gifts do not forget Powerline, we have something for everybody with our range of Australian trains.

### The Train Shed & Roger Jones

Roger and Beverley Jones with the Train Shed are still at Vicaries Winery on The Northern Rd in Luddenham.

At the Train Shed they have a retail store, a kiosk, HO displays under construction in the double decker carriage and rides for little, and big, children.

A great day out for child and adult with Thomas the Tank and friends is waiting at The Train shed.

Open every Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday, Public holidays and School holidays from 10am to 4pm.

### Containers

Due to great demand and popularity Powerline Models Pty Ltd has re-released the TNT, K&S and FCL 20-foot containers last seen in 1999. By the time you read this newsletter stocks of these items should be available in stores, but due to the limited nature of this containers run the containers will only be available on flat cars, in Gondolas and in train sets.

On the Flat cars will be the following:

P622A TNT  
P682 K&S  
P684 FCL

These will retail for about \$21.30

This is basically a re-release of the Container wagons Powerline had back in 1998 and which sold out very quickly. These are available now.

In the Gondolas will be the following 2 containers:

P671TNT V/Line Gondola with TNT containers  
P671KS V/Line Gondola with K&S containers  
P671FCL V/Line Gondola with FCL containers

P672TNT SAR Gondola with TNT containers  
P672KS SAR Gondola with K&S containers  
P672FCL SAR Gondola with FCL containers

P674TNT AN Gondola with TNT containers  
P674KS AN Gondola with K&S containers  
P674FCL AN Gondola with FCL containers  
  
P676TNT Yellow Gondola with TNT containers  
P676KS Yellow Gondola with K&S containers  
P676FCL Yellow Gondola with FCL containers  
  
P678TNT NR Gondola with TNT containers  
P678KS NR Gondola with K&S containers  
P678FCL NR Gondola with FCL containers  
  
P510TNT Black Gondola with TNT containers  
P510KS Black Gondola with K&S containers  
P510FCL Black Gondola with FCL containers  
  
P511TNT Blue Gondola with TNT containers  
P511KS Blue Gondola with K&S containers  
P511FCL Blue Gondola with FCL containers  
  
P512TNT Indian Red Gondola with TNT containers  
P512KS Indian Red Gondola with K&S containers  
P512FCL Indian Red Gondola with FCL Containers

These will retail for about \$27.95 each.

Back in the early 1990s Powerline had a range of Gondolas with 20 foot and 40 foot containers.

Powerline recently decided to review this concept and has now released the range you see above. These are all available now but be quick as 2001 supplies are limited, some lines have almost sold out now, and more stock will not be available till 2002.

### The F3A Locomotive

The little F3A locomotive with the can motor, all wheel drive, all wheel power pick up and a metal chassis has proved very popular. Painted in AN green and yellow it has sold well in train sets, and individually, with many people now requesting other liveries be done.

Well the news is that Powerline will produce the F3A in the Victorian V/Line livery and the NSW Candy livery for train sets with a few possibly available later for individual sales. So now there will be a Victorian and NSW range of train sets. A V/Line painted locomotive with V/Line tangerine coaches will look great and a F3A in NSW Candy livery will also look good pulling Candy coaches. This new range of train sets will expand on the range of top quality basic train sets in the Linkline range. These should prove a popular addition to the Powerline beginners' range of train sets. L202 and L203 are not expected to be available till early 2002.

This will increase the beginners' range of quality locomotives to three as follows:

L201 AN Green and yellow  
L202 V/Line Tangerine and grey  
L203 NSW Candy

For 2002, based on our current success, these train sets are expected to sell very well. Based on the quality, reliability and the price the Linkline LB range of train

sets will be the train sets to have. To put it simply those stores who are serious about customer service, quality, reliability, value for money and who believe in what they sell, will be selling Powerline train sets.

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### **The Web Site [www.powerline.com.au](http://www.powerline.com.au)**

This site is well and truly up and running, what's more it has already been updated twice. Yes the news section on the front page, the Powerline Updates, the price listing and the various listings on the site have been updated. The aim is for at least a minimal updating every month.

This is the official and only web site for information and news concerning and about Powerline Models Pty Ltd. If you want more information or have a specific question then e-mail [support@powerline.com.au](mailto:support@powerline.com.au) or [sales@powerline.com.au](mailto:sales@powerline.com.au)  
Secure on-line ordering is available for all items available and listed on the price list.

