



# ScaleTrains SD40-2 Rivet Counter Series Service Bulletin - Truck Sanding Lines

As part of our attention to detail, your ScaleTrains Rivet Counter Series SD40-2 is equipped with finely molded representations of sanding lines mounted to the bottom of the body. These parts, molded from engineering plastic, represent the hose and pipe assemblies that allow sand from sand boxes built into the ends of the hood ends of prototype SD40-2s, to flow to nozzles aimed at where the wheel tread contacts the rail head. On the prototype, sand is automatically and/or manually released to help create more adhesion during hard pulls.

On the model, we have included these details as appropriate per prototype. They are attached to the bottom of the walkway, are molded to match the shape and contour of prototype sanding lines, and are designed to hang freely. Unfortunately, unlike the prototype, they cannot be attached to the bracket details on the sideframes, as this would make disassembly difficult, not to mention the issues of attaching them to the truck sideframes. Also, models are expected to negotiate curves that are much smaller than the prototype, resulting in much more truck swing. Attempting to keep the sanding lines attached to the sideframes through tight radii would be very difficult. As mentioned previously, they are molded from a flexible, slippery engineering plastic, and are designed to flex as the trucks pivot, and should not interfere with tracking or reliable operation.

Some customers, however, have noted an occasional “clicking” sound when the ends of the sanding lines brush against the truck frames under certain conditions and curves. To reiterate, this should pose no operational problem; the lines are flexible and should not impede the pivoting of the trucks in curves, and due to them being molded from engineering plastic, should not break. However, if you find the sanding lines making an undesirable clicking sound under certain circumstances, we have listed below our recommended solutions.

1. Snip off the pointed nozzle detail at the tips of the sanding lines, so they clear the attachment bracket details on the ends of the truck frames. This can be accomplished quickly with a small pair of nippers, or even nail clippers. When trimming, take care to prevent trimmed pieces from falling into the gearbox, where they could potentially foul the mechanism.

2. Snip off the sanding line attachment bracket details on the ends of the truck frames. In an inverse of the method above, delete the sanding line brackets on the truck frames so there is clearance with the tips of the sanding lines. And as above, take care to ensure that any trimmed material does not fall towards the truck gearbox, which could potentially foul gears or other moving parts.

We hope these suggestions help those that may be experiencing issues, and help you to enjoy years of fun with your ScaleTrains SD40-2.