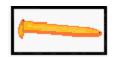


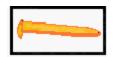
# How I Got My Golden Spike Award

Presented by Jeff Jarr



If you are new to the Achievement Program (AP), we recommend that you take a look at the Golden Spike Award.

Although the Golden Spike Award is not an actual AP category, its requirements are structured along the same lines.



- The Golden Spike is the easiest, and for many people, the first AP award that they earn.
- It is designed to demonstrate familiarity with different areas of the hobby, rather than expertise in a particular area.
- Take a look at the requirements you may find that you have met most, or all of them already.



	GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD APPLICATION FORM May 2006		
PLEASE COMPLETE TH	IIS APPLICATION FORM AND SENE	D TO YOUR REGIO	NAL OR DIVISIONAL AP CHAIR
Member's Name:		NMRA#:	EXP:
Address:		Cit	y:
State/Prov:	Country:	Po	ostal Code:
Date Submitted:	Region: _		
ÀP Chair or another NA signed form to the region QUALIFICATIONS  1. Rolling Stock (Mo  Display six units o  2. Model Railroad Se  Construct a minim	tive Power & Cars):  frolling stock either scratchbuilt, etting (Structures & Scenery) um of eight square feet of layout ctures either scratchbuilt, craftsm	risional Chair. The dden Spike Award or control of the control of	divisional Chair will submit the ertificate.  detailed commercial kits.
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module has less tha  3. Engineering (Civil  Three types of trac ballasted and insta All installed tracks (e.g. double tracks	& Electrical)  kage required (e.g. turnout, cross illed on proper roadbed. Commer age must be properly wired so tha nain, single track main with sidin onal electrical feature such as pov	sing, crossover, etc rcial trackage may at two trains can bo as, and block or c	m the scene may be presented.  c.). All must be properly be used. e operated simultaneously ommand control).
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 This is the Golden Spike Award application form.



	GOLDEN SE APPLICATI May 2006		
	IIS APPLICATION FORM AND SEND		
	Country:		
Date Submitted:	Region:		
Display six units of	f rolling stock either scratchbuilt, o	eraftsman kits	or detailed commercial kits.
2. Model Railroad Se	etting (Structures & Scenery)		
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3. Engineering (Civil	& Electrical)		
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Provide one addition indication, lighted	Name:		NMRA #:

- This is the Golden Spike Award application form.
- Complete this section of the form with your personal information.



	ACHIEVEMEN GOLDEN SPIK APPLICATION May 2006	E AWARD
		OUR REGIONAL OR DIVISIONAL AP CHAIR
- 1940 - 1940 - 1950 -	*	#:EXP:
		City:
	Country: Region:	Postal Code:
signed form to the regional  QUALIFICATIONS CI	AP Chair who will issue the Golden Spik HECKLIST:	Chair. The divisional Chair will submit the ke Award certificate.
1. Rolling Stock (Motiv	(f)	
	olling stock either scratchbuilt, craftsn ing (Structures & Scenery)	nan kits or detailed commercial kits.
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Witness:	Name:	NMRA #:
		Region:
Regional AP Chair:		

- This is the Golden Spike Award application form.
- This section lists the rules for eligibility



V	APPLICATI May 2006	ON FORM	
	S APPLICATION FORM AND SEND		
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Display six units of	rolling stock either scratchbuilt,	craftsman kits or deta	iled commercial kits.
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(e.g. double track ma Provide one addition indication, lighted b	Name:	N	MRA #:

 This is the Golden Spike Award application form.

 This part of the form is the Qualifications Checklist



	GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD APPLICATION FORM May 2006		
	APPLICATION FORM AND SEND		
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Address:		City:	
State/Prov:	Country:	Postal Co	ode:
Date Submitted:	Region:		
regional and divisional AP qualify for the award the n AP Chair or another NMR		nitions apply for scratchb ing checklist; obtain the s sional Chair. The division	ouilding and detailing. To signature of the divisional onal Chair will submit the
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Construct a minimum	ures either scratchbuilt, craftsma five structures, additional struct	an kits or detailed comm	
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 This is the Golden Spike Award application form.

 This section is for Divisional & Regional AP Chairs to sign



	\ Obbban	SPIKE AWA FION FORM	
	HIS APPLICATION FORM AND SET		
Member's Name:		_NMRA#:	EXP:
Address:		City	r:
State/Prov:	Country:	Po	stal Code:
Date Submitted:	Region:		
qualify for the award the AP Chair or another N signed form to the region QUALIFICATIONS		owing checklist; obtai ivisional Chair. The	n the signature of the divisiona divisional Chair will submit the
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Display six units	of rolling stock either scratchbui	lt, craftsman kits or	detailed commercial kits.
2. Model Railroad S	Setting (Structures & Scenery)		
Construct five str	num of eight square feet of layou uctures either scratchbuilt, crafts nan five structures, additional stru	man kits or detailed	commercial kits. If a
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- This is the Golden Spike Award application form.
- Lets take a quick look at each section in detail.



	GOLDEN SPI APPLICATIO May 2006		
Member's Name:	APPLICATION FORM AND SEND TO NM	RA#:EXP:	
	Country:		
	Region:		-
Checklist, obtained the nece regional and divisional AP qualify for the award the m AP Chair or another NMRA	will be awarded to any NMRA n essary signatures and who does not h Chairs. AP regulations and definiti ember must complete the following A member designated by the division AP Chair who will issue the Golden IECKLIST:	old MMR status. It will be administ ons apply for scratchbuilding and de checklist; obtain the signature of the nal Chair. The divisional Chair will	tered by the etailing. To e divisional
1. Rolling Stock (Motive	Power & Cars):		
Display six units of ro	olling stock either scratchbuilt, cra	ftsman kits or detailed commercia	al kits.
2. Model Railroad Settin	ng (Structures & Scenery)		
Construct five structu	of eight square feet of layout incl res either scratchbuilt, craftsman l ive structures, additional structure	kits or detailed commercial kits. I	
3. Engineering (Civil &	Electrical)		
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Witness:	Name:	NMRA #:	
Regional AP Chair:		Region:	

 Complete this section of the form with your personal information.

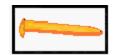


PLEASE COMPLETI	ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD APPLICATION FORM May 2006  THIS APPLICATION FORM AND SEND TO YOUR REGIONAL OR DIVISIONAL AP CHAIR			
A	PLEASE COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION	FORM AND SEND TO YOUR RE	EGIONAL OR DIVISIONAL AP CHAIR	
S D	Member's Name:	NMRA#:	EXP:	
T C R g	Address:		_City:	
A si Q	State/Prov:Country	:	Postal Code:	
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	Name:NMRA #: r:Region:			