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### **The Little Architect.**

The Little Architect is a little known brand that manufactures its own unique building blocks here in Australia. Similar in ideology to Lego these building blocks go beyond Lego in that they can form structures and architectural finishes that Lego just can not achieve. Archways, curved brick roads, angled structures, angled and curved walls and suspension bridges are just the beginning. For those of you with children from 3 years and older this is a great product which is more than an alternative to Lego but a replacement which is Australian Made and owned.

What has this got to do with Powerline you may ask? For starters the little architect is an Australian company with product produced here in Australia plus they are incorporating Powerline train sets in their display at Chadstone shopping centre. In fact they have a display with track taped to a suspended brick roadway. Pylons, piers, a suspension bridge and a Sydney harbour type bridge, suspend this brick roadway. Talk about new possibilities and ingenuity for younger modellers this is totally different.

For those in Melbourne who want to have a look at the Little Architect display, it is on the top level of Chadstone outside Lincraft in a craft cart. This is another great gift idea for Christmas, that like Powerline, is not available in the department stores but represents a great Australian owned company and quality product.

When next you consider buying Lego may we suggest you consider the Little Architect, those who have never buy Lego again.

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### **P415A and P416A VR Red S Coaches return**

The red/marron S type coaches which carried people across Victoria up until the 1960s are available again. Up until about 1954 only the Spirit of Progress passenger carriages were blue and gold. So from about 1937 to 1954 the blue and gold was the livery of the Victorian Railways pride and joy, The Spirit of Progress.

In 1954 the Victorian Railways decided to use the blue and gold as the standard livery for its fleet of S coaches. The maroon/red colours remained on some coaches well into the late 1960s but by the early 1970s they had all been repainted.

Powerline has the first and second class coaches available individually or you can buy a set of three with first class, second class and buffet coaches. The Buffet coaches are only available in the 3-coach set with a choice of either Mitta Mitta or Wimmera in the Buffets.

All coaches are also available in the blue and gold.

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### **Red and Silver VR in Pictures.**

Quite a few people have questioned us on the VR Red and Silver coaches. The main question concerning the lack of colour photographs. Well recently Train Hobby Publications release a colour poster of the Spirit of Progress in May 1953.

The interesting part of this photo is that the carriage consist includes a red and silver coach. The question then is, why was there a red and silver coach in the Spirit of Progress consist?

The answer appears to be that from time to time due to servicing and running repairs, Blue and Gold VR coaches were in short supply. So to keep up the strength and to maintain services, red and silver coaches were used.

Other colour pictures we have seen, have the red and silver coaches operating into the 1960s.

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### **Train sets for Christmas**

The new train sets are proving quite popular and successful. Part of the success is due to the reliability and durability of the train sets and the quality products they contain. No other train set brand or range up to \$200 retail price can match our sets. Sure other brands are cheaper and possible have more products/gimmicks inside but none has the quality, reliability and the durability to match ours. Our sets will still be operational 1 month, 2 months, 3 months, 12 months, 24 months and more later. Many other train sets do not get beyond 2 months let alone 12 months.

Features in the LB range, budget set range, include:

- A locomotive with all wheel drive, all wheel pick up, can motor and full metal chassis
- Three pieces of Powerline or Freightline rolling stock
- Top Quality Nickel Silver Atlas code 100 HO track, compatible with most other quality track brands
- An Australian standards and approved transformer/controller
- All Australian box, packaging and assembly

Do not be fooled by similar looking locomotives, they are all plastic and prone to damage, and poor track, which is usually steel, alloy or brass.

If you are serious about buying a good train set or quality model trains, then support your local hobby store

because the best in service, advice and product can not be obtained from department stores, toy stores and discounters. They just can not handle the needs of hobbyists, as they do not have the expertise, experience or the product.

As noted previously, 2002 will see the expansion of the train set range with two new liveries available on the ever-popular F3A. With a metal chassis, can motor, all metal wheels, all wheel pick up and all wheel drive who is going to want the other sets with their mostly plastic construction and poor reliability history.

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### **The 48/830 Class Y2K chassis**

A large number of people have made inquiries regarding the latest evolution of the 830/48 Class mechanism.

