

Modelling news

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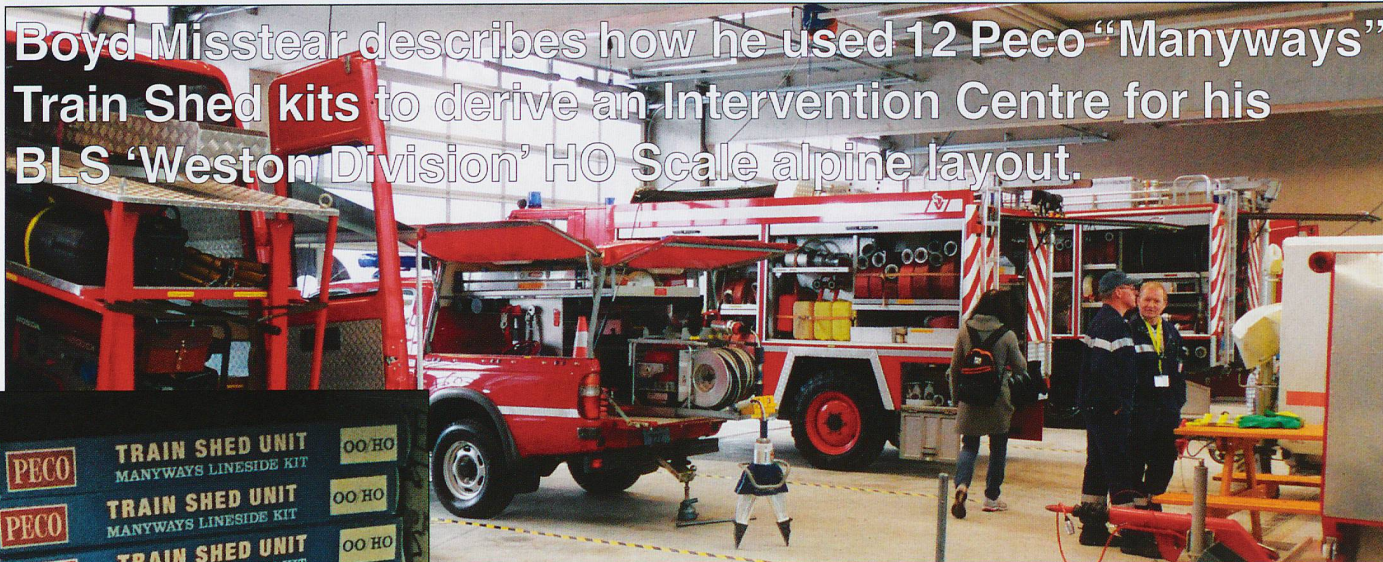
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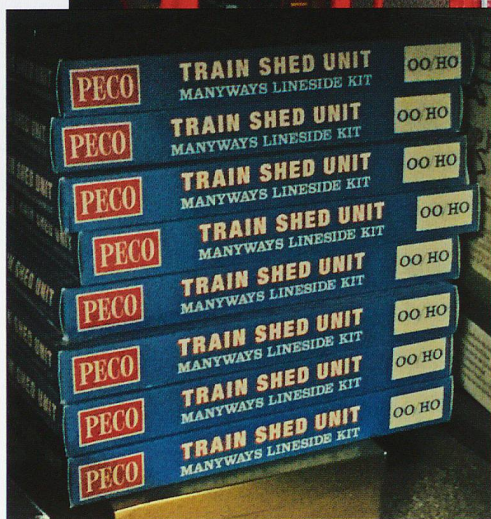
Boyd Misstear describes how he used 12 Peco “Manyways” Train Shed kits to derive an Intervention Centre for his BLS ‘Weston Division’ HO Scale alpine layout.



ABOVE: Inside the BLS IC facility.


Photos: Boyd Misstear

LEFT: Step 1 - Plan and source kits, materials and tools.



the BLS Intervention Centre. This centre is responsible for tunnel incident response. We were welcomed graciously and the BLS guides, Cornelia Grossen and Christian Senn, provided a very informative look into the preparations and constant readiness of the rescue team, and their impressive equipment and this was followed by a conducted trip inside the mountain. It inspired me to see if I could replicate, in some form, but allowing for modelling licence due to limitations of space and scale, the prototype. The prototype rescue train is some 60m in length, equivalent to some 690mm in HO (1:87) scale. I was also trying to accommodate multiple-unit servicing and so this would increase the scale length to some 2000mm. The challenge had been set in my mind to one day make this become a reality. Although I considered scratch building in entirety, I decided to take an easier approach and make use of Peco’s “Manyways” LK-80 train shed unit, which measures 350mm long by 170mm wide. This kit is designed to be extended in both length and width. What follows is a pictorial essay on the steps taken to achieve the desired result during the summer months of 2016 – a very modern four track shed sufficiently large to store and ‘service’ both a rescue train, as well as other items of BLS ‘Weston Division’ multiple-unit consists. It is

in no-way meant to be an exact replica. For instance, the side wall service door roller shutters were formed from the wall cut-outs turned through 90 degrees, along with discarded plastic ‘sprue’ cut to size to represent the over-door roller winding mechanism. The shutters were deliberately installed with tacky glue to be removable in case a need arises and cut to different vertical heights to improve realism and offer visibility. The end train shed door brackets were deliberately press fitted (not glued), along with the 50 roof assemblies, to allow for ease of access to individual areas. The main structure is in two parts to facilitate ease of installation. The two-storey end unit was assembled from plastic kit ‘left-overs’! A total of 12 x LK-80s kits were assembled, and using LED warm white strips applied to the basswood formed into L girder strengthening frames approaching 600 LEDs were installed at a fraction of the cost or complexity of using individual items! The inexpensive in-line RF dimmer mechanism provides additional realism, as it allows the light intensity to be altered to match day or night conditions on the layout.