PLEASE COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION FORM AND SEND TO YOUR REGIONAL OR DIVISIONAL AP CHAIR  Member's Name:		ACHIEVEME GOLDEN SPI APPLICATIO May 2006	
Address:	PLEASE COMPLETE TH	HIS APPLICATION FORM AND SEND TO	) YOUR REGIONAL OR DIVISIONAL AP CHAIR
State/Prov:	Member's Name:	NM	IRA#:EXP:
Date Submitted: Region:	Address:		City:
The Golden Spike Award will be awarded to any NMRA member who has completed the Qualifications Checklist, obtained the necessary signatures and who does not hold MMR status. It will be administered by the regional and divisional AP Chairs. AP regulations and definitions apply for scratchbuilding and detailing. To qualify for the award the member must complete the following checklist; obtain the signature of the divisional AP Chair or another NMRA member designated by the divisional Chair. The divisional Chair will submit the signed form to the regional AP Chair who will issue the Golden Spike Award certificate.  QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:  1. Rolling Stock (Motive Power & Cars):  Display six units of rolling stock either scratchbuilt, craftsman kits or detailed commercial kits.  2. Model Railroad Setting (Structures & Scenery)  Construct a minimum of eight square feet of layout including scenery.  Construct a minimum of eight square feet of layout including scenery.  Sorting the scratchbuilt, craftsman kits or detailed commercial kits. If a module has less than five structures, additional structures separate from the scene may be presented.  3. Engineering (Civil & Electrical)  Three types of trackage required (e.g. turnout, crossing, crossover, etc.). All must be properly ballasted and installed on proper roadbed. Commercial trackage may be used.  All installed trackage must be properly wired so that two trains can be operated simultaneously (e.g. double track main, single track main with sidings, and block or command control).  Provide one additional electrical feature such as power operated turnouts, signaling, turnout indication, lighted buildings, etc.  Witness:  Name:  NMRA #:	State/Prov:	Country:	Postal Code:
Checklist, obtained the necessary signatures and who does not hold MMR status. It will be administered by the regional and divisional AP Chairs. AP regulations and definitions apply for scratchbuilding and detailing. To qualify for the award the member must complete the following checklist; obtain the signature of the divisional AP Chair or another NMRA member designated by the divisional Chair. The divisional Chair will submit the signed form to the regional AP Chair who will issue the Golden Spike Award certificate.  QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:  1. Rolling Stock (Motive Power & Cars):  Display six units of rolling stock either scratchbuilt, craftsman kits or detailed commercial kits.  2. Model Railroad Setting (Structures & Scenery)  Construct a minimum of eight square feet of layout including scenery.  Construct a minimum of eight square feet of layout including scenery.  Sortine five structures either scratchbuilt, craftsman kits or detailed commercial kits. If a module has less than five structures, additional structures separate from the scene may be presented.  3. Engineering (Civil & Electrical)  Three types of trackage required (e.g. turnout, crossing, crossover, etc.). All must be properly ballasted and installed on proper roadbed. Commercial trackage may be used.  All installed trackage must be properly wired so that two trains can be operated simultaneously (e.g. double track main, single track main with sidings, and block or command control).  Provide one additional electrical feature such as power operated turnouts, signaling, turnout indication, lighted buildings, etc.  Witness:  Name:  NMRA #:	Date Submitted:	Region:	
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2. Model Railroad Setting (Structures & Scenery)  Construct a minimum of eight square feet of layout including scenery.  Construct five structures either scratchbuilt, craffsman kits or detailed commercial kits. If a module has less than five structures, additional structures separate from the scene may be presented.  3. Engineering (Civil & Electrical)  Three types of trackage required (e.g. turnout, crossing, crossover, etc.). All must be properly ballasted and installed on proper roadbed. Commercial trackage may be used.  All installed trackage must be properly wired so that two trains can be operated simultaneously (e.g. double track main, single track main with sidings, and block or command control).  Provide one additional electrical feature such as power operated turnouts, signaling, turnout indication, lighted buildings, etc.  Witness:  Name:  NMRA #:	_ ,	(#.)	0
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□ Three types of trackage required (e.g. turnout, crossing, crossover, etc.). All must be properly ballasted and installed on proper roadbed. Commercial trackage may be used.      □ All installed trackage must be properly wired so that two trains can be operated simultaneously (e.g. double track main, single track main with sidings, and block or command control).      □ Provide one additional electrical feature such as power operated turnouts, signaling, turnout indication, lighted buildings, etc.  Witness:	Construct a minim	num of eight square feet of layout inc uctures either scratchbuilt, craftsman	kits or detailed commercial kits. If a
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 Lets review the rules for eligibility



ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM	
GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD	

- The Golden Spike Award will be awarded to any NMRA member who has completed the Qualifications Checklist, obtained the necessary signatures and who does not already hold MMR (Master Model Railroader) status.
- It will be administered by the regional and divisional AP Chairs.
- AP regulations and definitions apply for scratchbuilding and detailing.
- To qualify for the award the member must complete the following checklist; obtain the signature of the divisional AP Chair or another NMRA member designated by the divisional Chair.
- The divisional Chair will submit the signed form to the regional AP Chair who will issue the Golden Spike Award certificate.

Witness:	Name:	NMRA #:
Regional AP Chair:		Region:



	GOLDEN SP APPLICATI May 2006		
PLEASE COMPLETE THIS A	PPLICATION FORM AND SEND	TO YOUR REGIONAL	OR DIVISIONAL AP CHAIR
Member's Name:	N	MRA#:	EXP:
Address:		City:	
State/Prov:	Country:	Postal	Code:
Date Submitted:	Region:		
AP Chair or another NMRA		ional Chair. The divi	isional Chair will submit the
☐ Display six units of rol	lling stock either scratchbuilt, c	craftsman kits or deta	ailed commercial kits.
2. Model Railroad Setting	g (Structures & Scenery)		
Construct five structure	of eight square feet of layout in es either scratchbuilt, craftsman ve structures, additional structu	n kits or detailed cor	
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ballasted and installed All installed trackage n (e.g. double track main. Provide one additional indication, lighted buil	electrical feature such as power	s, and block or come er operated turnouts,	signaling, turnout

 OK, that seems pretty simple so far.

 Now lets examine the Qualifications Checklist.



ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD APPLICATION FORM May 2006				
		YOUR REGIONAL OR DIVISIONAL AP CHAIR		
	-	A#:EXP:		
		City:		
	8520	Postal Code:		
	al AP Chair who will issue the Golden S CHECKLIST:	al Chair. The divisional Chair will submit the pike Award certificate.		
_ ,	(f)	tsman kits or detailed commercial kits.		
	tting (Structures & Scenery)	and the or detailed commercial inter-		
Construct five struc	um of eight square feet of layout inclu tures either scratchbuilt, craftsman ki n five structures, additional structures			
3. Engineering (Civil	& Electrical)			
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Witness:	Name:	NMRA#:		
Regional AP Chair: _		Region:		

The Qualifications
 Checklist is divided
 into 3 main categories.



	APPLICAT May 2006	ION FORM	I
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The Qualifications
 Checklist is divided
 into 3 main categories.

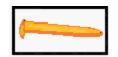
- Rolling Stock
- Model Railroad Setting
  - Engineering



	GOLDEN SPIKE A APPLICATION FO May 2006	
	PPLICATION FORM AND SEND TO YOUR  NMRA#: _	
Address:		City:
State/Prov:	Country:	Postal Code:
Date Submitted:	Region:	
signed form to the regional A QUALIFICATIONS CH 1. Rolling Stock (Motive		ward certificate.
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The Qualifications
 Checklist is divided
 into 3 main categories.

 Each category has a list of requirements.

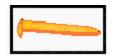




	GOLDEN S APPLICAT May 2006		
			SIONAL OR DIVISIONAL AP CHAIR  EXP:
			City:
			Postal Code:
Date Submitted:	Region:		
AP Chair or another NMR.	A member designated by the div AP Chair who will issue the Gol HECKLIST:	visional Chair. T	btain the signature of the divisional The divisional Chair will submit the d certificate.
_	(5)	t andaman kita	or detailed commercial kits.
Display six units of r.		i, craitsiilali kits	
	ing (Structures & Scenery)	i, cransman kits	
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The Qualifications
 Checklist is divided
 into 3 main categories.

- Each category has a list of requirements.
- Lets look at each one in more detail



#### **QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:**

#### 1. Rolling Stock (Motive Power & Cars):

 Display six units of rolling stock either scratchbuilt, craftsman kits or detailed commercial kits.



#### **QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:**

#### 1. Rolling Stock (Motive Power & Cars):

 Display six units of rolling stock either scratchbuilt, craftsman kits or detailed commercial kits.

Notice that the requirement is to "display" them.

