

CHOPPER COUPLING FOR 009 CHANGING THE FACE OF 009 MODELLING

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To Corry 4 Tons

MINITRAINS MOTOR UPGRADE MORE N GAUGE MOTOR UPGRADES SOUND DECODERS GEAR TESTER

TRAMFABRIEK

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When you get older, we all realise that time seems to go faster every new year. When I'm looking ahead on what I'm going to focus on in 2023, I feel that the year is nearly over, as almost every day is already filled. There are so many things I want to do, I can see that it doesn't fit all in this year. There is also a lot of distraction. As my company gets more and more known, nationally and internationally, the amount of emails with requests for help has increased. Many days are spent only answering emails and packing the orders. Evenings are spent on developing new products and building models. But of course, there is always some time spent on playing with the trains.

Even though the Brexit has hit the Tramfabriek with a sledge hammer, additional upgrade kits made for British model help to keep the business running. Also the United States and Australia are very used to order internationally. They are often more at ease with ordering outside of their own economical region than people from the EU, for who this all is still new. That the Tramfabriek has several products that are unique in the world, has been a saving grace. Businesses in the UK who are resellers of competing products have seen their business with the EU have evaporated overnight. So my strength is also my saviour to survive the Brexit.

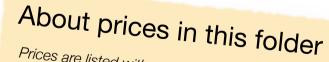
I hope you will enjoy checking out what new things I have for you. Hopefully there is something that will help you enjoying the greatest hobby in the world.

Sven van der Hart January, 2023.

P.S. If you have a question, please feel free to send me an email at info@tramfabriek.co.uk . You will always get an answer.

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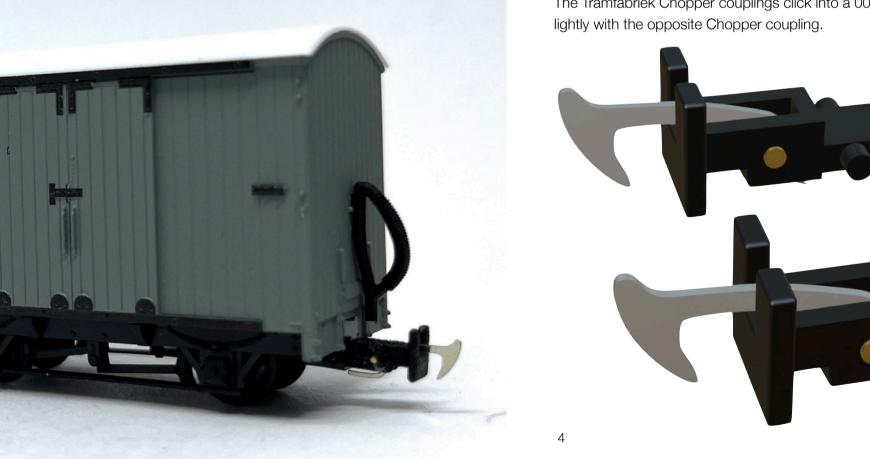


Prices are listed with and without VAT. If you are living outside of the UK, you don't pay VAT when checking out at the Tramfabriek shop. But you might get charged by customs when the goods enter your country. Or not.

Upping the realism in 009

As many products at the Tramfabriek, it starts with something I personally want/ need. The growing releases of 009 ready to run stock has not passed my attention and several models have been purchased. But the clunky couplings have been a

thorn in my eye. Such pretty models, but why the practical, but horrible distracting coupling? In other scales there are many different couplings. Some would argue too many. The fact is that we have NEM pockets on practically all new 009 models, but hardly any choice in alternative couplings. After rigorously months of testing and redesigning, I am proud to announce a new coupling, based on the one seen on the Lynton & Barnstaple railway: the Chopper coupling. But this coupling is not limited to this railway, as it is internationally being used, which becomes clear with the alternative name, the "Norwegian coupling".



The Tramfabriek Chopper couplings click into a 009 NEM slot and will couple

Chopper couplings for 009



009

009

For practical reasons, the couplings will be sold in a set of 12: Six couplings have a hook, the other six do not. Even though it is prototypical to have a hook in each coupling and technically, two hooks will couple in this model version, it is not easy to uncouple.

