General Service (GS) drop bottom composite gondolas (wood sides, steel braced) were popular for bulk commodities such as gravel, ballast, coal and scrap metal. They were often used in work train service. An appropriate finish is very weathered and rusted.

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

To avoid ejector pin marks, we have used “sucker pins”. These are NOT part of the car, and must be removed with a sharp knife and file. Because of the complete interior detail we suggest that the inside surfaces be painted prior to assembly. Use rusty brown for the ends and floor, and faded wood for the sides. We recommend trimming all parts with a sharp knife and test fitting them before cementing with a liquid cement for plastics.

(1) Cement SIDES to ENDS. NOTE: assemble car upside down on a smooth flat surface. Make sure assembly is square.

(2) Insert FLOOR and cement. Because of molding stresses in the plastic, the floor may be slightly warped. If so, gently straighten with your fingers.

(3) Insert weight into center sill. A bit of filing may be needed.

(4) Cement CENTER SILL, FLANGE/BRAKE SYSTEM in place, with the clevis/rod end of the brake cylinder facing the end of the car with the Ajax brake wheel housing.

(5) Cement BRAKE WHEEL into brake housing. Two have been provided should one be damaged.

(6) FINISH PAINTING: We suggest air brushing. Tuscan red for a newer car, or Tuscan Red/Roof Brown lightened with white for a more faded older car. Glossy paint or a clear gloss coat should be applied if using decals. Follow decal instructions allowing sufficient time for paint to dry. After painting, decaling and weathering, follow with a clear flat finish.

(7) Install trucks of your choice with bolster pins provided.

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