Nowhere does it say that they must earn a minimum number of points in judging - just that they must be displayed. (In the monthly contests at your division meetings, for example. Even having them set out on your layout, or a table in your basement counts as "display").



#### **QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:**

#### 1. Rolling Stock (Motive Power & Cars):

 Display six units of rolling stock either scratchbuilt, craftsman kits or detailed commercial kits.

These models need to show a little more effort than a "shake the box" kit. For example, by itself a freight car kit straight out of the box, is not enough to qualify. However, by painting and decaling it, adding a little detailing, perhaps some weathering, etc., you'll have a qualifying model in no time!

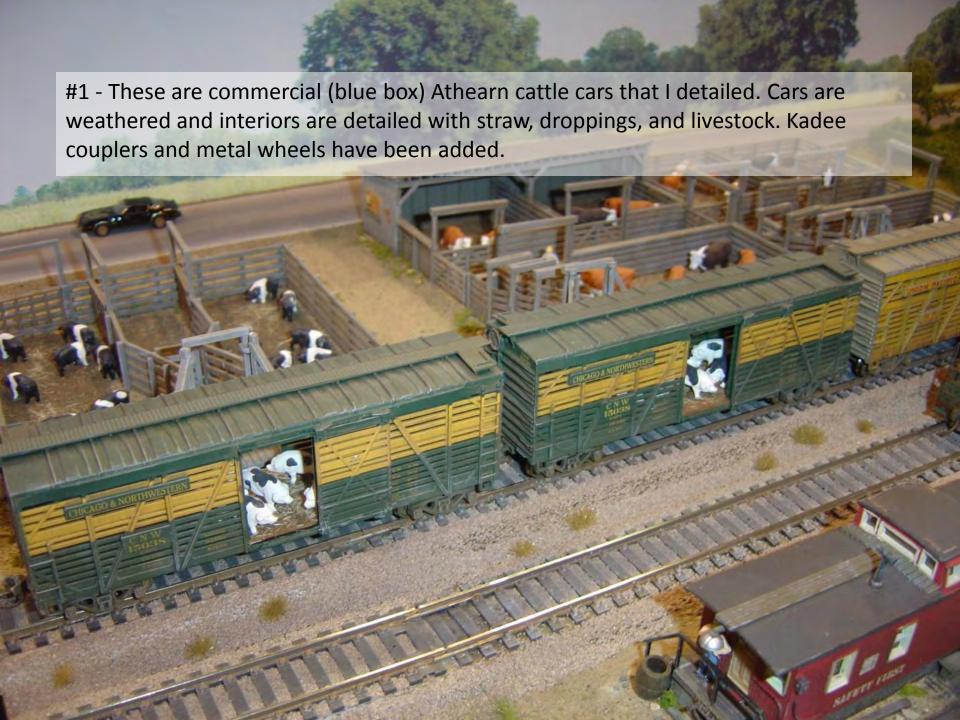


#### **QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:**

#### 1. Rolling Stock (Motive Power & Cars):

 Display six units of rolling stock either scratchbuilt, craftsman kits or detailed commercial kits.

Here are some photos of the rolling stock that I used to meet this requirement



#2 - This is a commercial (blue box) Athearn 50ft double door box car that has been weathered and interior detailed with inside painted walls, graffiti, and miscellaneous debris and cargo. Kadee scale coupler and metal wheels have been added.



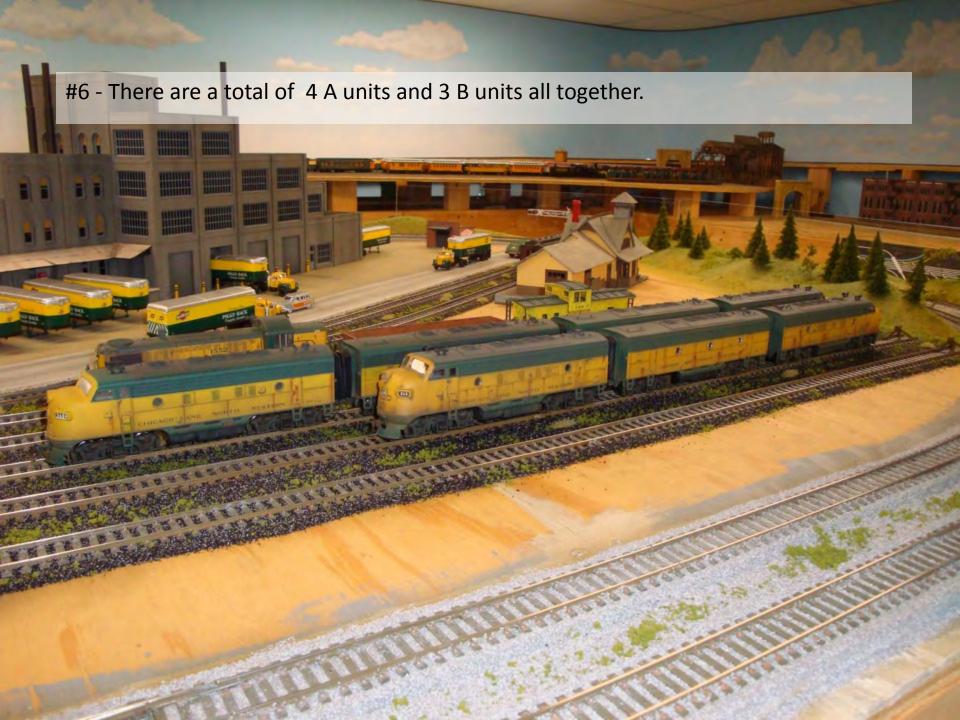
















#### **QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:**

#### 2. Model Railroad Setting (Structures & Scenery)

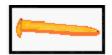
- Construct a minimum of eight square feet of layout including scenery.
- Construct five structures either scratchbuilt, craftsman kits or detailed commercial kits. If a module has less than five structures, additional structures separate from the scene may be presented.



#### **QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:**

- 2. Model Railroad Setting (Structures & Scenery)
- Construct a minimum of eight square feet of layout including scenery.

Again, there is no requirement about how good or how elaborate your layout must be - just that you must "construct" it. On the other hand, you may have trouble convincing someone that a loop of track nailed to a piece of green painted wood constitutes a "layout" . . . How much is 8 square feet of layout? Well, a typical module is 4 feet by 2 feet, and would easily satisfy this requirement.



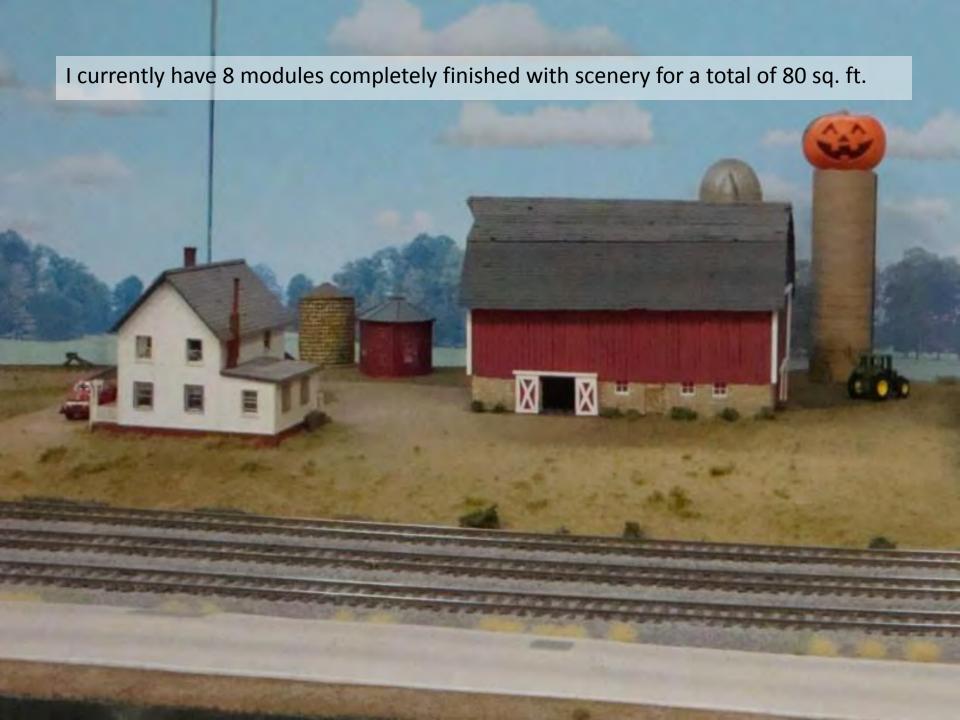
#### **QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:**

- 2. Model Railroad Setting (Structures & Scenery)
- Construct a minimum of eight square feet of layout including scenery.