The Y2k, or Year 2000, mechanism is an upgraded and improved version of the previous mechanism. The newer mechanism has had modifications to the chassis, lighting positioning, motor housing, wheels and has the new and improved Mabuchi mark 3 motor and our own improved traction tyres. On top of this there has also been changes to the manufacturing and assembly process. The end result is a better running locomotive, with better traction and much improved performance. This was witnessed at the AMRA NSW divisions layout when a stock standard P239 Austrac 48 Class locomotive owned by Ross Moar cruised up a grade on the club layout with 23 passenger carriages unassisted. Now the question is can the real locomotive achieve this in real life?

Improvements in smooth running, slow running and performance are just the beginning. Other issues that have been fixed include the over heating nature of the previous motor and the proximity of the lighting to the body. Better traction, less if any wobble and smoother starts combined with the other performance improvements to make this the best 48 Class mechanism yet. It has become common place to hear from collectors and others who have purchased the latest 830/48 class models, how much better the locomotive is and how much they like it.

Currently this new mechanism is only available in the 48 Class mark one guise. The new power bogie can replace any previous power bogie and the complete chassis can be purchased to fit under all Powerline 48/830-class locomotives. Why mess around with more expensive mechanisms or attempt to build your own when this mechanism is available off the shelf and will match any other mechanism?

For those who desire some refinement RP-25 wheel sets for the 48 Class are available in nickel plated or blackened form.

Please note that the new mechanism is only available in the latest batch of locomotives, P235B Freight Corp 48 Class-P239 Austrac 48 Class- P237A AN 830 Class. Powerline Direct, and only Powerline Direct, is also retro fitting the new mechanism to the range of available NQR bodies they have for sale.

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### **The DCC Debate Continues.**

Since the beginning of 2001, the DCC debate has continued. The common topics being cost, the set up, which system and compatibility. A major concern has been the cost and the fact that each individual locomotive requires a chip. Then there are those who have built a standard DC cab control layout who worry about the set up and the need to chip all locomotives.

Well another system has become available which would best be called Digital Block Control. A system with built in track detection which eliminates toggle or rotary switches. A system that also learns your layout configuration and will know where each train is at all times.

Initially you will need to program the system and tell it what block each train is in and when adding a train you will also need to tell it you have added a train and what section that train is in. After that you are off and running. From here on the system can be fully automatic, you can have friends operating different trains with you, you can run one train whilst the system runs the others, or you can take on the dispatching role and let the system run all the trains.

This system works on controlling blocks and is easy to install on an existing layout with no special wiring needs and no chips in each locomotive. The wiring for the track is the same as for any normal two rail DC cab controlled layout with blocks. Both rails in each block need to be insulated and wired. Each block control in this system controls 8 blocks, so expansion is in blocks of 8.

An example of this Digital Block Control is the Roadmaster automatic block control system by Signal Research. The cost in Australian dollars is about \$1,200 for a standard Train Controller, \$1,300 for the deluxe unit and about \$600 for each expansion block.

From all reports this system sounds like a very good alternative to DCC and an easier one at that.

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### **Australian Production.**

In the cutthroat Global village in which we are told we live, it is important to support your own country. Too many business and companies are producing and manufacturing off shore. The end result being that Australian factories and manufacturers close down, whole types of industries disappear and technology and experience is lost. This is not a good outcome for Australia and more needs to be done to keep secondary and tertiary industry in Australia.

Powerline Models Pty Ltd is striving to increase Australian content in its ready to run model line up. For example NOBX/BDX Gondolas are injection moulded, assembled and packaged in Australia. The MHG van was moulded, assembled and packaged in Australia and many parts are produced in Australia as well. The new range of train sets released by Powerline are all

assembled and packaged in Australia with Australian made boxes, printing and packaging.

It is the intention of Powerline Models Pty Ltd to produce models in Australia and to produce parts in Australia where it is possible and economically viable to produce. No other manufacturer of ready to run mass manufacturer Australian HO model trains that we are aware of comes even close to this. Many manufacturers do not think this is a big deal, and neither do some shops, but Powerline Models Pty Ltd believe it is important as an Australian company to support local manufacturing.

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### Local Production.

With local production Powerline will be able to build flexibility and variety into the supply process. In particular the production of wagons and smaller items will be enhanced.

The new year holds big promises for new items being made available for the Australian modeller in the ready to run category. The reverse of this is that smaller runs and shorter life cycle will result in the ability to turn production around quickly and diminished the need to carry 2 plus years of stock on hand. The positive of this is a broader range of liveries and paint schemes that will become available. Be warned some liveries may be available only for weeks or maybe months at the outside, not a year or years.

