

The *Eureka Times*

10th Edition

19th March 2006

Welcome to the **tenth** edition of **The *Eureka Times***.

In the last edition we announced that the non-sound equipped 620/720s had just arrived in Port Botany. Well, as we write this edition the sound equipped units are on the wharf and should clear Australian customs by the 24th of March.



The 620/720s: As with the non-sound units we have received some sound equipped units by air and we have been running these at exhibitions (Berkeley, Forestville, Box Hill and Springwood) whilst waiting for the rest of the production run to arrive. I will leave judgement on the quality of the sound to someone a little less biased than myself but in respect of the non-sound equipped units I am most pleased with the response to date and wish to thank all those who have sent in their comments and congratulations. The following two messages are representative of the dozens that we have received.

“.....and congratulate you on a wonderful product. I have run it extensively in the last two days and it performs superbly. The model is finished to a high level of detail and was definitely worth the long wait.” (McC Family)

“.....the 620/720 looks great and runs like a dream. I have not used the layout for three months and the unit ran quietly and very smoothly without any jerks whatsoever. ..a great first-up model for Eureka.” (Gary Whitton)

Distribution: We expect to commence distribution in the week beginning the 2nd of April and expect to complete the process over about two weeks. Those who wish to pick their models up should contact us sometime after the 1st of April to make suitable arrangements. The mailing out of the models will be done in the order that the original orders were received commencing with those who have informed us of their preferred colour scheme and have paid the standard **\$10** for Receipted Delivery if delivery is to be by post. Receipted Delivery means that in most areas the models will have to be picked up and signed for at the local post office.

Delivery of the non-sound equipped models is now virtually complete although we are still holding a number of orders so if you have not yet received your non-sound model please contact us as there may be a problem holding up delivery.

Sound: A number of sound equipped 620/720s are now in service and with the sophistication of the QSI chip that provides the sound and DCC control functions, the full power and range of functions of the chip will only be discovered as users put it through its paces. One thing that has already been realized for instance is that the functions of the chip will react differently from one DCC system to the next.

This newsletter will act as a bulletin board for these experiences and to start the ball rolling here are some early observations.

- The suburban whistle (toot) is accessed by F11.
- The interior lights are turned off by F12.

SystemOne cannot access F10 - F12. (What a nuisance for us SystemOne users.)

THE AD60: The AD60 has now been signed off and we are waiting for the factory to advise us of the production date. The numbers that we will be producing are as follows:

6038 light, that is the locomotive number will be the numerals 6038 only.

6040 heavy, that is the locomotive number will have the double crosses after the number.

6026, 6028, 6030, 6032, 6034, 6035, 6037, 6039, 6041, 6042 heavy and with dual control, that is the letters DC will precede the locomotive number and the double crosses will follow the number.

A small number of un-numbered locomotives will be available in un-weathered black.

All 12 numbers will be available in black or with weathering.

We have also decided to produce a set of locomotive numbers in brass etch and will supply a set of these with each locomotive for the purchaser to attach. We may also be able to supply those who have purchased an un-numbered model with the locomotive numbers of their choice. If you have not yet advised us of your preferred number please do so now.

Weathering: As is the general policy of Eureka Models the weathering applied to the AD60 by the factory will be a light “dusting” only designed to remove the “blackness” of the basic plastic of the model. However, for those who have been following the “rust” controversy which accompanied the magnificent photos of the final pilot model, as weathered by Ian Dunn, the accompanying photo might be of interest...