Borrowing culinary terms, suggested “ingredients” and “tools” have been assembled into tables to accompany the twelve steps undertaken. These ingredients and tools can be modified to suit your own circumstances. It is assumed for this article normal safety precautions are applied, for example, spray painting is undertaken outside, or in a suitably well-ventilated facility. Particular attention should be taken to instructions 4(a) and 4(b) in the well-designed kit. 

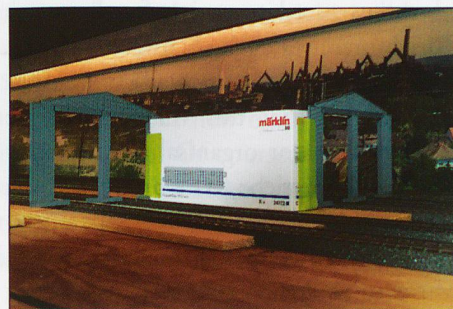
Editor’s Note: Boyd lives in the community of Weston, Connecticut, and in US Railroad parlance, operating sections of the route are called Divisions, hence the layout’s non-Swiss name.



Step 2 - Read the Instructions.



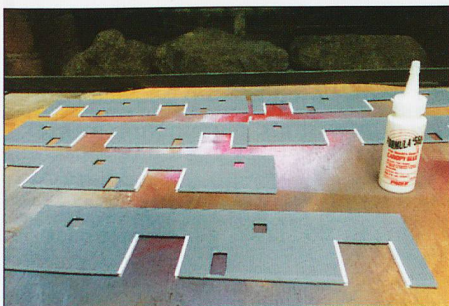
Step 3 - Unpack & Familiarize the parts.



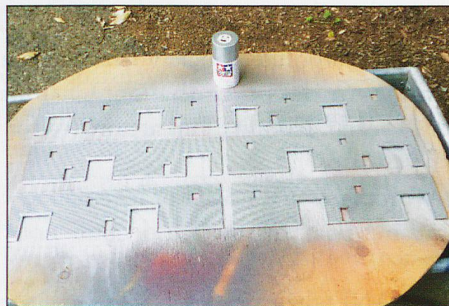
Step 4 - Prepare a mock-up for size.

MODELLING NEWS

Ingredients	Suitable Modelling Tools
Peco "Manyways" Train Sheds LK-80 (# as required)	Mitre cut-off saw
Pacer PT-56 Canopy Glue	Wire and Sprue Cutters
Tacky Glue	Selection of screw drivers
Solder + Flux	Pencils and Eraser (rubber)
Basswood strips (select dimensions e.g. 1/8" x 1/2" x 24 or 36" to provide strength and lighting mounts)	Paint brushes (various) & Stirrer
Styrene 'L' and 'H' styles & sizes to suit	Fine antistatic tweezers
'Concrete' Colour paint (e.g. Woodland Scenics ST1454)	Measuring tape/ruler
'Asphalt' Colour paint (e.g. Woodland Scenics ST 1453)	Fine tipped soldering iron
Tamiya X-4 Blue Acrylic	Spring clips/clamps
Tamiya X-15 Light Green Acrylic	Scissors
Vinyl masking tape – 1/8th yellow and white for floor marking	Sharp knife + blades
Canton Shields (from Swiss Post cards!)	5/16" Corner Punch (Micro Mark #81652) or similar
Selection of quality spray paints to accentuate building details, e.g. Tamiya range AS-15 Tan (Weathering bottom train doors) TS-1 Red Brown (Rail rust, shutters vents and roof weathering) TS-15 Blue (Internal building frame and external band) TS-17 Gloss Aluminium (building sides) TS-22 Light Green ('human' doors – leave some ajar!) TS-34 Camel Yellow (vehicle pillar protectors and shutters)	Cutting mat Straight edge and flat working surface!
LED Lighting LE4100057-WW (Warm White) – 5 metres x 2 LE RF Wireless Remote LED Controller 12v PSU as recommended by LE for number of LEDs Cut LED strips to desired length at marked locations www.lightingever.de	Suitable colour coded wire – 22 or 26awg or equivalent
Track/Gleis/Voie/Binarie of choice!	
Figures, automobiles and other "bits-n-bobs" to complete the ambience and bring to life	



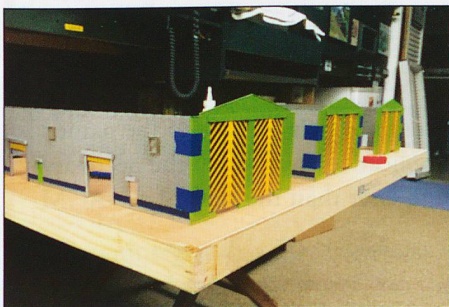
Step 5 - Cut out windows & doors.



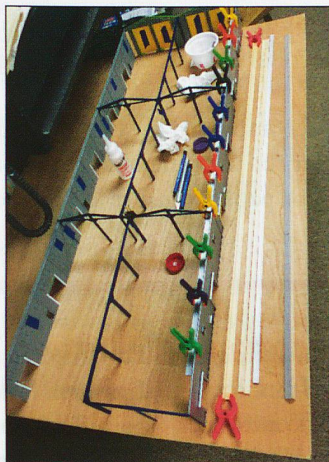
Step 6 - Paint & weather outside for ventilation.



Step 7 - Choose flat assembly surface



Step 8 - Assemble units into manageable modules.



Step 9 - Scratch build and install support frame.



Step 10 - Install LED lighting and test each area.



Step 11 - Move into position and install roofing.

Step 12 - Provide enlivened environment.

