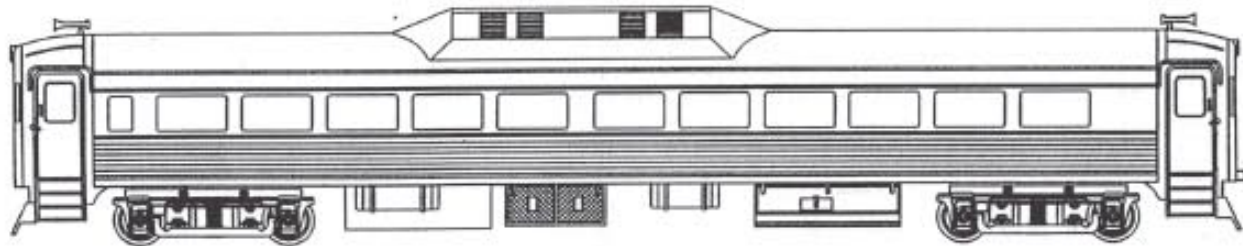


#1 1:29  
Gauge SCALE

# RAIL DIESEL CAR

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

ART-22800 - 01



## ARISTO-CRAFT TRAINS

110101 NEW

## ARISTO-CRAFT TRAINS

Dear Model Railroader,

This Budd RDC Car is a highly detailed #1 Gauge 1/29<sup>th</sup> scale unit and is suitable for both indoor and outdoor operation. It has been designed and manufactured to our usual high specifications.

Should you have any questions regarding operation, proper usage or maintenance required on this or any other Aristo-Craft product, please do not hesitate to contact us at the following address:

**ARISTO-CRAFT TRAINS / Polk's Modelcraft Hobbies, Inc.**

698 South 21st Street, Irvington, NJ 07111 USA

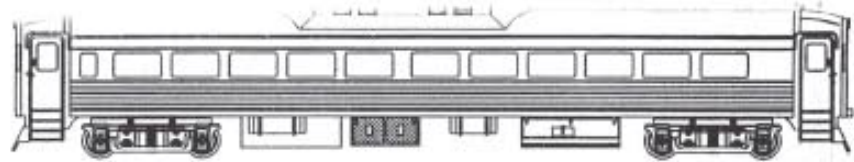
Tel: (973) 351-9800 Fax: (973) 351-9700

e-mail: aristo@mindspring.com

Our customer service department phones are open from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

Visit our website: [www.aristocraft.com](http://www.aristocraft.com)

The Rail Diesel Car (RDC) was developed during the 1950's by the Budd Company of Philadelphia,



Pennsylvania, as an alternative to a whole passenger train. It was often used where service did not require more than one car and two employees. Sheathed in stainless steel, the RDC's resembled a gleaming streamlined passenger car. It was powered by two GMC bus engines, mounted beneath the floor, each connected to one truck. The distinctive hump on the roof contained the radiators.

## FEATURES

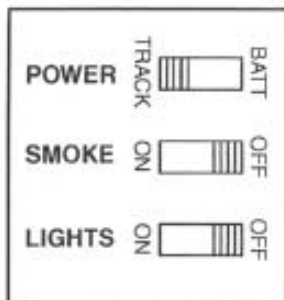
This unit has the following features which make it look and operate in a superior manner:

Body constructed of polished extruded aluminum  
 Ball bearings on all axles and gear boxes  
 All wheel drive  
 Low amperage draw  
 Directional headlights and marker lights  
 Radio control or DCC ready  
 DCC port and dummy plug

Battery power ready  
 Sound ready  
 Modular electrical connections  
 New smoke system  
 Prototypical knuckle couplers  
 Interior lighting

