

12. MARK GIONET'S TRUCK DECALS



My Boston & Maine Western Route layout depicts parts of southern New Hampshire and Maine. Vehicles are one means to signal that location. While I have added accurate HO scale state license plates, they are barely visible. Vehicle business signs are more noticeable to layout viewers and can provide multiple hints to layout location and era. I had acquired a number of soft metal American Prototype Vehicles truck models at a train show. I completed a large Mac box truck and smaller Mac refrigerated truck and decided to paint and letter them with distinct place-specific signage. The large box truck became a moving van and the reefer truck a seafood delivery vehicle.

While founded in Indiana, Mayflower Moving's Pilgrim connection has a distinctly New England connotation. I chose the old wave and square-rigged sailing ship graphic for the side of the van, and added 'New England Wide Movers' to the business information, and a good Irish name for the proprietor. Some research yielded the beginning of a lobster logo which I edited in Photoshop to create Cianci Brothers Seafood, available according to the side of the truck, in a number of towns near my layout setting.

I finished the decals in photoshop and printed them on decal paper - Testor's and HobbyCal, I think, using our home printer. My fears of paper jamming went unrealized and the decals printed out without issues. Applying them was a bit trickier as the resulting decals are a bit heavier than commercially printed water slide ones, and take a bit more effort to get seated fully over surface details. **Mark Gionet**