As you can see this will impact on the availability of Powerline in the future. A broader range, more paint schemes and liveries, but due to the constant turn over supply will be limited.

At present we have to produce large runs of items, often 2 or more years worth of stock, with variety and range being sacrificed. Our ability to offer a variety in locos, carriages, wagons and accessories is minimal and often some individual items we have too much stock of, some at present turn over will last a decade.

For the last couple of years Powerline has been researching and investigation local production. This includes injection moulding, tool making, packaging, boxes and assembly.

The end result is the whilst some products and items lend themselves well to local production, a number of present items do not. Some of our present lines we are unable to produce locally because they are either beyond the ability of local workers to produce at the high standard required by Powerline or they are not interested as easier jobs pay just as well.

Never the less we are striving to increase local production and increase our variety and range. Keep an eye on this update and future productions for further details.

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### Powerline Update back issues.

Quite often we get requests for previous issues of the Powerline Update. All past issues are available but take time to re-copy and send out. We do have a complete catalogue of the Powerline Update available on the Internet, which is quicker to access and can be easily and quickly printed off at home. The Powerline web site is [www.powerline.com.au](http://www.powerline.com.au) from here you can look at models produced by Powerline, access information on the models, get technical tips, catch up with news, access the latest retail price list from Powerline Direct, order on line and down load all past and current issues of the Powerline Update.

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### Disappearing lines.

As with many things produced today, supplies of product can run out. Powerline Models Pty Ltd when producing a product line plan to produce enough to last around 24 months. Even with the best-laid plans stocks can run out well before time or be available a little after time. It is often hard to plan and when we do run out demand tends to grow and questions start being asked.

With our current lines that we hold, we are now starting to run out of some lines and run very low on others. Lines such as P601, P602, P422, P495 and P501 are now sold out. Lines such as P237A, P438S, P464, P420, P440, P604, P683 and P475 are starting to run low.

When items run out a re-run is often not available for anything up to 5 years, sometimes more.

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### Powerline Availability.

Product produced by Powerline Models Pty Ltd and listed on the current price list is all currently available. With the exception of NQR items and Bodies, all product is available from good hobby stores across Australia.

There has been a large number of inquiries by phone and E-mail concerning Powerline product, availability and sales. The concerns has focussed on the exposure and in store availability of product compared to overseas brands. Our response is that Powerline product is available and hobby stores are able to order and stock our product.

If you are having problems buying or sourcing Powerline product contact us via E-mail, fax or phone and we will direct you to your nearest store or if there is no stores near you, then we can make direct sales available.

The following is a listing of product available from Powerline Retailers with the prices, retail, as charged by Powerline Direct. This entire product is available NOW! Let no one tell you otherwise but if in doubt contact us directly.

#### **RADIO CONTROLLED Transformer/controller**

RC-1	Model Railway Remote Radio Controlled system, 12v 2Amps	199.00
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## LOCOMOTIVES

### 81 Class

P204S	Stealth (8167 & 8175)	225.00
P206	Freight Rail (8108, 8181, 8184)	180.00
P207	Freight Rail (8177) dual motor	200.00

### 48 Class

P235B	Freight Corp (4806 & 4862)	128.00
P239	AUSTRAC (4814 & 4836)	166.50

### 830 Class

P237A	A.N (846)	137.50
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Stock levels very low

### POWERLINE TRAIN SETS

PB001P	NSW Pass Tuscan or Candy	350.00
PB001F	NSW Freight	336.50
PB001S	NSW Super Freighter	329.15
PB001	NSW Mixed Daily	322.00

### FREIGHTLINE TRAIN SETS

FB001	Australian National	279.50
FB002	Southern Freight	279.50
FB003	Freight Corp	278.05
FB004	Western Line	265.65
FB005	Australia Wide	250.60

### PASSENGER CARRIAGES

#### New South Wales

P420	FS Tuscan	44.00
P421	BS Tuscan	44.00
P423	MHO Tuscan	44.00
P424B	KB Tuscan	44.00
P440	FS Candy	44.00
P441	BS Candy	44.00
P443	MHO Candy	44.00
P444	KB Candy	44.00

#### New South Wales Specials

P462	Red Cross	33.00
P463	MHO B/Down Yellow	45.00

Stock low

P464	“3801 Ltd “ FS coach	50.50
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Stock very low

P465	MHO bicentennial	51.00
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#### Victorian