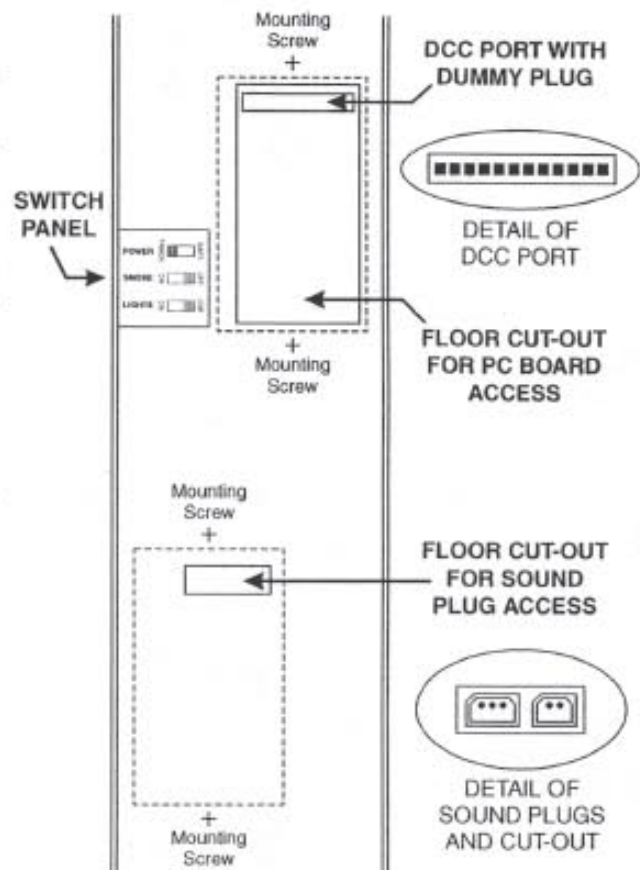
## POWER SWITCHES

The three power switches are located on the bottom of the RDC. Turn the unit on its back, orient the unit as per the drawing, locate the switch panel and place the unit so that the switches are on your left. See the diagram.



**DETAIL OF SWITCH PANEL**

Each of the switches is clearly marked with its purpose. The top switch is the power switch and determines if track or battery power is to be used. If the power switch is to the left, track power will be used, moved to the right, battery power is employed. The middle switch turns the lights on or off. Left is on, right is off. The bottom switch controls the smoke unit. Left is on, right is off.



## **SMOKE GENERATOR**

The smoke generator unit is located beneath the center of the radiator bulge on the roof of the RDC. It is not necessary to open the unit in order to fill it with smoke fluid. Before filling the smoke fluid reservoir, turn the smoke switch to the off (right) position. Using Crest Smoke Fluid, CRE-29601, insert the nozzle of the container into the round hole in the rectangular screen and fill the reservoir with at least 25, but no more than 50 drops of the smoke fluid.

This smoke generator contains an automatic cut off circuit that will prevent the unit from burning out if it becomes too hot or if it runs out of smoke fluid. Should the unit shut itself off, move the smoke switch to the off position, allow the unit to cool for a few moments and refill with smoke fluid (if necessary). Move the smoke switch to the on position and restart.

## **CAUTION**

**Do not turn the RDC upside down or on its side when the fluid reservoir contains smoke fluid. The remaining liquid may leak out, and if the RDC has just been run, the fluid may be hot enough to cause injury.**

## **DCC INSTALLATION**

This RDC is equipped with a DCC / radio control port and dummy plug. After purchasing the DCC or radio control system of your choice, be sure to read the instructions carefully. In order to install your DCC or radio control system, the dummy plug must be removed and the DCC or radio control plug inserted in its place. The DCC / radio control port is located on the bottom of the main PC board of the unit. In order to reach this port, turn the RDC on its back, orient the unit as per the drawing with the switch panel to your left. The port is located beneath the large box on the bottom of the unit, just to the right of the switch panel. To remove this box and expose the DCC / radio control port, merely loosen the two screws securing the box to the floor and remove the box. There is a large cut out in the metal floor of the RDC exposing the bottom of the PC board and the DCC / radio control port. This port will have the dummy plug inserted. Refer to the diagram on page 7 for the position of each of the items mentioned.

