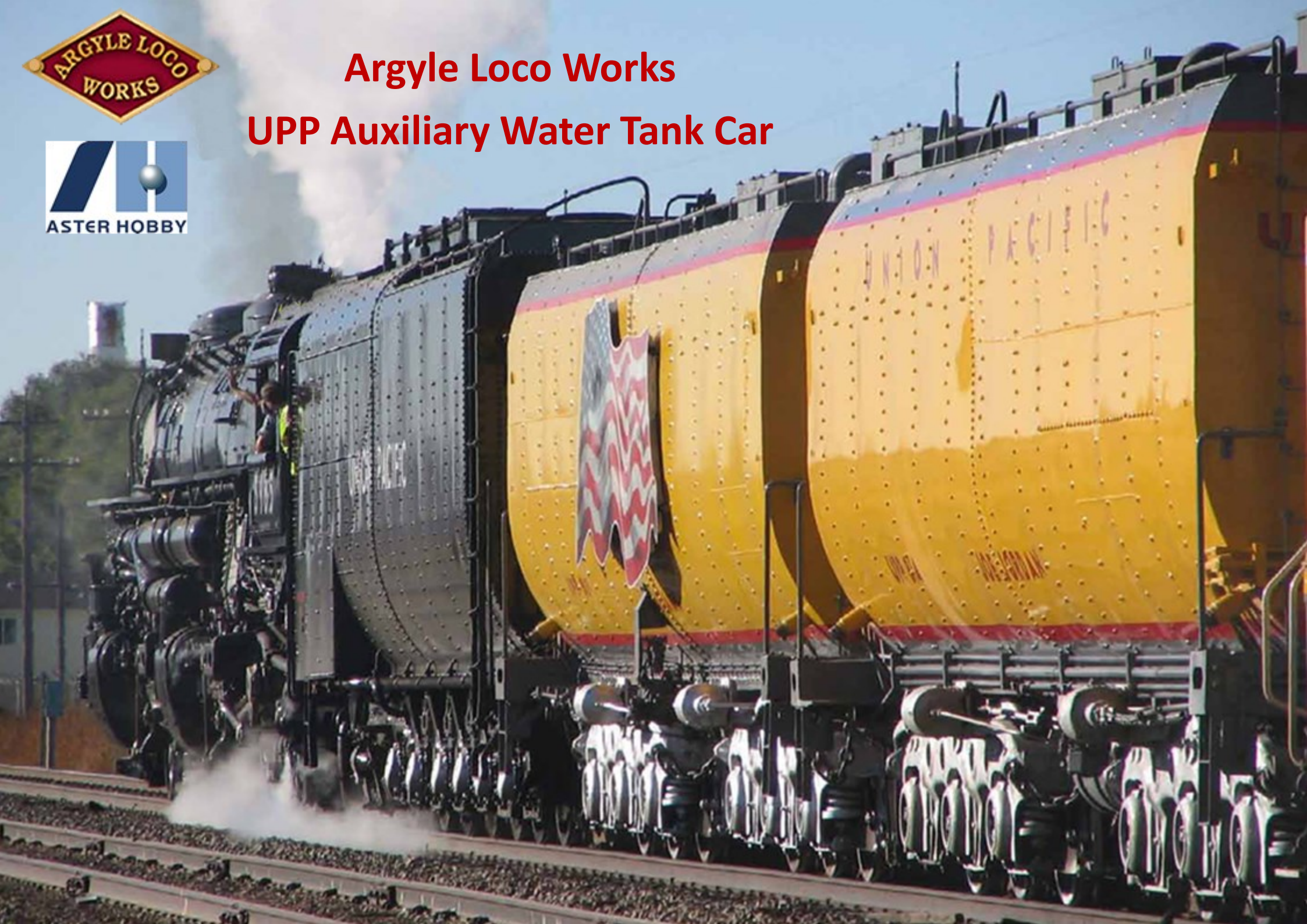




Argyle Loco Works

UPP Auxiliary Water Tank Car





UPP Auxiliary Water Tank Car

Aster Hobby Japan in association with Aster Hobby USA are developing several versions of the UPP Auxiliary Water Tank Car as used with the preserved UP Challenger locomotives.

Versions to be produced are as follows:

- **UPP 809 "Jim Adams"**
(Top and middle picture –as in service today)
- **UPP 814 "Joe Jordan"**
(Bottom picture –as in service today)
- **Black unlettered version**

History

The Union Pacific Heritage Steam Fleet operating Challenger # 3984 and FEF 3 # 844 is utilizing auxiliary water tenders to carry extra water on long excursion trips. Originally, these were ordinary coal tenders used in the 1940's behind UP steam locomotives. At the end of the steam era, two of them, now numbered UPP 809 and UPP 814 were saved from the scrap yard and converted as auxiliary fuel-oil tenders for the new Turbine Electric Locomotives. By the time the Turbine locomotives were retired, the tenders were used as mobile fuel storage tanks in UP's diesel locomotive servicing facilities. As the Heritage Steam Fleet's activities increased and steam excursion trips covered longer distances, extra water capacity was needed for the locomotives. Since all the watering towers from the steam era had long since disappeared, the two old fuel tenders suddenly became the perfect solution and were taken into service in original configuration as auxiliary water tenders.

In 2007 the two tenders underwent major overhaul at the UP steam shop in Cheyenne WY. The inside of the tenders was gutted of unnecessary piping, fuel preheating equipment and bulkheads. Unnecessary exterior piping was removed and the slated deck end plates were squared off and a new top deck fabricated. The modifications made the tenders more user friendly and also increased the water capacity by approximately 3000 gallons.

