

DC control for the Short Line 6/4/17

A Newer DC control system has been installed for the short line. This enables control of locos from a walk around controller that plugs into 4 phone jacks around the short line layout. For power supply please refer to Power Supply for DC.

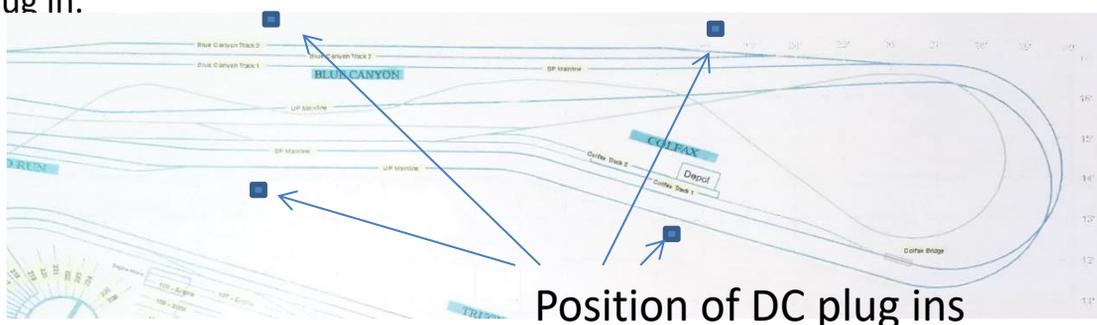
The system has been installed on the inside front fascia of the short line area. See photo opposite. The new controller consists of a small black box with buttons and a turn dial. It is connected to a phone jack (beige) via a phone cord. This in turn is connected to a control box underneath the layout.



The idea was for more flexible control using a walk around system. There are 4 such phone jacks installed on the layout (below). Two at the front and two at the rear of the layout so that loco control access to the logging area can be maintained. Photo opposite shows the second phone plug in at the front of the layout.



The controller component is shown opposite. This is mounted on a rack suspended across the legs of the layout. The mount is removable if required without needing to undo screws. Wiring is through std phone cable from the controller to the first phone jack then in sequence anticlockwise to each jack or phone plug in.



Position of DC plug ins

New DC control Instructions

Momentum Switch

Kill Button

Direction Switch

Throttle

Throttle Red Buttons

Button or Turn throttle control

Fine Control switch



Operation of the controller is as follows:-

To increase voltage to move a DC loco flick the push/turn switch to turn and turn the throttle.

To use buttons to increase/decrease the voltage, switch the push/turn switch to push and control the loco using the two red buttons.

To switch direction : flick the direction switch F or R for forward or reverse.

To allow fine control of speed flick the Half/Full switch to Half (reduces the voltage limit on the throttle by one half).

To simulate a gradual acceleration or deceleration flick the Momentum switch to On.

To momentarily kill the voltage (stop), press the kill button.

As default please leave buttons in the above seen positions. Also after use please hook the controller plastic tag over the screw on the fascia.

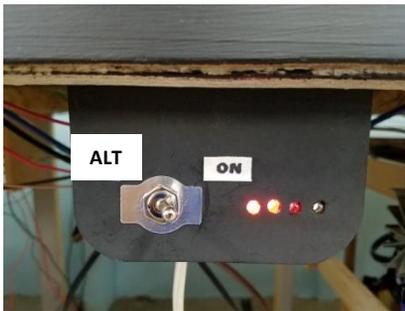
To follow a train around the short line layout. Set the appropriate speed and setting on the controller, as the train passes out of reach, unclip the phone jack and reclip in the jack further round the layout. Note the train will continue to run when you disconnect. To stop or alter the speed, reconnect the jack and adjust the controller.

Note : the controller is on when the layout is turned on.

Power supply for DC on short line



To activate DC control on the Short Line, turn the switch on the beige panel to DC.



Then turn the switch on the black panel to ON. If you have this switch in the ALT position then the short line will be controlled from the old Athearn controller that sits on the white desk.



When in use the LED display shows the direction (green or red) and also the amount of voltage applied to the track



Finally, in the event that the short line has a short, the power supply will need to be reset. This beige switch will need to be turned OFF and then back ON again.