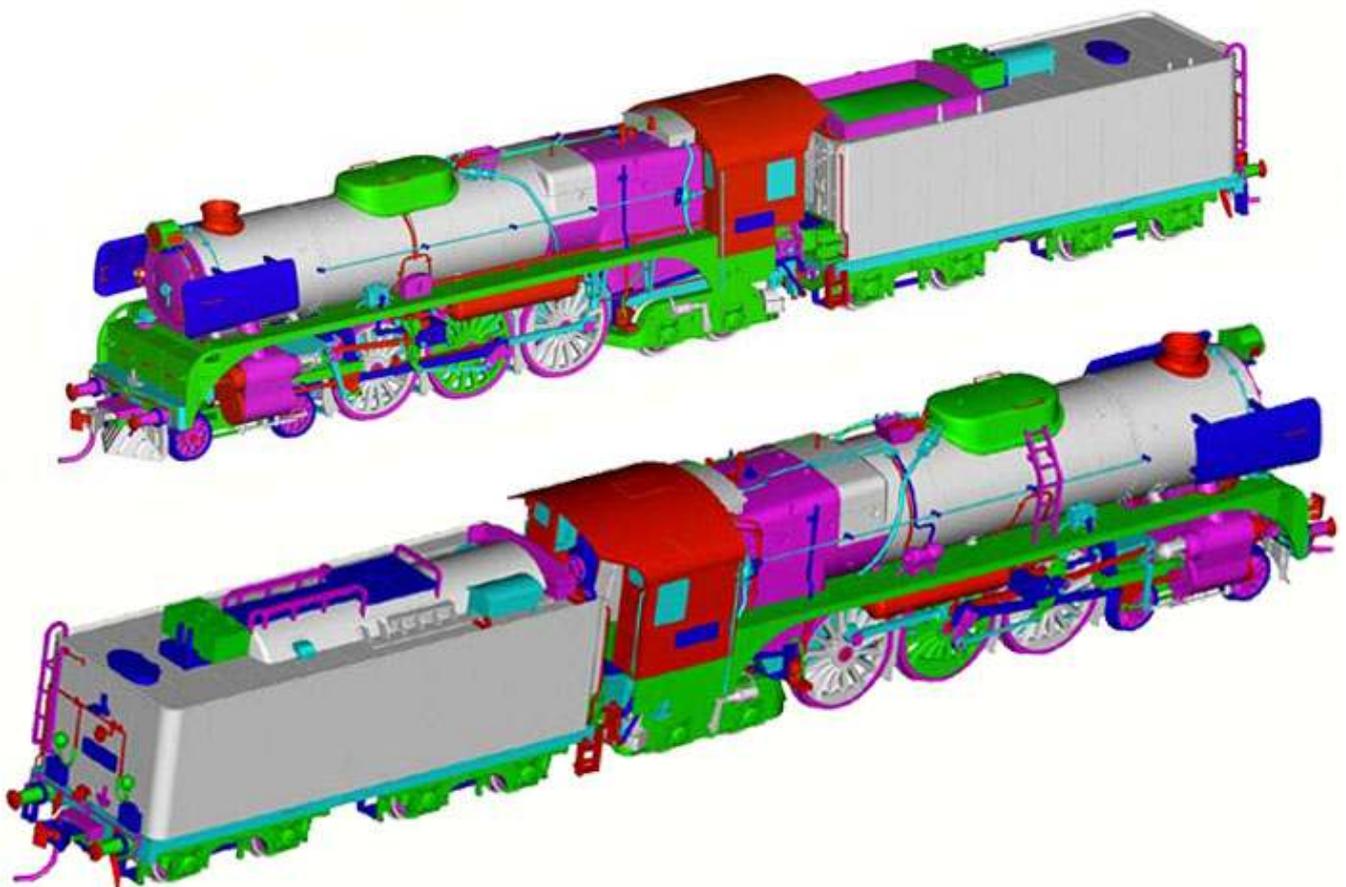


Photo of 6042 sent to China as guide for factory to follow when applying weathering.
(Just kidding folks!!)

THE 38 Class: Tooling is under-way and we expect delivery in late 2006.

In the next issue of this newsletter there will be a full outline of proposed liveries and locomotive numbers for the 38s. At this stage we intend producing numbers **3801** (green and black), **3803**(green), **3805** (black), **3813** (green with black smoke-box), **3820**, **3827**, and **3830**. There will also be three other non-streamlined locomotive numbers which are yet to be determined.

THE VR R Class: Drawings are now complete and tooling will commence shortly. 3D images of the coal and oil burning versions indicate that this will be a fine looking locomotive.



In the next couple of editions we will get some discussions going on numbers, paint schemes and other variations.

On the subject of numbers the Victorian Railways used cast iron number boards and we intend re-producing etched number boards to attach to each locomotive. We will probably produce ten models with the numbers attached and it would be a simple matter to etch a full set of numbers and supply them with un-numbered models so that a purchaser can apply what ever number they wish to their own model. We are looking at adopting a similar approach with name boards and the like whereby we supply a full set of etched boards with the model which can then be individualised by the modeller. We will discuss which name boards, etc that we might do in a future newsletter to generate some feedback.

Feedback

We are getting plenty of feedback and comments mostly by email which we appreciate very much. I try to answer all emails as quickly as possible but inevitably some replies are delayed. My apologies for this but there are only so many hours in each day so hang on and you will get an answer.

Email Addresses

If you receive a paper copy of this issue but would prefer to receive an email copy or just read it on the web site please email Ron at: eureka.m@bigpond.net.au so that we can put you on our email notification system. You'll get the latest *Eureka Times* faster and we can use the money saved on printing and paper to produce more models!

Postage and delivery

We have postage and delivery arrangements with Australia Post which will allow us to offer postage, Receipted Delivery and Insurance anywhere in Australia for a flat **\$10-** Pick-up facilities are available.

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HOME