The Models

Aster Hobby Co. Inc. is now developing a functional scale model of the Union Pacific water tank cars in 1/32 scale for gauge 1 (45mm) track to supplement the water capacity of the Aster UP Challenger locomotive tender. A special adaptor piece will be provided allowing you to connect a water line from the auxiliary water tender to your Challenger tender water drain. This will approximately triple the water carrying capacity of your Aster Challenger.

A black unlettered version of the water tank car will be made available for use on other Aster locomotives featuring the tender drain plug (such as the NKP Berkshire and GNS2).

Orders

Target retail price for the UP water tank car is expected to be AU\$ 1,600 RTR. The US flag will be a bolt- on (metal plate) option at additional cost (to be determined). The water tank car will only be available in RTR version, no kits will be produced. Customers ordering both UP tank car versions will receive the flag options at no extra cost.

Reservation deadline is 17th April 2013. A \$200 deposit will be required at time of ordering.

Delivery

A pilot model of the UP water tank car is planned for April 2013 with production models due in July 2013.



CONTACT DETAILS

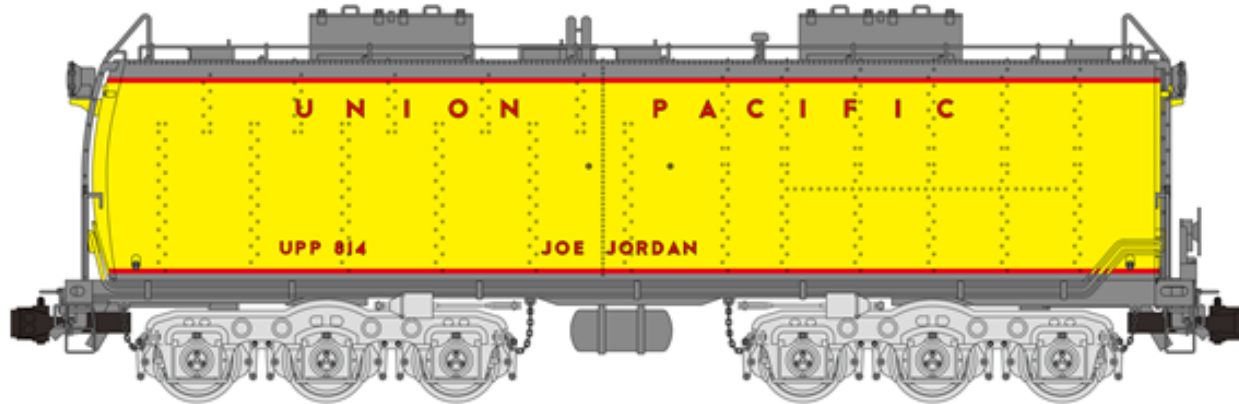
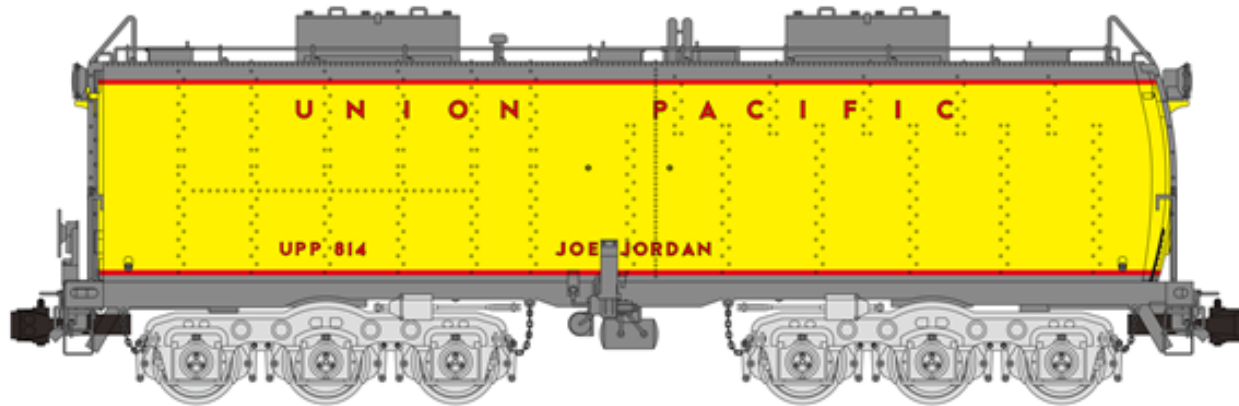
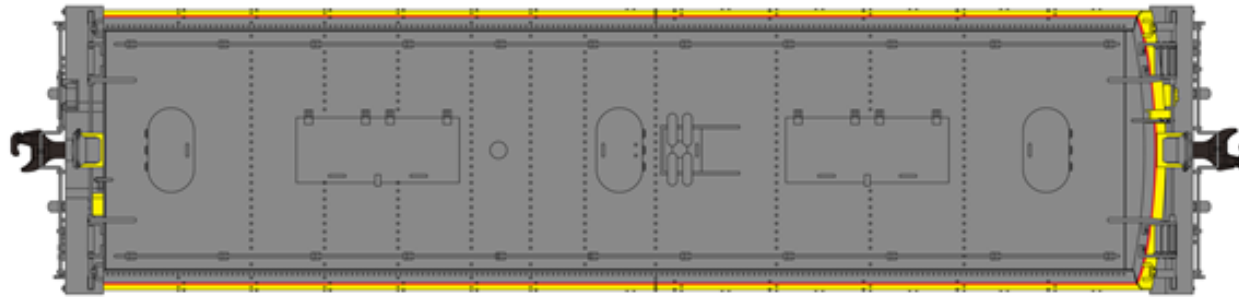
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Importer & distributor for Aster Hobby Co, Japan
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Pictures and text courtesy of Aster Hobby Japan and Aster Hobby USA