#### V.R

P434A	Blue Art Deco ABS 1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup>	44.00
P435A	Blue Art Deco BS 2 <sup>nd</sup>	44.00
P436A	Blue Art Deco AS 1 <sup>st</sup>	44.00
P438S	Spirit of Progress VRS Buffet	52.20

#### V/Line (Tangerine)

P455	BS Economy	49.00
P456	BRS Snack bar	49.00
P458S	VRS Buffet	52.20

#### V/Line Pass Corp (Red/White/ Blue)

P475	BS Economy (3 numbers)	53.40
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#### West Coast Railways (Blue & White)

P496	BRS Snack	53.40
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### COACH PACKS

P161	VR Red AS/BS/BRS	130.35
P162	VR Blue AS/BS/BRS	130.35
P163	V/Line Tang Eco/Eco/BRS	150.70
P163A	V/Line Tang Eco/Eco/VRS	N/A
P163B	V/Line Tang Eco/BRS/VRS	N/A
P181	NSW Tuscan FS/BS/MHO	130.35
P182	NSW Candy FS/BS/MHO	130.35

P184	V/Line Pass Corp BS-3 No,	168.20
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### SCALE FREIGHT

P500	MHG Brake Van Black	31.95
P504	L550 Lab test car	31.95
P509	MHG Black undec	29.95
P510	BDX Gondola NSW Black	21.25
P511U	NOBX-PTC Blue Undec	20.65
P511	NOBX PTC Blue	21.25

Limited stock available

P512U	NOBX-NSWR Indian Red Undec	20.65
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### FREIGHTLINE. ECONOMY FREIGHT SERIES

#### Hoppers

P603	A.N (green)	19.10
P604	V/Line (Wagon Red)	19.10

Stock very low

#### Tank Cars

P641A	Caltex (black)	21.25
P642	Golden Fleece (yellow)	21.25
P651A	Ampol (black)	21.25

#### Gondolas

P671	V/Line (wagon red)	21.25
P672	S.A.R (light grey)	21.25
P674	A.N (green)	21.25
P675	B.H.P Steel (blue)	O/S
P676	BDX/NOBX Undec (yellow)	20.40
P678	Nat Rail (dark grey)	21.25

Note Gondolas available with a pair of containers choice of TNT, K and S, and FCL \$27.95. Must be same pair and part number is Gondola type or cat No. with container type on end, ie P671TNT. \$27.95. Available end of Nov 2001.

#### Gondolas with containers

P671TNT	V/Line Gondola/TNT	27.95
P671KS	V/Line Gondola/K&S	27.95
P671FCL	V/Line Gondola/FCL	27.95
P672TNT	SAR Gondola /TNT	27.95
P672KS	SAR Gondola/K&S	27.95
P672FCL	SAR Gondola/FCL	27.95
P674TNT	AN Gondola/TNT	27.95
P674KS	AN Gondola/K&S	27.95
P674FCL	AN Gondola/FCL	27.95
P676TNT	Yellow Gondola/TNT	27.95
P676KS	Yellow Gondola/K&S	27.95
P676FCL	Yellow Gondola/FCL	27.95
P678TNT	NR Gondola/TNT	27.95
P678KS	NR Gondola/K&S	27.95
P678FCL	NR Gondola/FCL	27.95
P510TNT	Black Gondola/TNT	27.95
P510KS	Black Gondola/K&S	27.95
P510FCL	Black Gondola/FCL	27.95
P511TNT	Blue Gondola/TNT	27.95
P511KS	Blue Gondola/K&S	27.95
P511FCL	Blue Gondola/FCL	27.95
P512TNT	Indian Red Gondola/TNT	27.95
P512KS	Indian Red Gondola/K&S	27.95
P512FCL	Indian Red Gondola/FCL	27.95

#### Flat Cars

P620U	NFFX NSW (blue)	12.60
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Limited stock available			
P689	Nat Rail	(dark Grey)	12.60

### **Container Wagon**

P620A	Track Fast- NSWGR		21.25
P622A	TNT		21.30
P681	CSR – V/line		21.25
P682	K and S - NR		21.30
P683	Allied Pickfords-A.N		21.25
P684	FCL- NR		21.30

### **Containers 20 foot**

P820A	Trackfast		9.70
P829	Undec White (pr)		7.50
P881	CSR green		9.70
P883	Allied Pickford orange		9.70