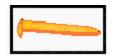
Here are some photos of my modular layout that I used to meet this requirement.











### **QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:**

### 2. Model Railroad Setting (Structures & Scenery)

 Construct five structures either scratchbuilt, craftsman kits or detailed commercial kits. If a module has less than five structures, additional structures separate from the scene may be presented.

The same comments apply here about the type of kits. The idea is to show that you can do more than glue a simple plastic kit together. Painting or weathering are good things to consider. Remember that "structures" aren't just buildings. Things like bridges and trestles also fall into this category.

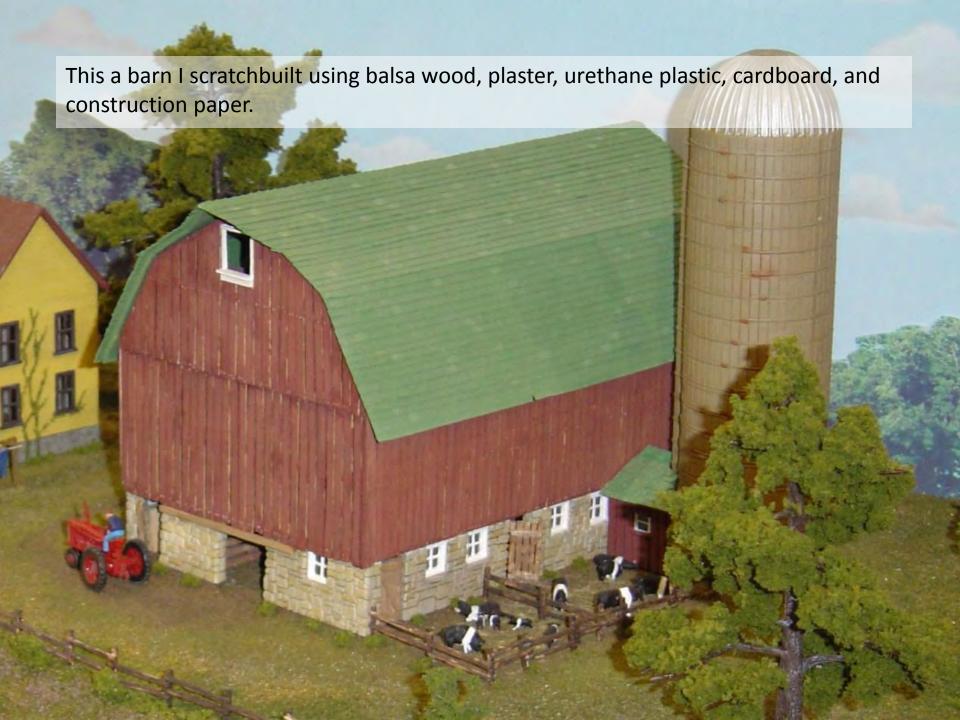


### **QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:**

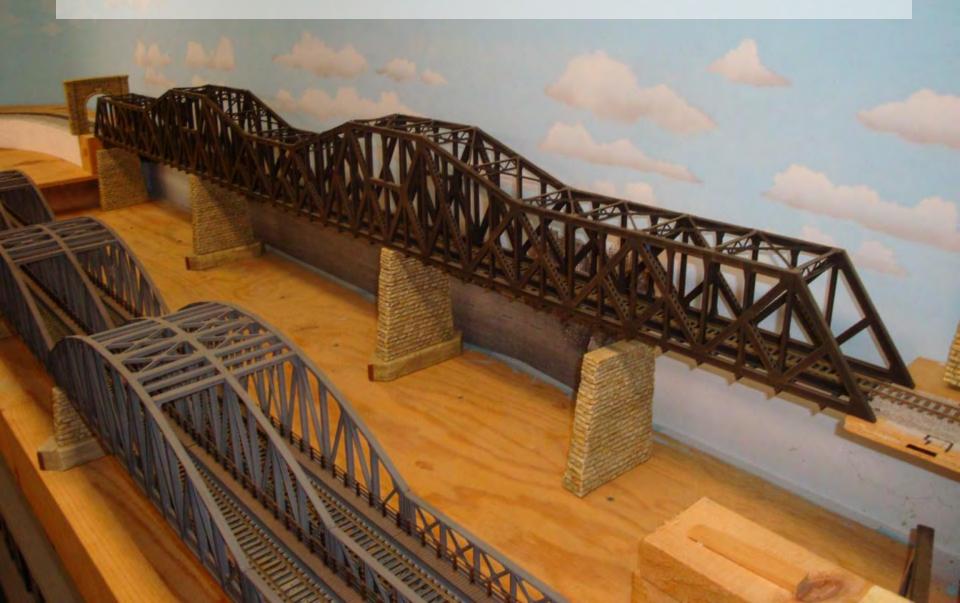
### 2. Model Railroad Setting (Structures & Scenery)

 Construct five structures either scratchbuilt, craftsman kits or detailed commercial kits. If a module has less than five structures, additional structures separate from the scene may be presented.

Here are some photos of some structures I built that I used to meet this requirement.