Available in two lengths

Chopper Coupling Short

For Peco and Bachmann locos. wagons, Peco small passenger coaches. Set of 12

£35.00 (£29.17 ex VAT) Available now

Chopper Coupling Medium

Ideal for Peco Lynton & Barnstaple coaches. Set of 12

£35.00

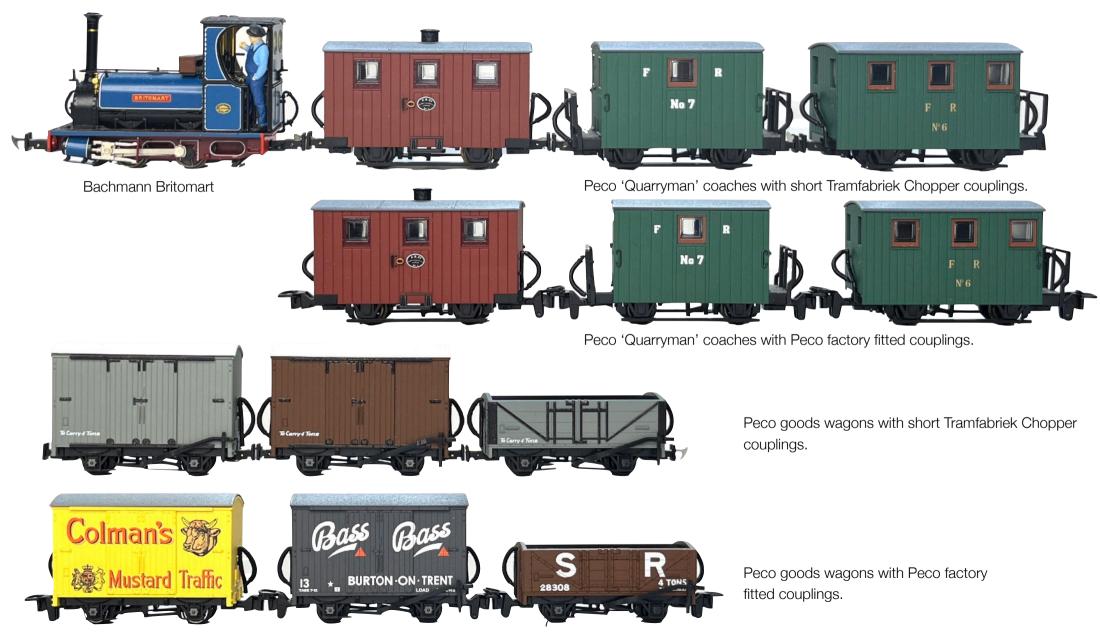
(£29.17 ex VAT)

Available now



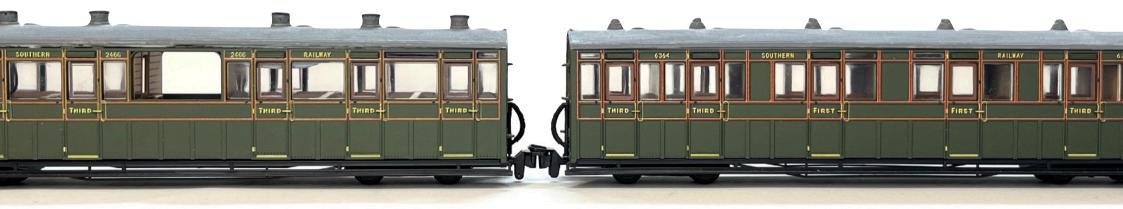
Purchase at ()tramfabriek.co.uk/couplings.html







Peco Lynton & Barnstaple coaches with medium Tramfabriek Chopper couplings



Peco Lynton & Barnstaple coaches with Peco factory fitted couplings.



Magnetic uncoupling

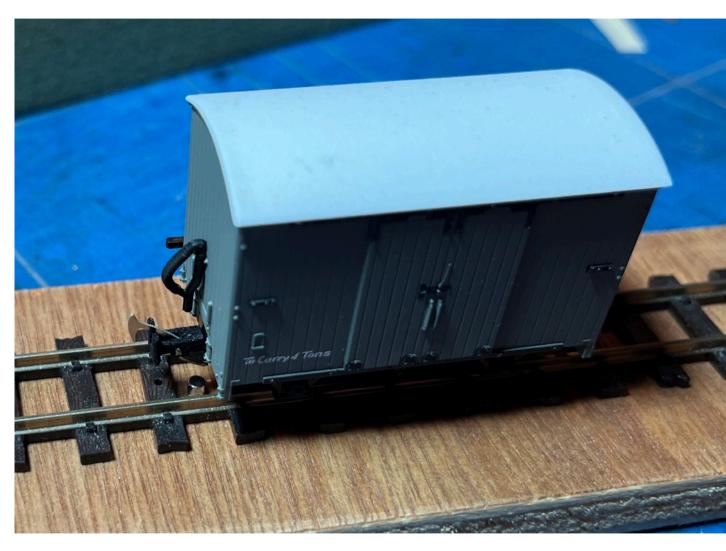
If you like to remote uncouple your coaches and wagons, then this is possible with a little adjustment to the coupling. Glue a thin piece of soft iron wire along the tail of the coupling and a small magnet will do the trick. If you use a 2 x 2 mm magnet and align this with the top of the sleepers, this will be the perfect so that the wagons will not de-couple when you drive over the magnet. But strong enough to uncouple when you want it. These magnets are available from the Tramfabriek.

