

LT TransPlant Battery Locomotive

For RSDL Rail Simulator

Installation

Use the Rail Simulator Package Manager to install these to your computer. This model aliases parts of the RSDL Isle of Wight Class 483 trains and therefore you will need the RSDL Isle of Wight Route to run this train. It has only been tested with an upgraded version of Rail Simulator (Upgrade 2). After installation, you will have a folder in your Assets folder called RScott (if you have already installed other models by me, this will be there already). Within this folder is the standard setup of folders, including RailVehicles, incorporating Electric. This contains a folder called Default, which contains the LT Battery Loco.



To make the models available you will need to be in a scenario. Click on the globe icon at the bottom of the screen, then the orange loco icon at the top left (confirm yes to enter editing mode). From the menu on the middle of the left hand side, click the blue cube. Then, from the menu on the right hand side of the screen click the box and choose RScott from the drop down list. Click in the box next to Addon. Now, when you go to the menu on the left hand side and choose from the list of locos, you should see LT Battery Loco Yellow and LT Battery Loco Blue . Place them on a track (and don't forget to add a driver). Because of the large numbers on the cab front, I have not used the RSDL auto numbering as it can create a rough effect around the number when very large. You therefore only have 2 locos to choose from unless you modify the appropriate texture.

The Prototype

LUL currently maintains a fleet of 37 TransPlant-operated Battery Locomotives, these locos entering service in three batches in 1964, 1970 and 1974. They are used to haul materials – spoil, ballast and rails – to locations on the combine where after-hours maintenance work may be required. The 62 tonne locos are able to run on both 650V line voltage or on 320V supplied by internal batteries, the latter being used around the worksite where traction current would be switched off after traffic hours to allow safe access for the track workers.

A Battery Loco train is almost always formed of a lead loco, some number of wagons and a rear loco. The Turbot wagons include connectors and wiring to enable control of the rear loco from the front loco. Each loco also has both front and rear cabs, thus you can control operation from either cab of either loco as may be appropriate. As the loco can be operated from either cab and coupled from either end, both ends include multiple coupling mechanisms, buffers, cab front and side doors, and lights that can be illuminated for either front or rear orientation. Access to each end cab is through one of several doors. Hinged cab side doors provide access from the platform level. The front (or “M” door) also allows access in depot or work areas. A door in the cab rear bulkhead (“J” door) allows access through the loco, past the battery area, to the other-end cab. The operator’s position is on the left of the cab – usually referred to as the near-side of the cab. The cab interior and controls are very austere. This model uses the RSDL Class 483 cab, which is similar in many ways.

Driving the train

This train is, at present, aliased to the RSDL Class 483 cab, therefore you can refer to their documentation for full instructions. However, basic controls (assuming you have not changed these) are **W** to set forward direction, **S** to set reverse direction. **A** will accelerate and **D** will slow down. ; will release the brakes and ‘ will apply them.



The Class 485 lights are controlled by the **H** and **Shift-H** keys. As the train lights are currently OFF, you will need to press **H** once to turn on the train lights. This will turn on the front unit white lights and the rear unit red lights. Pressing **H** again will put red lights at the front. Pressing **Shift-H** will cycle the lights back to OFF. For some reason in Rail Simulator, the headlights do not come on when the train is stationary, but the red light does. As soon as the train moves off, the lights will change and the red light will be on at the rear of the train. **T** will open the train doors, which will then automatically close after a short period.

The loco has drop down buckeye couplers (aliased from the Kuju originals), but these are cosmetic only on this model. Because of this, this loco has no working couplers, but will happily couple to wagons using their 3 link couplings. You will need to back the loco to wagons quite gently to ensure it couples. If you have auto coupling on, you will be able to couple up to other trains, such as the RSDL 1938 Stock.

Acknowledgements

The train model and passenger view was made by me using 3D Canvas and Paint Shop Pro and Adobe Premiere Elements. I have used Normal maps to create relief on the textures. I have used Environment maps to create the effect of metal on the cab roof.

For more about 3D Canvas see:

www.amabilis.com

Thanks as always to the Canvas Forum and also all those at UKTrainsim that have helped me along the way. Thanks also to Darren of the Virtual District Team for taking time to give these models the once (or twice) over. I have also borrowed some information from Dr Jimi's original documentation for my MSTS version of this loco.

The cab, simulation and sound files that I alias, are the work of Rail Simulator Developments Ltd, to whom many thanks.

www.railsimulator.com

Richard Scott
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richardscott@dasp.org.uk

