

7. Mark Gionet's NW-2



I own a couple of HO scale brass diesel models, including Boston & Maine 1212, a General Motors Electro-Motive Division NW-2. Mine is an Overland Model, manufactured for them in Korea by Ajin Precision Manufacturing. According to Brasstrains.com, Overland's Ajin run of these was delivered in 1991. Sometime after that, I purchased 1212, then unpainted (and unnumbered), at a Great Scale Train show in Timonium, Maryland. It looked and ran well, but mostly occupied shelf space as I was too timid to attempt to strip the lacquer off the body and paint the locomotive. I did acquire decals, but they stayed in the box with the loco.

Several decades later, I decided it might be time to do something about getting it rail-ready. I wasn't going to go so far as to attempt to paint it myself, though. I noticed that the business card from the vendor I purchased it from, still glued to the inside of the box, said "brass locomotives - sales, service, paint." I dialed the number. It was answered by the son of the original seller. No, dad (still around) wasn't really in the business anymore, but Matt, the son, did custom painting. A quick internet review of his work—solid—and the loco was shipped out for painting and decoder and sound installation. This was not inexpensive, but I like the idea of helping keep the skills needed for this kind of work available. Now I just need to add a bit of grime to it, but in the meantime, it works the yard. *Mark Gionet*