

Ultrascale Review

Review: 001-110610

HELJAN CLASS 14 ('Teddy Bear').

by **Bob Hart**

When I first ran my model straight out of the box, on delivery from Hattons, there was a considerable amount of lateral, or side to side movement, (the lads at Ultrascale affectionately refer to this condition as "slop"), in both directions, after applying some grease & oil to all its connecting rod & crank bearings, it was put onto my rolling road set up & run for approximately 3 hours in each direction, this slightly improved the overall running of the model, but made no difference to the "slop", this left me with only one option, replace them all with Ultrascales tried & trusted parts.

I lent the lads the model, as I'm lucky enough to live just down the road from them, for them to use as a "test bed" for their first "OO" set.

In no time, the work was complete, the loco ran beautifully on their test track & once back home, placed back on the rolling road for re-greasing, paint touch-up & final weathering & then to the layout, where it was soon clear that all the "slop" had gone & any jolts, knocks & clicks were vastly reduced to far more realistic proportions.

The loco continues to run sweetly & as it clocks up more & more "layout" miles, is running superbly.

As with all Ultrascale replacement's, the haulage capacity of the model is in no way decreased, the resistance to "track dirt" is noticeably increased, running over points, crossings & junctions in general is very smooth & jolt free, electrical pick-up is constant & smooth & the overall look of the model, when viewed from either end, is much improved by the finer width of the wheels.

I can highly recommend these wheels to any one who has had the same problems with their little "Teddy Bear", after all, replacing your loco's wheels with Ultrascale's is, in fact, a real picnic !.

Full price details for the conversion packs can be found in the 'Conversion packs' section of the Ultrascale products web site.