### **SPARE PARTS & ACCESSORIES**

#### **Couplings and Corridors**

P1003t	X2F (US) coupling (4)		2.25
P1006	Corridor Connections (2)		4.95
Limited stock available			
P1007	Compact coupler (4)		4.55
P1007A	Draft Box coupler (4)		4.55
P1016	Tubular Corridor Conn (2)		4.45

#### **Bogies: Pass & Freight. (packed as pairs)**

P1102	2AN (BS/FS)		12.25
P1103	2BC (MHO/KB)		12.25
P1104E	Freight bogie black		6.70
Stock low, more due December 2001.			
P1117	Argentine (Broad gauge)		14.60
P1118	Commonwealth black		13.50
Stock levels low			
P1118G	Commonwealth grey		13.50

#### **Other Coach/freight parts**

P1108	Plastic wheels/metal axle		5.20
P1108A	Plastic wheels and axles		5.20
P1109	Metal Wheels/axles		11.35
P1110	Coach window plugs		3.35

### **LOCOMOTIVE PARTS & ACCESSORIES**

#### **81/G/BL Old parts**

P1213	G/BL non powered bogie		16.20
P1214	Pick up		5.10

#### **81/G/ BL current parts**

P1201A	81 Power bogie W/motor		55.70
P1207	81 steps/brk wheel & M/UC		4.55
P1209C	1.5 volt light globes		11.65
P1210	81 Class Couplers		4.45
P1211	Triple fan moulding		20.25
P1215	G/BL steps & M/UC		4.55
P1216	G/BL exhaust cover		2.75
P1217	81 exhaust cover		2.75
P1212A	BL/G Power bogie W/motor		55.70
P1214A	Power pick up strips		6.60
P1224A	81 Class chassis & mechanism		115.00
P1225A	G/BL chassis & mechanism		115.00
P1290	PCB SM/2 (DCC 8 pin ready)		18.60
P1290/2	PCB SM/2 new		18.60
Limited availability.			
P1402	81 Class horns		4.45
P1404	Coupling screw & washer		3.10

#### **81/G/BL Kadee ® Adaptors (complete pair)**

P1218A-1	P204S Stealth-short		12.05
P1218A-2	P204S Stealth-long		12.05
P1218A-3	P218/9NR.BL-short		12.05
P1218A-4	P218/9 NR. BL-long		12.05

P1218A-5	P206/7 81 Frt Rail-short		12.05
P1218A-6	P206/7 81 Frt Rail-long		12.05
P1218A-7	P216/7 G V/Line-short		12.05
P1218A-8	P216/7 G V/Line-long		12.05
Some stocks very low.			

### **Wheels & Tyres to fit 48 Class & 81/G/BL**

P1206	Traction tyres		5.10
P1219A	Wheel set w/gears w/tyres		16.70
P1219B	Wheel set, geared		16.70
P1500	RP-25 Wheels blackened		17.20
P1501	RP-25 Wheels Nickel Plated		17.20

### **48/830 Class Locomotive parts & Accessories**

P1230	Power bogie with motor		50.60
P1232A	Motor & worm gear (mk3)		29.20
P1233	wheel set, non tyred		13.40
P1234	Gear Set		13.80
P1235	Complete Mk1 mechanism		81.00
P1236	Power bogie frame & centre		24.20
P1237	Unpwd bogie frame & centre		9.15
P1239	Metal hand rails		8.10
P1240A	Buffers & buffer plates		6.60
P1241	Plastic handrails (2)		5.10
P1243	Couplers (2)		4.45
P1244	Contact strip (2)		6.40
P1245	chassis casting Mk1		20.25
P1245A	chassis casting Mk3		20.25
P1246	Window Insets		8.95
P1247	Motor housing		9.75
P1248	Horns (2)		5.10
P1249A	Flettner vent (2)		5.10

### **DECALS**

PDN001	Freight Corp logo for 81		4.25
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### **LINKLINE EQUIPMENT & PRODUCT**

#### **Locomotive**

L201	A.N F3A Bo-Bo Australianised		49.95
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#### **Link Line Train sets**

LB000	Basic Set		144.95
LB001	South Australian		163.30
LB002	The Victorian		152.25
LB003	The New South Welshman		150.90
LB004	The West Australian		150.90

All LB sets feature L201 Loco, Nickel silver code 100 track and Powerline rolling stock, all top quality.

#### **Track packs, expansion packs**

TP-A	Track Pack A.		67.30
TP-B	Track Pack B.		49.60
TP-C	Track Pack C.		127.50
Arriving early December 2001.			