Please note: Iron wire included with each set of couplings!

Magnets 2 x 2 mm Art. TFMA22 20 pieces £4.50 (£3.75 ex VAT)

Available now





Another Tramfabriek innovation is the Gear Spacer for all DIY chassis builders or anyone else who likes to fiddle around with gears. When you design gear motion, you don't really know yet if the distances of the gears will work well in reality. This handy tool will allow you to physically test the required distance between gears. Moving along the snail from the centre increases the distance to the centre with 0.1 mm with each step. Suitable for axles with a diameter of 1.0 and 1.5 mm. Suits all scales, but will mainly be useful for 009/H0e, N and Z gauge, where axles with these diameters are most common.

TIPS!

- To design your own gear train, this website is very helpful: geargenerator.com
- All kind of gears can be custom ordered from the excellent kkpmo.com for reasonable prices.

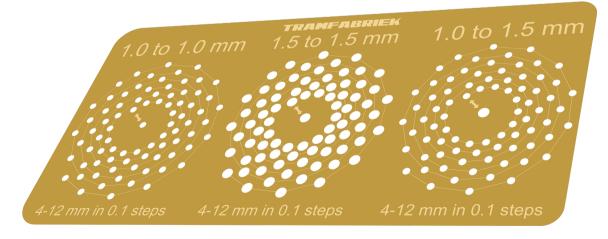
Gear Spacer

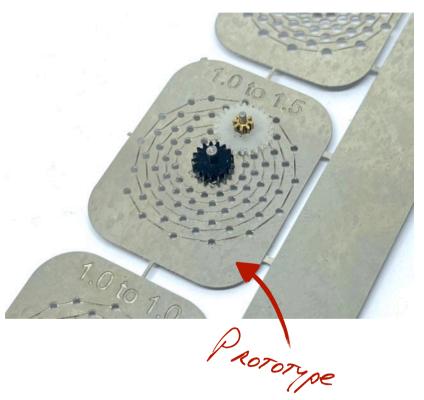
Art. **TFGESP**

1 brass plate

£17.50 (£14.58 ex VAT)

Available March 2023







12 CORELESS MOTOR UPGRADE KITS

The Tramfabriek sells several very affordable, but powerful coreless 12 Volt motors, which it has produced to meet the wishes of model railway fans. Now you can upgrade the motor of your loved models from the past or use it for motorising your scratch built locomotive. Because not everyone has the patience, time or desire to tinker around building a cradle for the coreless motor in the same size as the original motor, the Tramfabriek offers complete upgrade kit for several models for scales N and H0/m/e and will be adding more to the collection throughout the year.

-TUTS

009/H0e

There has been quite a lot of request for replacement motors for Minitrains models. As they practically all use the same chassis, this kit will fit most Minitrains models. It will make the motor less obtrusive and it will run better at lower speeds. Not said that the default motor isn't any good, quite the opposite, but if your motor is broken or you want the motor to take up less space, this 7 x 16 mm motor is the motor of choice.

Minitrains Ultimate motor upgrade

0716D motor, flywheel, bracket & screws

£25.00

(£20.83 ex VAT)

Available now

Purchase at tramfabriek.co.uk/minitrains.html

Comparison to original motor

√ Silent

- √ Earlier start at lower voltage
- √ Takes up less space
- $\sqrt{Replace broken motor}$

Wrap the new motor in black insulation tape and it (almost) disappears.



Minitrains OMZ122F upgrade kit

Temporary product!