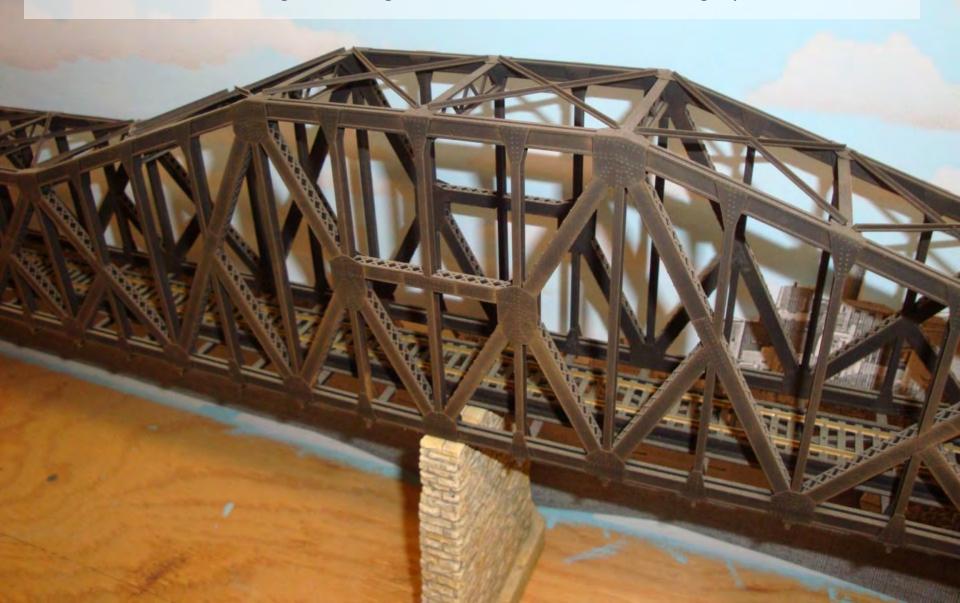


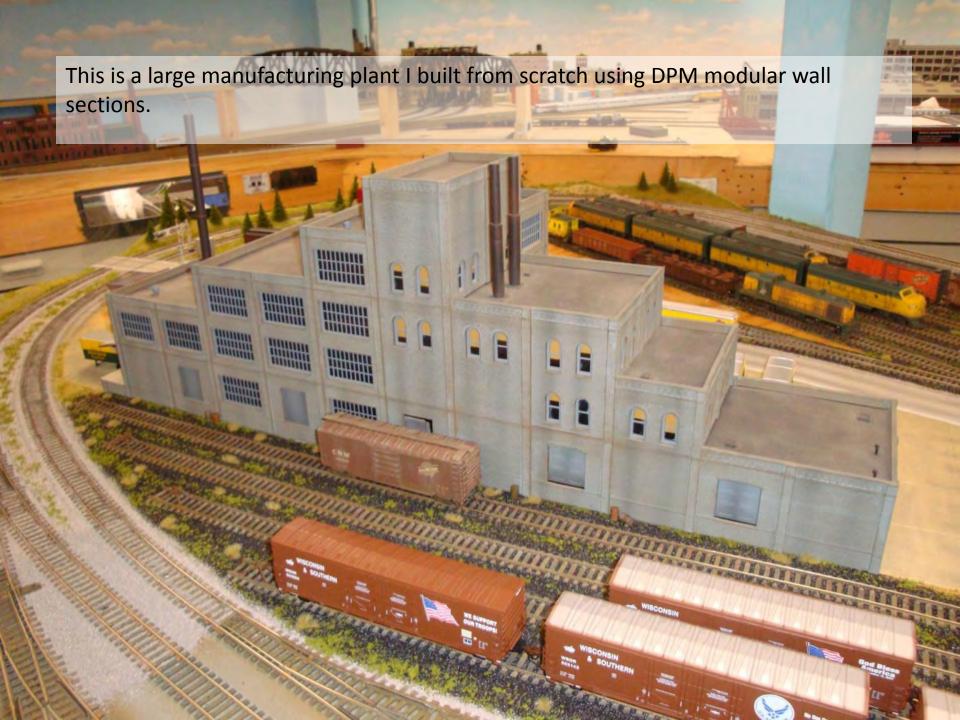
This is a six foot truss bridge I scratchbuilt using styrene, Micro Engineering girder parts and Plastruct structural shapes.

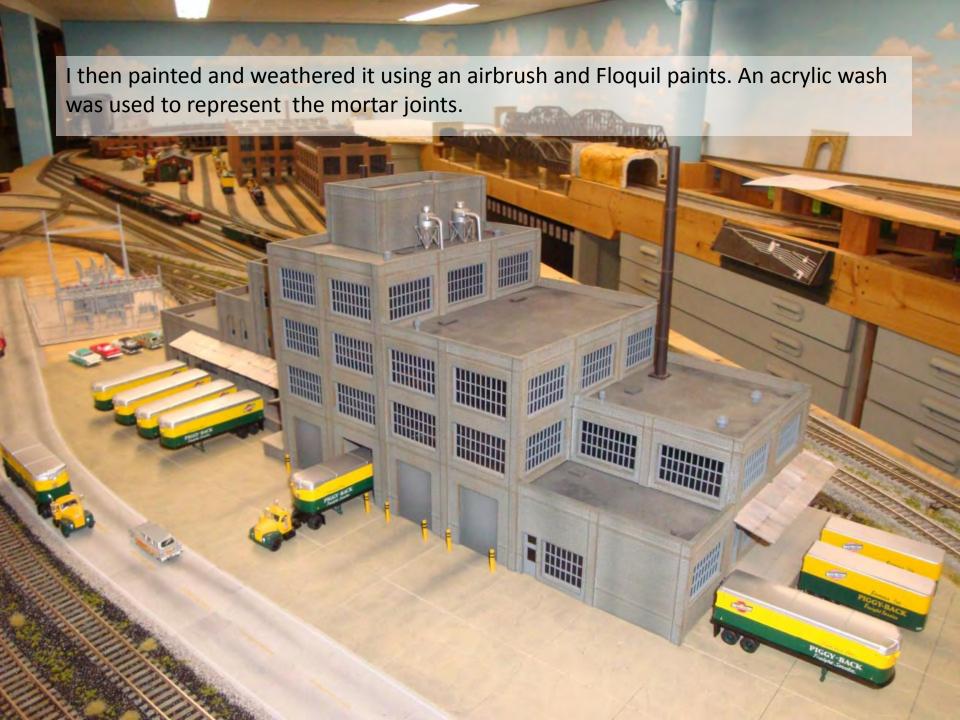


I then painted and weathered it using AIMs weathering chalk's.

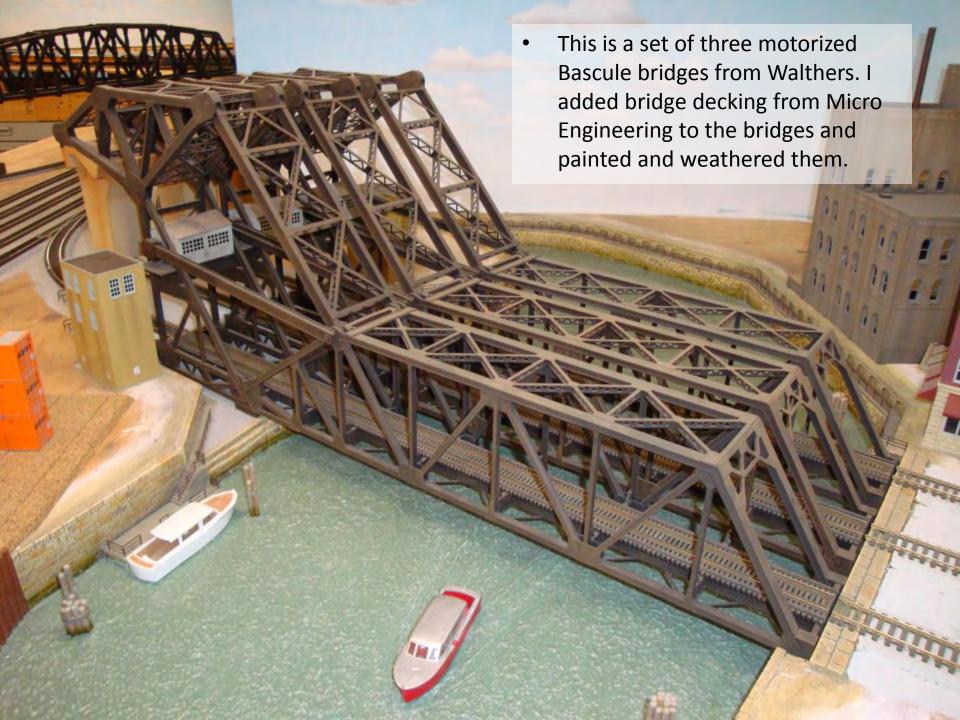
Remember that things like bridges and trestles fall into the category of "structures".









