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Illustrated Directory Of North American Locomotives





Synopsis

"Let the country but make the railroads, and the railroads will make the country." â " Edward PeaseDuring the mid-1800's, American railroads became the lifeblood of new communities in the West and brought new ways of life and means of commerce to rural communities. Railroads became the shining thread that tied together the tapestry of American life into a land of plenty. The Illustrated Dictionary of North American Locomotives explores the story of railroads and their motive power. Giant beasts of iron and steel once roamed the land. Their descendents still race across the country. The Illustrated Directory of North American Locomotives charts the progress of motive power on America's railroads from 1830 until the present. Its 432 pages illustrate a wide variety of grand and humble locomotives from the steam powered Puffing Billy types of the "Early Days" chapter, to the mighty Allegheny class steamers that were used to haul coal for the American industry in the "Steam in Charge" chapter. Technical specifications are given for each engine type and the book is fully illustrated with both black & white and color photos. The book goes on to show the progress of Diesel Power, including the output of General Electric and General Motors electromotive division (EMD) from the 1920s to the present. Ultimately, the book also explores the Electric Power that powers so many of today's railways.

Book Information

Hardcover: 432 pages Publisher: Chartwell Books; III edition (September 29, 2015) Language: English ISBN-10: 078583270X ISBN-13: 978-0785832706 Product Dimensions: 9.4 x 1.1 x 11.9 inches Shipping Weight: 4.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (5 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #133,483 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in Books > Arts & Photography > Vehicle Pictorials > Trains #25 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > History > Railroads #43 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > Railroads

Customer Reviews

This book is basically Wikipedia pages, but cut down and poorly edited, resulting in lots of factual errors. Why pay for something you can read for free on wikipedia, where it isn't mindlessly cut down

Ordinary people in the United States may still have a deep romance for steam locomotives despite the replacement of steam engines with diesel and electric locomotives, but the United States and Canada themselves have a magnificent share of diesel and electric engines, including the famous Amtrak diesel trains and most recently the Acela high-speed train. In this book, P.J. Bell provides a comprehensive overview of select North American locomotives, grouping them into three categories (steam, diesel, and electric). Interestingly enough, the US started fielding diesel trains five years after it began operating electric trains, and Bell provides specs for each locomotive (e.g. tractive effort, length, horsepower).

Fat delivery and a great resource.!

Good coverage, good information.

Very nice book, great gift

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