Large Scale Models of DSP&P Locomotives

Part 4: The Delton Classics DSP&P 2-8-0 Consolidations

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In 1989, Delton Locomotive Works began producing a D&RW C-16 Class 2-8-0, in 1:24 "H" scale. The good-looking body was plastic with some metal fittings, and a good metal frame and metal wheels. The motor and gearbox were a little primitive and it took 6 more years before all the mechanical issues were resolved. It was painted in several variations for the Colorado and Southern, but none were sold labeled for DSP&P, although a paint sample was prepared and advertised.

In 1996, Aristocraft Trains began marketing retooled versions of the Delton 2-8-0 under the "Delton Classics" trade name. Two versions were painted for DSP&P: a wood burning DSP&P #63 with diamond stack and a coal burner, DSP&P #64 with straight stack and modernized domes. These road numbers represent the Cooke-built DSP&P locomotives #58 through #68, delivered to the DSP&P in 1883.

The level of detail is moderate compared to the more recent Accucraft brass models discussed in Part

3 in this Series. The model bears a strong resemblance to the builder's photo of #63, but I can't vouch for accuracy of the dimensions. The finish is good and equal to most moderately priced plastic models, The tender of #63 carries a wood load, which is incorrect; #64 has coal. Cab doors and windows are immobile. Couplers, on the rear only, are Delton knuckle type.

The "Delton Classic" locomotives were not "sound-ready", but It is relatively easy to add basic LGB-style sound sensors or full DCC and an American steam sound module in the tender.

Aristocraft commissioned David Fletcher to prepare a prototype for C&S #30 based on the Delton 2-8-0. He lowered the body to better represent the Cooke locos and gave it a superb paint job with Russia iron boiler. Aristocraft went out of business before any could be produced. David offered this masterpiece for sale and #30 now sits proudly among my other DSP&P locomotives.



Builder's photo of DSP&P #63, photo by the author



Builder's photo of DSP&P #64, photo by the author



Photo of DSP&P #63 for comparison to the models, with Congdon smokestack, note missing headlight

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Delton Classic DSP&P 2-9-0 on the author's outdoor railway



C&S #30, photo by David Fletcher