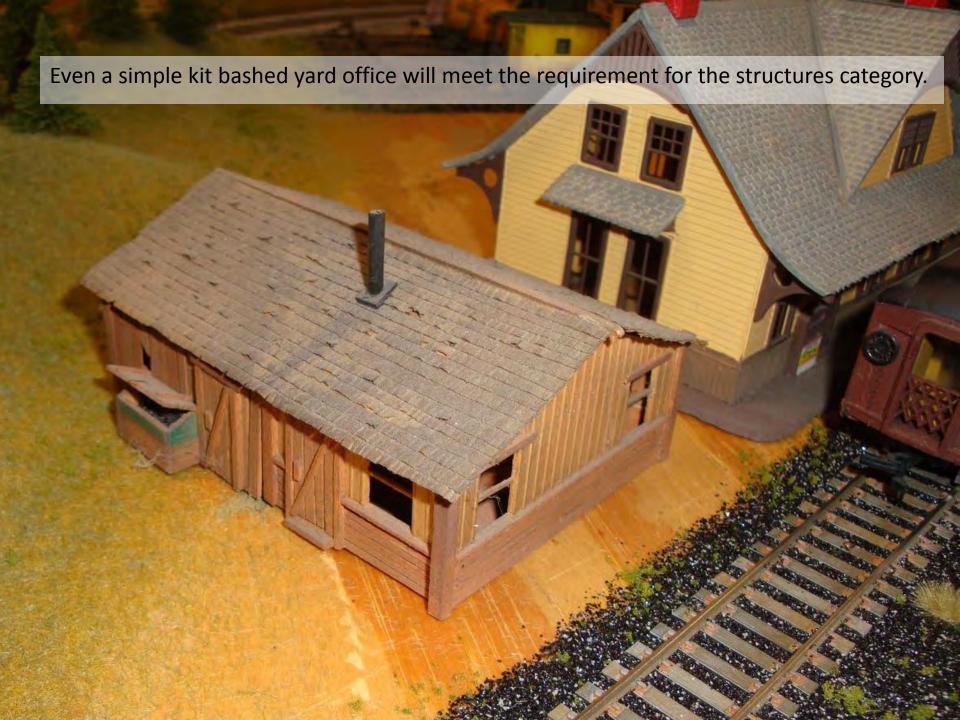


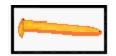
This is a coal mine I scratchbuilt using balsa wood. The roof is made of paper shingles from Campbell's rolled shingles.











### **QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:**

### 3. Engineering (Civil & Electrical)

- Three types of trackage required (e.g. turnout, crossing, crossover, etc.). All must be properly ballasted and installed on proper roadbed. Commercial trackage may be used.
- All installed trackage must be properly wired so that two trains can be operated simultaneously (e.g. double track main, single track main with sidings, and block or command control).
- Provide one additional electrical feature such as power operated turnouts, signaling, turnout indication, lighted buildings, etc.



### **QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:**

- 3. Engineering (Civil & Electrical)
- Three types of trackage required (e.g. turnout, crossing, crossover, etc.). All must be properly ballasted and installed on proper roadbed. Commercial trackage may be used.

This requirement sounds a lot harder than it is. First, notice that last sentence about commercial trackage; you don't have to hand-lay anything - you can just install a store bought turnout. "Types of trackage" can be just about anything: turnouts, crossings, and grade elevation (a change in elevation of the track) are all examples of "types of trackage".



### **QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:**

- 3. Engineering (Civil & Electrical)
- Three types of trackage required (e.g. turnout, crossing, crossover, etc.). All must be properly ballasted and installed on proper roadbed. Commercial trackage may be used.

Also, note that the three types DO NOT have to be different. For example, just having three simple turnouts will qualify. The "proper roadbed" requirement can be met by laying the track on a raised roadbed, (such as cork) and ballasting it. The purpose of this requirement is to show that you understand roadbed profile, drainage, etc.

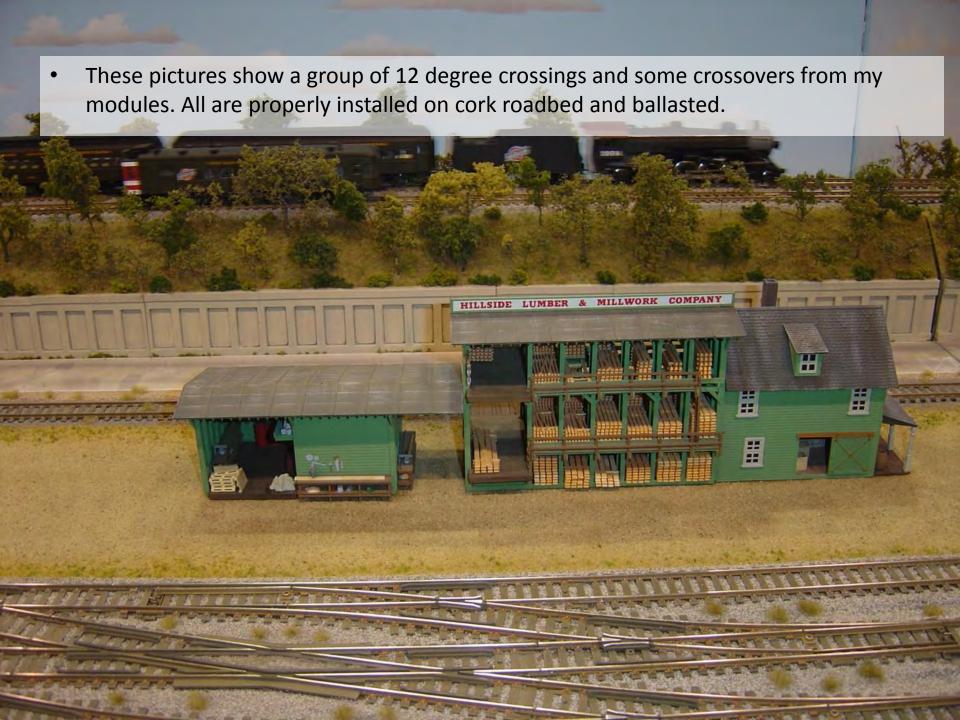


### **QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:**

- 3. Engineering (Civil & Electrical)
- Three types of trackage required (e.g. turnout, crossing, crossover, etc.). All must be properly ballasted and installed on proper roadbed. Commercial trackage may be used.

Here are some photos of trackage that I installed and ballasted on my layout to meet this requirement.





 These pictures show a group of 12 degree crossings and some crossovers from my modules. All are properly installed on cork roadbed and ballasted.







### **QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:**

- 3. Engineering (Civil & Electrical)
- All installed trackage must be properly wired so that two trains can be operated simultaneously (e.g. double track main, single track main with sidings, and block or command control).

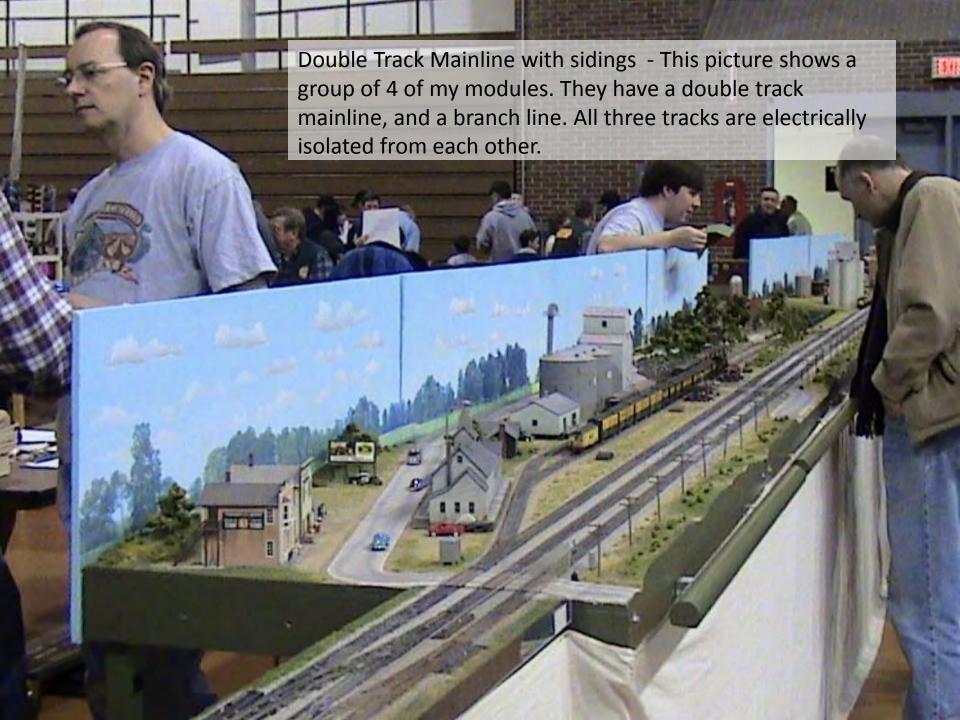
This requirement can also be easier than it sounds. Notice the option for a single track main with sidings. This means that as long as you can cut power to the sidings individually, you can run one train, park it on a siding while you run another, then park it and run the first again. This meets the requirement.

