



## **1009: Victorian Railways 4 wheel explosive van. Requires MicroTrains 1015couplers.**

Thank you for purchasing this kit and I hope you get many hours of enjoyment from it. Chris Pearce (Spirit Design)



P10 in final form. Photo courtesy of Peter Vincent.

**Basic history notes:** Utilising the condemned underframes from surplus U vans in 1953/54; Newport Workshops commenced construction of 25 P vans to replace existing vans that dated from the late 1800s. The vans were used to transport explosives from Deer Park to Laverton for the Army and general explosives industry. The main consignee was Nobles (later ICI). At Laverton, the dangerous cargo was moved around on a special 2-foot tramway constructed solely for this purpose.

The second batch of vans was manufactured in 1958/59 and was numbered 26-45. There were some minor differences between the first batch 1-25, such as side bracing and end bracing. In the early 1960s, a further batch of 6 vans 46-51 was constructed similar to the second batch to fill the required traffic needs. The first batch was also fitted with roof ventilators, which were later removed, in the late 1960s. Their distinctive paint scheme made them stand out from ordinary wagons in that the units were bright red with black underframes and were emblazoned with the words 'EXPLOSIVES' in large yellow and black writing.

By the mid-1980s the 4 wheel wagons on the Victorian Railways were being withdrawn at an alarming rate and the P van was to fall the same fate. Luckily there are some preserved for future generations and the Castlemaine and Maldon Society has a few examples of this unusual class.

**The kit:** Can be put together in a very short time. Only minimal tools and basic skills are all that is required to build a very accurate model of a Victorian Railways P van. It is suggested that you read through the instructions first to become familiar with the essence of construction.

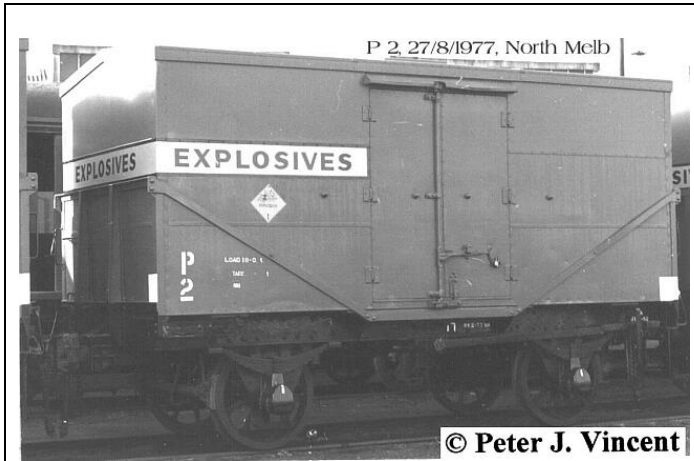
**Equipment & Materials:** Files, white anti fill sandpaper fine, 2B pencil, Selley's 'Kwik Grip' water-based, paints, modeller putty, and the usual array of modellers tools etc.

### **3D printed van body:**

1. Using a razor saw cut through each side of the supports near their base whilst laying the unit on a flat surface
2. **Pay attention when doing this step as the 3D print is brittle.** Using a tiny pair of side cutters, clip each support close to the model on the exterior edges. The internal ones can be twisted free using a small set of needle-nose pliers
3. Sand the nubs/bumps both internally and near the edges of the model
4. Using fine white anti fill sandpaper on a flat surface, sand the 2 roof halves to remove any of the stepped lines of the 3D print
5. If using the 2 torpedo vents (supplied), trim these from the 3D sprue and glue them into the holes marked into the roof ends after first drilling them out. Fill the holes if they aren't being used

### 3D printed underframe:

1. Using a 0.7mm drill bit extended from the pin vice, gently clean out any foreign matter in the axle box holes with just a few turns back and forth
2. Twizel a 2B pencil into each of the axle box holes to lubricate them
3. Insert an axle into the NON 'V' grooved hole and then with a little pressure gently ease the 'V' groove axle hole a fraction so that the opposite axle point can be pushed in and test that the wheels spin. **Removal is the reverse procedure**
4. Screw 2 MicroTrains 1015 couplers into the MDF floor provided
5. Slip the underframe over the couplers and onto the MDF floor for trial fitting and then glue if happy
6. Trial fit the floor/underframe centrally into the 3D van and if all is well, add weight (if desired), glue the MDF to the inside of the 3D van after first painting the underframe assembly black and protecting the axle box holes and couplers from any paint
7. Glue the shunter steps to the underframe as per photos



### Paint scheme:

The van is painted gloss bright red all over the sides ends and the roof (Humbrol no. 19) is a good match. The underframe is painted matt black as well as the shunter steps. In the late 1970s, early 1980s the shunter steps were painted white. On the hand brake side, a 9" square white patch was painted onto the end and side of the van to aid shunters as to what side the drop-down lever was on. Use a '00' or '000' paintbrush to paint on the white patch.

### Decal info:

For best results, decals should always be applied to a glossy surface to stop the silvering effect that shows through on matt painted surfaces. The longer 'EXPLOSIVES' decals are for the ends of the wagon and the shorter ones are for the side. Use the prototype photos above as an aid to positioning them. Fit the class letter and number to your wagon as per photos.

For more information and photos see: Rob O'Regan's website <http://www.robx1.net/> or Mark Bau's <http://www.victorianrailways.net/> or Peter Vincent's <http://www.pjv101.net/indkex.htm>  
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