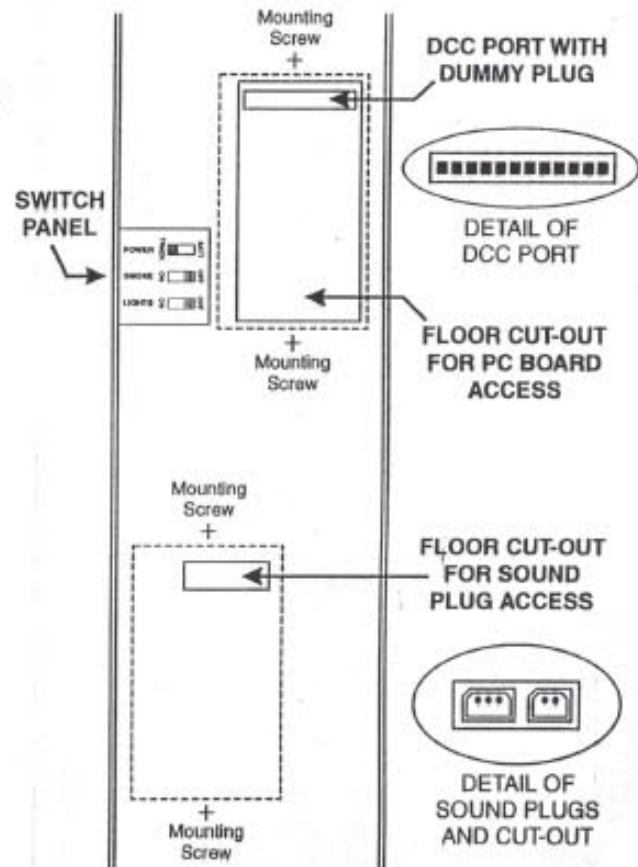
## **CAUTION**

**Do not turn the RDC upside down or on its side when the fluid reservoir contains smoke fluid. The remaining liquid may leak out, and if the RDC has just been run, the fluid may be hot enough to cause injury.**



## SOUND INSTALLATION

This RDC is equipped with a factory installed speaker. After purchasing the sound system of your choice, install it according to the manufacturer's instructions. The sound system should have 2 female plugs, one with 3 sockets, the other with 2 sockets. These are plugged into the pins on the sound plugs located on the bottom of the RDC. These plugs are located beneath the second of the large boxes on the bottom of the RDC. Turn the unit onto its back, orient the unit as per the drawing with the switch panel to your left. Remove this box in the same way as the box covering the DCC / radio control port was removed (by loosening it's 2 retaining screws), exposing the sound plugs. The 3 pin plug is for the speaker, the 2 pin plug is for the power to the sound system. Refer to the diagram for the position of each of the items mentioned.



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## BATTERY OPERATION

This RDC has been equipped to operate either from track power or from battery power. The selection switch is located on the switch panel located on the bottom of the unit (see diagram on page 7). Turn the unit on its back, orient the unit as per the drawing with the switch panel to your left. The power switch is the top switch. If the switch is in the left position, the unit will operate on track power. With the switch positioned to the left, the unit will operate with battery power. There are modular connectors alongside of each of the couplers. These connectors will link the RDC to a trailing car containing the batteries and a controller.

If battery power is utilized, we strongly recommend the use of Crest Electronics Gel Cell batteries (CRE-55493). If other batteries are utilized, the total voltage must be 18 and total amperage must be at least 3.

## OPERATION

When running by itself or coupled to another RDC or a trailing car, the RDC requires a minimum track diameter of at least 8'. This is a very long unit and smaller curves may cause derailments and side clearance problems.

## COUPLERS

This locomotive is equipped with prototypically accurate, operating knuckle couplers. These couplers are factory installed and may be operated manually by pressing upward on the small tab below the coupler assembly. Automatic uncoupling may be accomplished by using an LGB designed uncoupling device (*LGB is a trademark of the E.P. Lehmann Company, Germany*).

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## LIMITED WARRANTY

All ARISTO-CRAFT TRAINS products are under warranty for five (5) years from the date of purchase against defects in workmanship and/or materials. Proof of purchase *may be required* by ARISTO-CRAFT TRAINS.

This warranty is void and does not apply to any product and/or parts and components which have been improperly installed by the purchaser/owner, abused or damaged in any way through improper operation such as but not limited to derailment, repairs or modifications performed by non-authorized service centers or technicians.

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## SERVICING

Should your ARISTO-CRAFT TRAINS product require warranty service, please return it in the original box, if possible, protected by a proper shipping carton. Send the product fully insured and prepaid. ARISTO-CRAFT TRAINS will not be responsible for any loss or damage incurred during shipping. Be sure to include a brief, but thorough explanation of the problem, together with your name, street address (no Post Office box please), city state or province and country, if outside of the United States. Also include a daytime telephone number so that we may contact you if necessary. Your return address should be clearly marked on the outside of the shipping carton.

Payment for shipping and handling, in U.S. funds, is \$20.00 and should be included. Your check or money order should be made payable to: Polk's Modelcraft Hobbies, Inc. Do not send cash. If your item is not covered by warranty service, you will be contacted and a repair estimate given before any work commences. Warranty covers manufacturer defects, not normal wear and tear.

The shipping address to be used for returns is as follows:

ARISTO-CRAFT TRAINS / Polk's Modelcraft Hobbies, Inc.  
Customer Service Department  
698 South 21st Street  
Irvington, NJ 07111 USA  
Tel: (973) 351-9800

Written confirmation of receipt of returned items will be sent with estimated repair time by the ARISTO-CRAFT TRAINS Customer Service Department.

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