009/H0e

When working on the motor upgrade for the Minitrains chassis, I saw some room for improvement for the OMZ122F model. First there is the obvious Deutz factory shield. But as inside there is a huge brass block visible, which becomes even more obvious when you replace the factory fitted motor with a Tramfabriek Ultimate Minitrains motor upgrade. This can easily be hidden with a control panel and so now there is one.

Please note that this product is limited and only temporary available as long as stock lasts.



Purchase at tramfabriek.co.uk/products/drives.html#minitrains

Pushing the limits: Drilling out the holes of the control panel to add dashboard light in this sound and stayalive containing model.

Ν

A selection of upgrade kits released in the past year. Available now



Coreless motor upgrade kits for N gauge

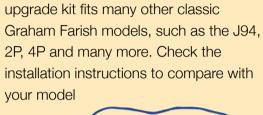


Graham Farish Large Prairie



Graham Farish Pannier tank





The Graham Farish Large Prairie



Ibertren Cookoo





Many more available at tramfabriek.nl/drives-n.html

Compatibility with more chassis is with more upgrade kits the case. So will the Dapol A4 kit fit in for example their A3, Manor, Britannia and Hall locomotives.



Small scales



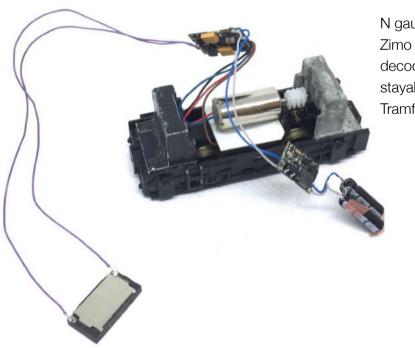
This year the Tramfabriek also started to sell some products of the Zimo range, with focus on products for small model trains. On my search for the smallest decoder to fit in the Tramfabriek steam trams, Zimo offered me exactly what I was looking for with the

MS500, MS490 and MS580N18. These are in function the same, but different in size. After testing these in the past year, I was not only impressed by their performance, easy to use sound design program, but also resilience to recover from interrupted sound uploads or sturdiness with wrong connections. On top of that, the Zimo email support is outstanding. Not all decoder manufacture are so easy and reliable to reach. Good to know is that if you have a Roco/Fleischmann Z21, the black version, and a Windows computer with wifi, you can upload sound files directly to any Zimo MS decoder. You don't need a costly programmer.

Check out the available Zimo sound decoders at tramfabriek.co.uk/sounddecoders.html

Available now

(Though stock tend to go fast)



N gauge project with the Zimo MS500 sound decoder, STACO3A stayalive and 9 x 16 mm Tramfabriek speaker.

Making your own sound

Anyone interested in creating their own sound should download the free Zimo sound programming software. It's nothing like its main rival software ESU, which is overwhelming. With Zimo Sound Programmer Zimo offers clear and easy to use software. With the included ZPP Konfig you can add your own sounds to any existing sound file, even coded ones, and upload this to the decoder using a Z21 command station.

Get the free software at www.zimo.at



When running small model trains with DCC, it becomes a must to have some form of power back up, also called stayalive or powerpack. Especially when using sound decoders. Train-O-Matic offers the popular SPP/SPP-N, but they might not fit in all models. Especially in Z, N and H0e/009, space is rare. There are

different kind of stayalives. Some, like the Train-O-Matic SPP, are programmable and allow you to set the additional power it gives you. Some use the cheaper tantalum capacitors, but they store dramatically less power than the supercapacitors used by the SPP. So you need quite a lot of them or large ones to have a real effect. Zimo took ideas from both and came up with the STACO series. The necessary electronics board that comes with the two supercaps is tiny. Really tiny. And the back up power itself is divided over two small supercapacitors, so it's easier to find space for it.

Stayalive with Next18 socket

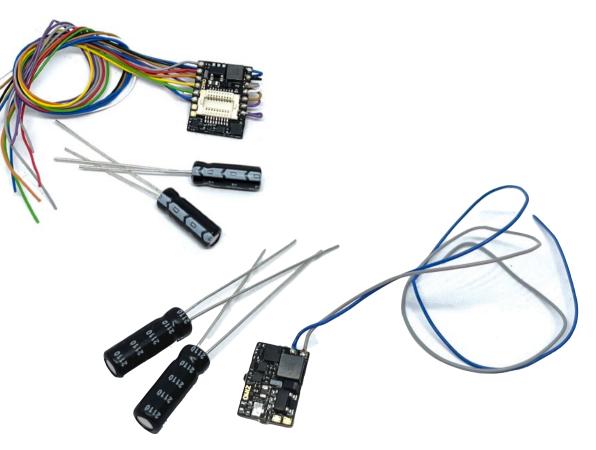
Art. **STACO2A** 1 PCB and 2 capacitors **£24.50** (£20.42 ex VAT) **Available now**

