

Nov 23-24, 2024: Ops summary

Prepared by Mark M

Layout

- The layout was spacious with good aisle widths despite being on the larger side.
- Seven guests attended, with 2-3 showing potential interest in membership, including one former HOTRAK member from 20 years ago.

Operations

- A new engineer was certified following a familiarization and check ride for a new member with prior experience.
- Operations flowed smoothly overall.
- Switching at City Bakery provided a rewarding challenge involving three boxcars on Track 2.

Key Observations

- UPS containers stacked together exceed the height clearance under the Valleyfield bridge, whereas regular double-stack containers fit without issue.

Module Cabinets

- Cabinets 4, 5, and 6 were introduced, streamlining takedown:
 - Modules didn't need to be assembled or have end plates attached.
 - Loading was easier as each cabinet held half a module, making them lighter to handle than full modules on a dolly.
- Work is needed to:
 - Determine storage solutions for end plates.
 - Decide on the future of old module dollies.
- Only a few modules remain unboxed, and efforts will focus on building cabinets for them.

Timings Summary

Friday: Setup and Operations

- **1:00 PM: Setup began with 3 people.**
- **Around 6:00 PM: A significant portion of the layout was completed.**
- **By Pizza Time (~6:00 PM): Team expanded to about 16 people.**
- **Layout Completion: Exact time unknown.**
- **9:15 PM: Freight operations concluded, 15 minutes later than the standard.**

- Setup was done between 9:45 – 10:00 pm. The final loop took a bit of fiddling.

Saturday: Operations

- 10:00 AM: Operations started, 30 minutes later than the standard schedule.
- Shortly After: A bad loconet cable caused the loconet to go down but was promptly resolved.

Sunday: Takedown

- 2:40 PM: Sweep began.
- 3:00 PM: Takedown started.
- 4:45 PM: Most club items were in the storeroom.
- 5:00 PM: Storeroom was closed.
- 5:15 PM: Last person departed St. Anthony's.