#### **Cork**

L401	HO Cork (5 x 36") roll		5.75
L403	N Cork (5 x 36") roll		5.30
HO Cork available late November 2001.			

### **Controllers & Electrical**

L700	Train set Controller, Basic		41.65
L701	Cable- Controller to track		4.80
L702	Push Button switch (4)		7.00
L703	SPDT Toggle switch (2)		6.10
L704	DPDT Toggle switch (2)		7.60
L705	DPDT Centre Off Toggle (2)		8.30
L706	Switch Caps 4ea black & Red		4.00
L707	Switch Caps 5 diff colours		4.90
L710	Wire Red		4.90

L711	Wire	Black	4.90
L712	Wire	Blue	4.90
L713	Wire	White	4.90
L714	Wire	Yellow	4.90
L720	Wire	Yellow/green	4.90

All stock listed here on this price list was available at the time of going to press. Please note that below some items we note that stock levels are low. Should you want or need anything on this list, consult your local hobby store first. Then contact us.

### A Loss to the Hobby

As we were about to go to press with this issue of the Update news came through that Mr Rodney James died on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2001. Many people across Australia will know of Rodney through his exhibition layouts, Crafton and Wingham, which visited many exhibitions or as Mr AR Kit Co. Over the years it become common to see Rodney at most of the major exhibitions from Brisbane to Adelaide with either a layout, AR Kit Co or both. My first memory of Rodney was when he came down to Melbourne with Rails North Models many years ago. Many Australian modellers, exhibition organisers and exhibition attendees will sadly miss him. Our condolences go to his wife Cheryl.

### Exhibitions

#### Hahndorf

Although strictly a convention for South Australian modellers, it does rate a mention. This annual event attracts people from all over Australia; people in Brisbane have even spoken to me about it, who look forward to the tips, news and clinics. It is also a great social get together where, like at exhibitions, proto-type and modelling issues get discussed, debated and solutions and advice given. This small event is well attended and a must for the South Australian modeller.

#### Mildura

This years exhibition was hopefully the first of many. Being a border town this exhibition has the ability to draw people from three states, and I do not mean the exhibition faithful either. With about 13 layouts and 5 trade stands it was a small exhibition with great potential for the future.

#### Liverpool.

This annual event over the NSW Labour Day long weekend is one of Australia's largest exhibitions and still one of its most popular. Packed from wall to wall and bursting at the seams, this exhibition is full of commercial and trade stands with everything a modeller could want, clinics to show you modelling, and layouts to show you what can be done and what the finished product can look like. A must for NSW modellers and a pilgrimage for some interstaters, this is the melting pot for railway modelling in NSW. With 100 stands and about 35 layouts, there was a lot to see and do. Some of the more popular layouts include Swan's Crossing, Brisbane Waters, Passionfruit Creek, YNOTAVAGO, Black and White, Itsum, Sandy Creek and Sweet Grass to name a few. Noted by their absence were Berg's

hobbies, AR Kit Co, L&C Kits and Powerline Models Pty Ltd.

#### Box Hill

This November Exhibition operates from the same venue as the Glen Waverley Exhibition at the World Vision Centre. This friendly show with trade stands and layouts to see and it is not all trains. There are other non-train items to see that may interest other family members, making this a good family outing. Never the less the focus is trains and train related matters.

### Exhibitions for 2002

Warrnambool	12 <sup>th</sup> –13 <sup>th</sup> January 2002 Archie Graham Centre Timor Street
Shepparton	19 <sup>th</sup> –20 <sup>th</sup> January 2002 Eastbank Centre Welsford Street
Corio	25 <sup>th</sup> –28 <sup>th</sup> January 2002 Centenary Hall Corio
Box Hill	8 <sup>th</sup> –11 <sup>th</sup> March 2002
Chelsea	9 <sup>th</sup> –11 <sup>th</sup> March 2002 Old Chelsea Town Hall Station Street
Bendigo	29 <sup>th</sup> March –1 <sup>st</sup> April 2002 BRIT College McCrae St
Hobsons Bay	30 <sup>th</sup> March –1 <sup>st</sup> April Albert Park College Danks Street South Melbourne
Canberra	6 <sup>th</sup> –7 <sup>th</sup> April 2002 National Hockey Centre Mouat Street Lyneham
Brisbane	4 <sup>th</sup> –6 <sup>th</sup> May 2002 R.N.A Showgrounds Fortitude Valley Sheep & Wool Pavilion St Pauls Terrace
Adelaide	8 <sup>th</sup> –10 <sup>th</sup> June 2002 Greyhound Park 55 Cardigan Street Angle Park
Glen Waverley	World Vision Centre Springvale Rd & Vision St
Stawell	13 <sup>th</sup> –14 <sup>th</sup> July 2002 SES Hall Sloane Street
Metro	3 <sup>rd</sup> –4 <sup>th</sup> August 2002 Ukrainian Community Hall Russell Street Essendon

