

BR (SR) 4VEP Class 423 Etched Brass Overlays

Introduced in 1967 for use on the newly electrified Waterloo - Bournemouth line, the 4VEPs (Vestibuled Electro Pneumatic brake) were used for semi-fast, 'high density' services which called for greater seating density than the express units while retaining through connections between vehicles. They consisted of a Driving Trailer Composite at each end with a Trailer Open Second and Non-Driving Motor Open Brake Second. First class accommodation was provided in compartments at the inner ends of the Driving Trailers while guards / luggage space was in the Motor Car. The driving cab was uniform with that of a 4CIG/BIG/REP (MJT part 1100). The VEPs were the last surviving slam door EMUs remaining in service until 2005 on all parts of the SR electrified network. Trailer cars ran on B5(S) bogies (MJT part No. 2239) while motor cars usually ran on BR Mk 6 power bogies. A mid-life modification converted the luggage van space into additional passenger accommodation; the sides represent the unit in its original form.

Livery. Originally BR Rail Blue (dull shade on Bournemouth line, brighter on Brighton line), Blue/Grey (including some with Gatwick City Link branding) and Network South East. Post privatisation they carried various Connex Southern and South West Trains liveries. Data on livery and numbering should be sought and checked with the aid of the relevant Ian Allan ABC guide.

The Etched Sides:

These etched overlays have been produced to allow the scratch-builder to use a proprietary model as the basis for a variety of prototypes. Suitable BR Mk 1 donor vehicles are (or have been) made by, among others, Lima, Hornby and Bachmann; these provide the basis for several BR(S) EMU designs. To complete a 4VEP the following items are suggested:

- ◆ 4 BR Mk1 coaches from your chosen manufacturer.
- ◆ Lima / Hornby Class 73 (for Mk 6 power bogies)
- ◆ 1 MJT ref 1100 (pair of CIG/BIG/VEP driving cab ends),
- ◆ 2 packs MJT 2942 BR scalloped vents.
- ◆ 4 packs MJT 2930 BR door handles
- ◆ 4 sets of MJT ref. 2239 cosmetic sides for the B5(S) bogie and, if required. 4 sets of MJT ref 2223 8' 6" compensated bogies.
- ◆ 4 MJT 2970 BR aluminium roof extrusions (if it is desired to replace the donor vehicle roof).

Kaydee buckeye couplings (No. 16) can be used instead of the cosmetic units supplied with MJT 1100 to provide working couplings at either end of the unit. If using the original roof, a length of Slaters Plasticard® rainstrip will improve the look of the vehicle. Having cut off the coach end from the donor vehicle, use it as a template for interior partitions.

A vehicle interior and roof vent plan is set out overleaf,

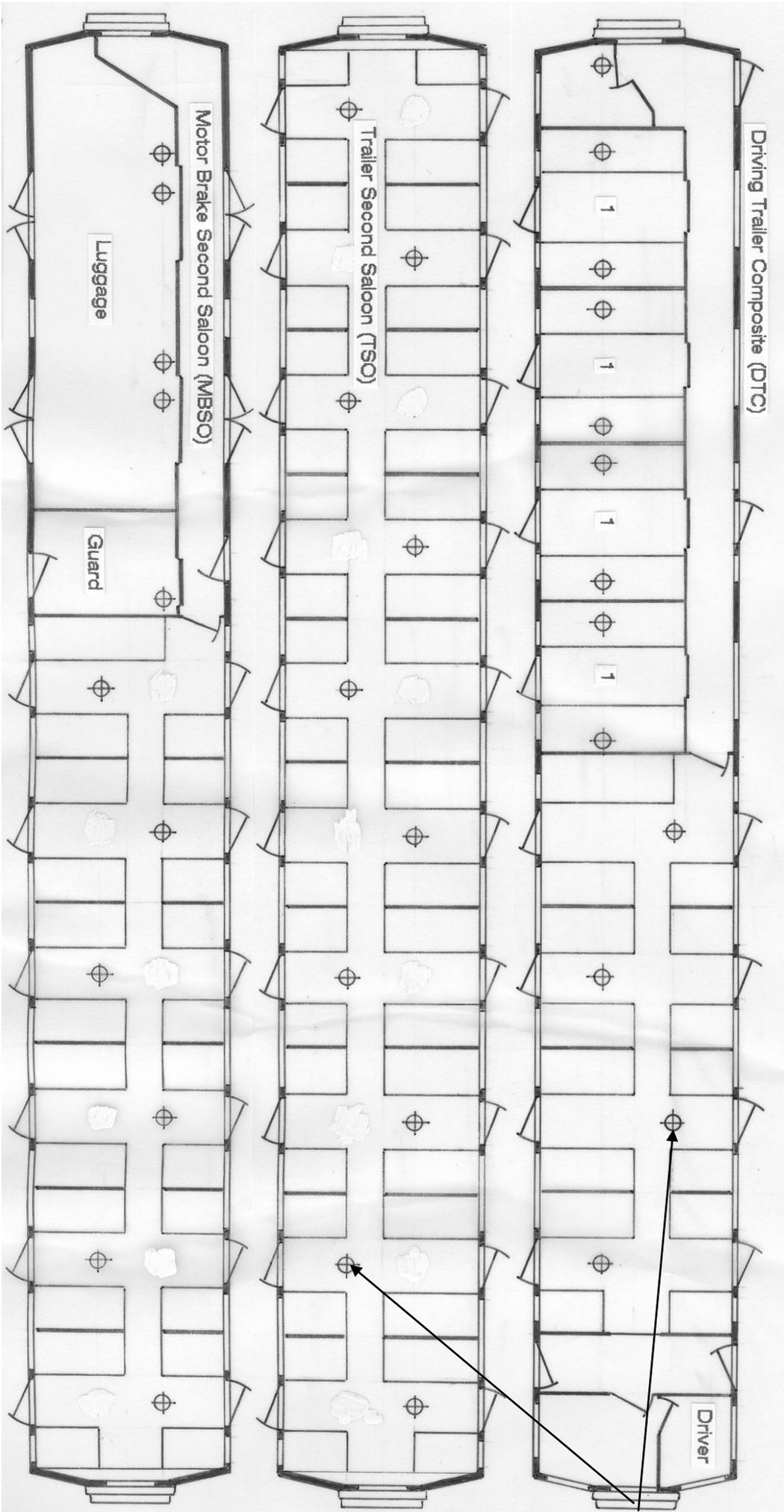
MJT
scale components

**Ref. 1008 BR (SR) 4VEP (Class 423)
Etched Brass Overlays for 4 vehicles**

Manufactured by

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POSITION OF ROOF VENTS