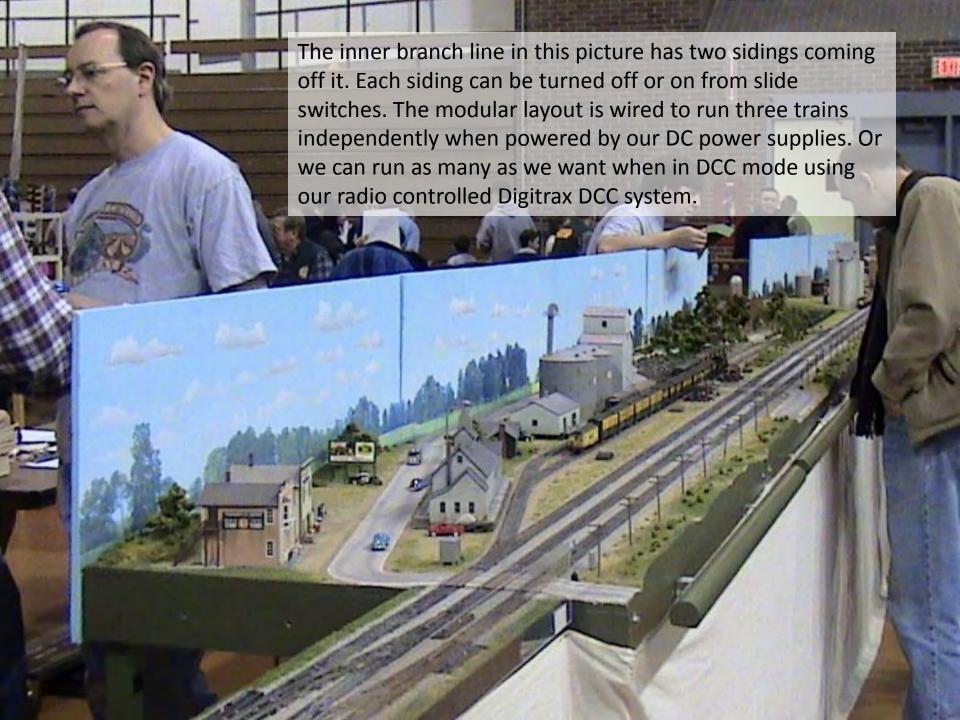


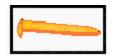
### **QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:**

- 3. Engineering (Civil & Electrical)
- All installed trackage must be properly wired so that two trains can be operated simultaneously (e.g. double track main, single track main with sidings, and block or command control).

Here are some photos of installed and properly wired trackage on my modular layout that meet this requirement.



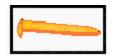




### **QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:**

- 3. Engineering (Civil & Electrical)
- Provide one additional electrical feature such as power operated turnouts, signaling, turnout indication, lighted buildings, etc.

Don't read more into this than is there. A powered turnout can be something as simple as an Atlas turnout with a switch machine. Think in terms of anything that runs off the 'Accessories' terminals of a power pack and you 're half way there.



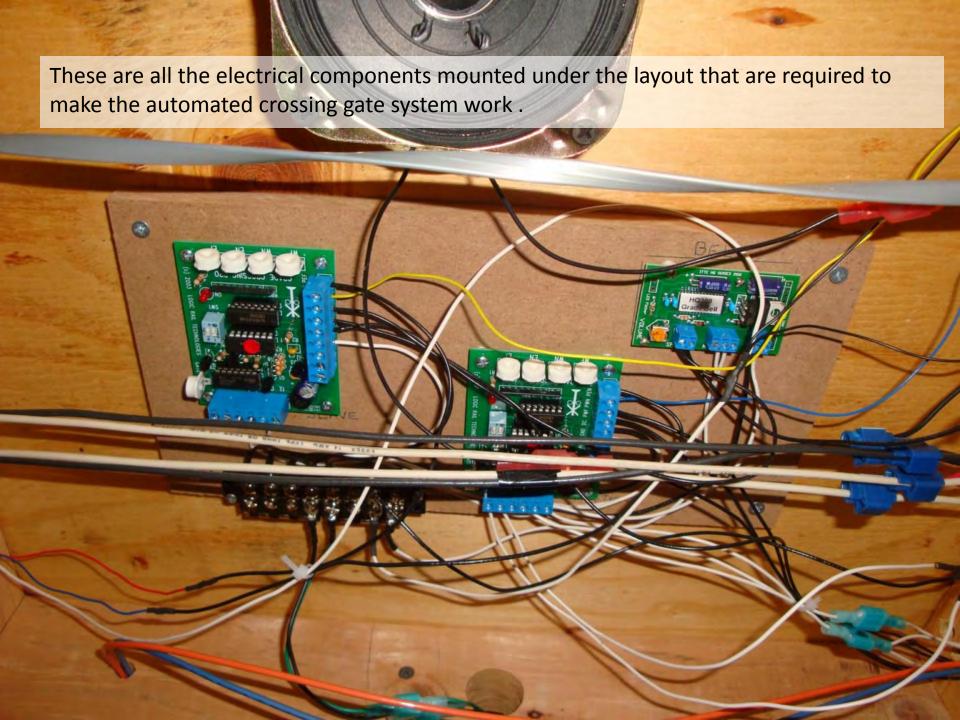
### **QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:**

- 3. Engineering (Civil & Electrical)
- Provide one additional electrical feature such as power operated turnouts, signaling, turnout indication, lighted buildings, etc.

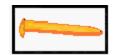
Here are some photos of an automated crossing signal I built that I used to meet this requirement.

This pictures show an operating crossing gate system I installed on my home layout. It features blinking lights, a moving crossing gate powered by a slow motion tortoise switch machine, and a crossing bell sound module. It is activated by optical light sensors installed between the track ties to detect when a train is approaching or departing the crossing.



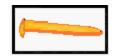


A simple lighted structure can also satisfy this part of the engineering requirement.



### Other things to remember:

Not all of these requirements need to be met on the same layout (or piece of layout). They don't even need to be met in the same scale! If you want to build G scale rolling stock, an N scale Model Railroad setting, and an HO scale layout for trackage and wiring, go ahead.



### Other things to remember:

Also, the Golden Spike, as well as the other parts of the AP have a certain amount of flexibility. For example, suppose you and your (friend / spouse / child) work together on all your projects, but do twice the required amount (12+ units of rolling stock, 16+ square feet of layout, 10+ structures, etc.). You can both be considered, as long as you can show that you have each demonstrated the required skills.



GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD APPLICATION FORM May 2006				
		OUR REGIONAL OR DIVISIONAL AP CHAIR		
		A#:EXP:		
Address:		City:		
State/Prov:	Country:	Postal Code:		
Date Submitted:	Region:			
qualify for the award the m AP Chair or another NMRA signed form to the regional , QUALIFICATIONS CH 1. Rolling Stock (Motive Display six units of ro 2. Model Railroad Settin	ember must complete the following ch Amember designated by the divisional AP Chair who will issue the Golden Spi IECKLIST: Power & Cars): olling stock either scratchbuilt, crafts ag (Structures & Scenery)	sman kits or detailed commercial kits.		
Construct five structur	of eight square feet of layout includ res either scratchbuilt, craftsman kits ive structures, additional structures s			
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		**************************************		
Witness:	Name:	NMRA#:		

Last step

 This section is for Divisional & Regional AP Chairs to sign

Name:





Witness:

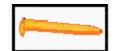
ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD APPLICATION FORM May 2006 Last step

re qu	gional and divisional AP Ch alify for the award the mem	ber must complete the following	ions apply for scratchbuilding and detailing. To g checklist; obtain the signature of the divisional
		nember designated by the division Chair who will issue the Golden	onal Chair. The divisional Chair will submit the Spike Award certificate.
Q	UALIFICATIONS CHE	CKLIST:	
1.	Rolling Stock (Motive P	Power & Cars):	
	Display six units of rolli	ing stock either scratchbuilt, cr	aftsman kits or detailed commercial kits.
2.	Model Railroad Setting	(Structures & Scenery)	
	Construct five structures		cluding scenery.  kits or detailed commercial kits. If a separate from the scene may be presented.
3.	Engineering (Civil & El	lectrical)	
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W	itness:	Name:	NMRA#:
	agional AP Chairs		Region:

Arrange for your
 Divisional AP Chair to
 verify that you
 completed all the
 Qualification Checklist
 requirements.

NMRA #:

Region:





ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD APPLICATION FORM May 2006 Last step

	qualify for the award the memb AP Chair or another NMRA me	er must complete the following comber designated by the divisions	ns apply for scratchbuilding and detailing. To hecklist; obtain the signature of the divisional al Chair. The divisional Chair will submit the
		Chair who will issue the Golden S	pike Award certificate.
	QUALIFICATIONS CHEC  1. Rolling Stock (Motive Po		
		(f)	tsman kits or detailed commercial kits.
	2. Model Railroad Setting (	Structures & Scenery)	
	Construct five structures		ding scenery.  Its or detailed commercial kits. If a separate from the scene may be presented.
	3. Engineering (Civil & Ele	ctrical)	
	ballasted and installed on All installed trackage mus (e.g. double track main, si	proper roadbed. Commercial is st be properly wired so that two ingle track main with sidings, as ectrical feature such as power o	trains can be operated simultaneously
	Witness:	Name:	NMRA#:
1	Regional AP Chairs		Region:

Your Divisional AP
 Chair will sign your
 application and send
 it to the Regional AP
 Chair for processing.

NMRA #:

Region:



GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD APPLICATION FORM May 2006				
	HIS APPLICATION FORM AND SENI		GIONAL OR DIVISIONAL AP CHAIR  EXP:	
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State/Prov:	Country:		Postal Code:	
Date Submitted:	Region:			
AP Chair or another NA	MRA member designated by the div nal AP Chair who will issue the Gol	isional Chair.	btain the signature of the divisional The divisional Chair will submit the d certificate.	
_ ,	otive Power & Cars): of rolling stock either scratchbuilt.	, craftsman kit	s or detailed commercial kits.	
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- Application forms can be found on the NMRA web site.
- Go to www.nmra.org



Click on the Achievement I Program link

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### Our NMRA Online Archives is now open for business! Taken from photo and art collections donated to the NMRA, the Online Archives already features over 10,000 images of locomotives, structures, cabooses, depots, and much more. Images include color and black & white photos,

drawings, erection elevations, paint schemes, plans, and logos. NMRA members can download high-quality scans of any of the images for just \$2 each. Non-NMRA members can download scans for \$4 each. And browsing's free! Just click on the "NMRA Online Archives" link at the left to get started.

Cooking for the Member's Only area? We think we have worked out most of the bugs. Do please let us know if you have issues registering. The Member area can be found here at http://www.nmra.org/member/

The **National Model Railroad Association** (NMRA), an organization of model railroaders, advances the worldwide scale model railroading community through education and standards as well as advocacy and fellowship.

You can donate to the NMRA, including Diamond Club donations, through this link.

More information on the Diamond Club can be found here.

#### What's New

- Congratulations to Robert Mangrum, Gary Burdette, Joel Goldberg, and Allen Merta our newest MMRs.
- Tony Koester summary of Winter 2011 BOD meeting posted on the BOD area.
- S-7 as approved by BOD now online in the Standards area.
- Welcome to Doug Harding as new SIG Coordinator
- Congratulations to Tom Browning of the LSR, MMR #455.
- RIP Dean Freytag
- Congratulations to Andrew and David, MMRs #453 & 454.
- S-7 has a proposed update to it. Take a look and comment back to S&C Department.
- Updated Standard S-2 and newly updated RP-21, passed at BOD meeting, now posted on web site as official. See S&RP area.

#### Why Join the NMRA?

#### Fellowship

Members at all levels of the NMRA are eager to share their knowledge and friendship in local divisions, regions and on the national

#### Member Services

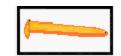
Being a member of the NMRA entitles you to a multitude of services, all geared toward expanding your enjoyment of the hobby.

#### Standards

The NMRA was the organization that set those Standards and Recommended Practices which still guide manufacturers and consumers alike.

#### Achievement Program

The NMRA's Achievement Program, or "AP", is designed to help modelers improve their skills and get more out of their hobby. The "AP" gives recognition to members who have displayed a high degree of



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■ "The Masters" Articles (updated

2009)

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AP Awards

AP Staff

Questions (FAQs)



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Click on the link for the Golden

Spike Award

NMRA, which are important as well. Use the links on the right to explore the different certificates and requirements.

We hope that you will soon find just how easy it is to participate in the Achievement Program, and if you are not yet involved start you off on the right foot. Please visit the AP Staff Roster page to find contact information for your Regional AP Manager.

#### Master Model Railroader

An NMRA member qualifies as a <u>Master Model Railroader</u> when he or she has obtained at least seven of the eleven Achievement Certificates provided that he or she has earned at least one Achievement Certificate in each of the four areas of the Regulations. Earning the title of Master Model Railroader is the ultimate goal for many participants in the Achievement Program.

- NMRA Master Model Railroaders
- NMRA Master Model Railroaders listed by Region Membership.

Take a minute to read this interesting history of the Achievment Program. The history was prepared by CJ Riley MMR #97 - additional material provided by: Willis Ehlert MMR #59, Rick Shoup MMR #234, and Phil Kohl A History of the NMRA Achievement Program (1961 - 2008)

Before you jump in to the website, take a minute to read this short article by Gerry Leone, MMR - This article appeared in a recent issue of **Scale Rails**. Gerry put some of his thoughts down on paper regarding his quest for the MMR. Give some thought to what Gerry has to say - He says it so well!.

What I learned by becoming an MMR - By Gerry Leone, MMR.

#### Golden Spike Award

Some people may be reluctant to participate in the AP, because the rules seem difficult to understand. The following pages explain each of the different categories in the AP, and what the exact requirements are.

If you are new to the AP, may we recommend that you take a look at the <u>Golden Spike Award</u>, although not an actual AP category its requirements are structured along the same lines.



#### Further Information

Contact National Achievement Program General Manager, Paul Richardson, MMR, <u>achiev@hq.nmra.org</u>, or your Region or Division Achievement Program Manager for more information.