

## 14. Mark Gionet's Milk Car



Twenty-five years ago, I began to contemplate expanding my HO rolling stock roster to include equipment from the 1950s. I wanted to feature earlier diesel-powered operations. So I acquired early Alco road-switchers and EMD F-units. At the same time, I stockpiled resin and 'craftsman' rolling stock kits. One was a Funaro & Camerlengo version of an insulated milk car built for the Erie in the 1930s. The Boston & Maine purchased six of these used in 1955.

It was a fun build, although my decal application skills were sorely tested. Despite a lightly applied protective coat of clear lacquer, I managed to dissolve the decals that came with the kit. Luckily, an eBay seller in western Canada had stockpiled multiple copies of old Microscale Decals for the car.

Most New England modelers own at least one milk car, even if they model modern-day short line operations. They are just too unique. I had previously added a brass replica of this milk car. Now I have two versions!

I'm now really looking forward to two resin boxcars from Yarmouth Model Works – kits that feature exquisite photo-etched metal parts and near microscopic eyebolts to secure corner grabs.

So, I guess my favorite piece of rolling stock is really the one I'm about to build. **Mark Gionet**