This is only the list so far from letters and conversations we have had so far and those we have confirmed to date. As time travels on more will be added to the list as news and invitations come in, like Gippsland (January), Ballarat (June), Newcastle (August), Sunshine (August),

Hahndorf (September), Mildura (September) and Liverpool (Sept/Oct).

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## **The Changing face of Australian Railways**

The past decade has seen a large change in Australian Railways. This change mostly revolves around the change in management/ownership from Governments to private corporations. With these changes have come new corporate images and new corporate liveries resulting in a change in railway operations and liveries.

State boundaries, gauge boundaries and state railways have become a thing of the past with the sale of Freight Corp and National Rail to top it off. Examples of this can be seen with Freight Australia hauling freight from Perth to Sydney. Freight Corp can be seen operating from Queensland to South Australia. Then there are the smaller operators that can be seen operating in NSW and Victoria including Austrac, Silverton, GNR, and NRR.

Hopefully these changes will result in increased competition from railways and increased competition in railways. The changes have already seen many new liveries, countrywide operations by railway operators and upgrading and expansion of infrastructure. This is evident each time I look at and read Motive Power magazine.

The signs are looking positive for railway growth to continue. Maybe the environmentalist will wake up and encourage companies to move freight by rail and taxpayers voice their concerns about road damage and maintenance. Then we should see increased freight traffic on rail.

The end result in this changing face we hope will see aggressive and competitive railways resulting in growth. Growth within the railways and the railway hobby as a whole.

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## **Freight Australia News**

Sometime ago in the Update and in the news section of the Powerline web site we spoke of two issues concerning Freight Australia. The first was about the re-motoring of the G Class, a motor upgrade to the X-Class and the second concerning a new locomotive.

Well work has commenced on re-motoring the G Class fleet with more powerful GM 645F3B engines. This will take the G Class, Freight Australia's most powerful locomotive, from 3,300hp to 3,800hp. This will see a significant rise in the load capacity of the G class.

In turn the 3,300hp units from the G Class locomotives will be overhauled, cleaned up and fitted to the X Class locomotive. So the 3,300hp unit will replace the 2000hp unit in the X Class locomotives. This will also significantly raise the capacity and usefulness of the X Class.

All in all this will increase the size of trains that freight Australia will be able to handle with its locomotives. Therefore increasing capacity and revenue.

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Well it does not stop there either as news recently suggests that the rumoured V Class locomotive has actually been ordered to replace locomotives lost, ie the two G Classes destroyed. News suggests that the new locomotive will be of the next generation of locomotive with the 4000hp 710 prime mover by GM. This one I will wait to see.

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## **January 2002**

In January 2002 the Operations Manager for Powerline Models Pty Ltd, Mr Ian Comport, will be in Brisbane. This will be to visit Brisbane shops and review Brisbane supply.

Should any reader have any concerns regarding Powerline product in Brisbane they are invited to write to Powerline at P.O Box 2100, North Brighton 3186.

## **Early 2002.**

In early 2002, January, the Managing Director of Powerline Models Pty Ltd, Mr Brian Comport, will be travelling to Sydney. Partly to review Powerline operations and retailers in NSW and partly to buy old and second-hand train books.

Should any reader wish to write concerning retail sales and distribution or have any railway books they wish to sell, please send your letter to P.O Box 2100, North Brighton 3186. We at Powerline Models Pty Ltd are always on the look out for good hobby shops to supply and Brian is always on the look out for train books to buy.

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This publication, along with the Powerline web site, is the official newsletter fro Powerline Models Pty Ltd.

For all retail and customer based sales please write to or request to speak to Powerline Direct. Powerline Direct offer retail sales only to those people who are overseas, do not have access to a local hobby store and/or are unable to purchase products from their local hobby store which Powerline does have available. We are not in anyway competition to existing hobby shops and recommend people visit their local hobby shop for that person to person service that mail, fax, phone and e-mail can never replace. sales@powerline.com.au

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