Tip: Freight Wagon Pipe Loads

Date: 24-04-06

Hi All,

Continuing on with my wagon loads theme I decided to build some pipe loads for the 46280 Flat Car with removable stakes. I noticed that the 4663 Flat Car with folding stakes was also a candidate as both wagons can take the same width loads. I chose to use some old Easton aluminium arrows that I had from my archery days which were bent and no longer of use for that purpose but would make some excellent pipes.





Photo left shows the finished load (top right) and the components required to make the load. Top left is a packet of 0.3mm brass chain, 12 pieces 32x2x0.9mm wood (I used HO 3"x6" Scale Lumber from Northeaston Scale Models INC.) Super glue was used for all components. On the bottom left you will see 12 pieces 10mm length cut Easton 2117 brown arrow, the pipe collar, next are 8 pieces 25mm length cut Easton 1916 gold arrow and 8 pieces 160 mm length of the same material. For the people wanting to

build this load using aluminium tube the 'OD' diameter of the smaller tube is 7.56 mm or 0.297" and the larger tube is 8.75mm or 0.348". The important thing to note is the larger tube should be a nice easy fit over the smaller tube. The pipe collars were glued to the smaller tube, length of the large pipe 165mm and the smaller pipe were 30mm in length.



The two bottom pipe layers (left photo) were constructed on the work bench. The pipes rested on two (ice lolly sticks) and held in position with "Blu-Tack". The right photo shows a temporary spacer on the two

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shorter lengths of pipe at each end of the pipe layer which were removed once the pipes had stuck together. One drop of "Super Glue" was placed between each pipe at the ends.

The top layer was constructed the same as the two bottom layers. I next glued the wooden planks as shown and left it in this position.



Taking one of the bottom layers orientate it until the collar positions are above the plain end of the pipes and glue it into place. Next glue the wooden planks at position above the existing planks, now orientate the last pipe layer until the collar positions are above the plain end of the pipes and glue it into place. Make sure the pipe stack is perpendicular and even in length.



You then glue on the last four wooden planks. Three chains are tensioned around the load at the positions shown and glued with "Super Glue". As you have noticed the load is hollow, this was done to help reduce the weight of the pipe load.

As a point of interest I made 5 loads each weighing 38gm and used approx. 700mm tube for the collars and 7600mm tube for the pipes and approx 2gm "super Glue' The time taken approx. 3 days was a surprise to me, but there was a lot of pipe cutting and after all time isn't important when you are having fun with your hobby.

Below is the result when putting the loads on the wagons I hope you like them.



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As an aside I combined the pipe loaded wagons with the 2854 Mannesemann set and anyone would think all the pipes had just left the factory.