Stayalive to hardwireArt. STACO3A1 PCB and 2 capacitors£20.00

(£16.67 ex VAT)

Available now



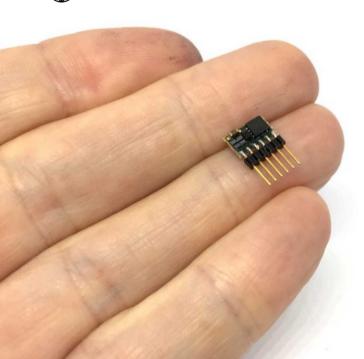


Small scales

Not a new product, but as many are not aware of the availability of this tiny decoder, it his put in the spotlight here. Many who want to add DCC to their new Bachmann Quarry Hunslet, experiences that not any 6 pin decoder will fit. You need the tiny Bachmann/Zimo decoder. As this is hard to get, model fans of the little engine might want to look at the Doehler & Haass PD05A-4 decoder. This is just as tiny and functions incredibly well with coreless motors. If you are unfamiliar with the brand, Doehler & Haass is famous for the great performance of their decoders and the PD05A-4 is an excellent alternative for the advised Bachmann decoder.

Doehler & Haass PD05A-4 Art. PD05A-4 7x3 x 8 mm £30.90 (£25.75 ex VAT) Available now







Some interesting new special products have been released by decoder maker Train-O-Matic.

Flex connector

Every amateur and pro model train technician recognises the problem of lots of wires in the model to connect a variety of functions. Some wires soldered together, protected from shorts with a bit of tape around it. Train-O-Matic comes to the rescue with this incredibly fine and handy Flex Connector.

Flat cable

The strong 6 pin flat cable is only 0.14 mm thin and slides in the slots of either a flat or corner connector. These connectors have 6 solder pads, so it is very easy to connect the wires or component contacts. Nice, reliable and clean.

Connectors

The FLAT connector has a tab which, when pushed down, will lock the flex cable in place. The CORNER connector holds the flex cable in its slot with friction. Both will guarantee a reliable connection.

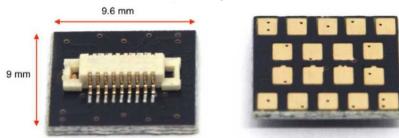


All scales

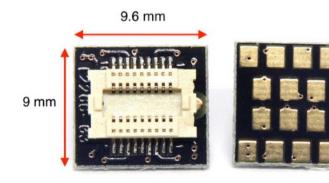
Next18 connectors

Next18 is finally becoming the standard in N gauge, but it is also seen in other scales. Before, getting an adapter board for your own model would be costly, but Train-O-Matic brings a 5 pack on the market for an extremely friendly price.

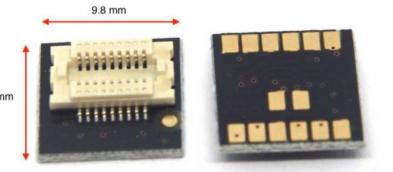
02020106 NEXT18 male adapter board



02020107 NEXT18 female adapter board Type 1



9 mm



02020108 NEXT18 female adapter board Type 2

Available now





HTM & SHM 8 'Ooievaar' (H0e/H0m/H0)

The "Ooievaar" is the main focus of my announced projects. I know this is a long running development, but don't worry, it's still active. Even though it doesn't seem much progress has been made, it actually did. I've been refining the etched parts of the model in the last year and came up with a nifty way of assembling the front and rear skirts. This makes it easier to assemble and I am excited to show you once it is ready. The brass parts have already been cast. Train-O-Matic made a really great flex connector, which takes care of too much wiring going on in the model. This cable and connectors are now available from the Tramfabriek website at tramfabriek.co.uk/digital-components.html

Since I last reported about this project, a new, better sound decoder came on the market, which fits perfectly in this model. The size of this Zimo decoder also makes it possible to fit a stayalive (DCC only), which nowadays is a must on models of this size and weight. I'm very happy with the use of these components.

A release date is still unknown.

Train-O-Matic flex cable and connectors. Available in different configurations.





You can copy my pictures, not my products.

TRAMFABRIEK

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January 2023