

INTERNET RESOURCES

www.budd-rdc.org

MAILING LIST

groups.yahoo.com/group/BUDD-RDC

off visitors who wish to sample the fishing opportunities offered by the rivers along the route – the train crews offering expert advice on the best locations. For those who just wish to enjoy the journey, the route offers incredible views of the Denali mountain range including North America's highest mountain, Mount Denali, and various wildlife including Golden Eagles, Beavers and maybe even Grizzly Bears. The train crew are also often very welcoming, allowing the traveller to sample a main line cab ride through some of the most dramatic scenery in North America.

THE MODEL

Models of the Budd RDC are available in most scales, and in a wide variety of road names – one of their beauties for the modeller is that they fit any era from the steam-diesel transition periods of the 1950s right up to the present day, and were owned by railroads all over North America – if the railroad you model didn't have them, then their neighbour almost certainly did. In N scale, Kato are the main source with an extensive range that includes all four original variants of the RDCs – 1,2,3



The 1920-built steel bridge over the Susitna River seen from the cab of RDC3 No.701 at Milepost 264. Note the weathering effects on the steel structure.

and 4. In HO-scale, LifeLike's Proto 1000 range includes the RDC1,2 and 3s. In O scale, Sunset Models have just released an RDC1 in brass, and in G scale Aristocraft have the RDC1 available.

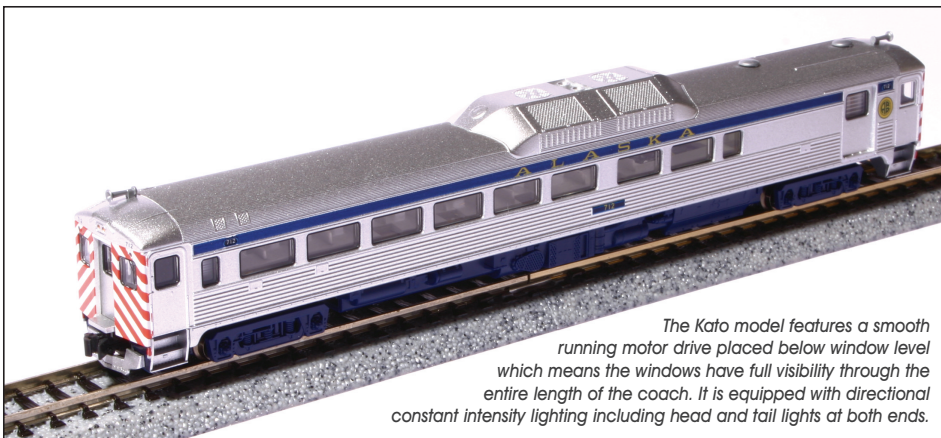
The Kato N scale (1:160) model of the Budd RDC was released in late 2001 and it remains a truly exemplary model, putting just about every other ready to run DMU model, even in the larger scales, to shame. They are typically

sold in pairs (the exception being the original demonstrator, Budd No.2960 RDC1 which is sold on its own), in a wide range of railroad names including Alaska, Canadian National, Canadian Pacific, Chicago North Western, Jersey Central, New Haven, New York Central, Northern Pacific, Rock Island, Santa Fe, Western Pacific and unlettered. The models are supplied with a number of detail parts including horns, roof vents, mail bag hooks (as appropriate) and a replacement knuckle coupler with a longer shaft for use on tight radius curves.

This fine Kato model features a smooth running motor drive placed below window level which means the windows have full visibility through the entire length of the coach along with upstanding seat back detail. It has prototypical drive shafts driving the bogies, a detailed underbody and directional constant intensity lighting including head and tail lights at both ends. Few HO or OO DMU models can claim even that; add to that space for a drop-in DCC decoder from Digitrax designed specially for the model (DN122K2), and a snap-in interior LED lighting kit (No.11-209) from Kato with a choice of fluorescent or incandescent colour filters. This model really does set the standard for ready-to-run DMU models.



Kato has chosen to model Nos.711 and 712, a pair of RDC2s.



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MODEL SUPPLIERS

Kato USA www.katousa.com
LikeLike Proto 1000
www.lifelikeproducts.com
Sunset Models www.3rdrail.com
Aristocraft www.aristocraft.com
Digitrax (for DCC) www.digitrax.com