The CTC Knob kit is intended to be used on CTC (Centralized Train Control) Machines. The exact dimension of each machine very from railroad to railroad. Once you have decided on the type of CTC Machine you wish to build assemble the CTC Knob kit as follows. The CTC Knob Kit can also be used to dress up rotary switches used for controlling switch machines and other devices around the layout.

This kit should have two sets of sprues which holds a switch plate (part with words switch and signal), support washer (oval part with large and small hole), nut (9/16 hex nut), knob (CTC style knob), hollow bolt (not needed), small bolt (6/32 by 1/2 threaded bolt) and code button head.(round button shaped part) 1 decal sheet and 2 D shaped tubes (knob springs).

Preparing the CTC Switch Plate: The CTC Plate needs to be painted gloss black (quick drying paint works best) after the paint has had a chance to dry, lay the plate down on piece of very fine sand paper placed on a flat surface. (If you use medium to rough sand paper it will cause the letters on the plate to look fuzzy or blurry.) By sanding the plate on the sand paper all the raised areas will return to the silver color. The plate needs to have a number on it but wait until you know which numbers you need before applying decals. When you know which numbers you need apply decals and then spray a gloss coat over plate and decal.

CTC Knob assembly: Insert the steel spring (small black D shaped steel tube) into the knob by hand and then by pressing the knob against a hard surface (like a concrete floor) force the spring all the way into the knob. Now the CTC Knob will press fit on a D shaped rotary switch shaft. Mouser Electronics ((800)346-6873) (www.mouser.com) offers this type rotary switch. (part no. 105-SR2511F-43FN , 3 position for the signal plate and part no. 105-SR2511F-62FN, 2 position for the switch plate) Dimensions for the shaft required to fit the knob are shown in fig (1).

Installation: When your ready to install the CTC Knob kit place the rotary switch through the CTC panel then place the switch or signal plate on, next place the support washer on and then the nut. (The nut provided may not provide enough pressure to hold the rotary switch from turning, if so use the nut supplied with the rotary switch) Rotate the rotary switch so that the flat on the shaft is facing up then tighten. The small bolt is to be installed into the small hole through the support washer and plate. The thread size is 6-32, a small hole can be drilled and tapped into the panel for the bolt but I recommend you cut the bolt off (leaving about 1/8 inch of bolt) and gluing it to the support washer. Now press the knob on the rotary shaft. Adjust the rotary switch if the knob is not pointing the way you would like. The Code Button Head can be use by attaching it to any common pushbutton.

Knob fits 1/4 inch shaft with .179 to .182 flat by 3/8 inch long when using the spring. Without the spring a 1/4 inch shaft with a .217 flat by 3/8 inch long will also work but is not the preferred method.

Special thanks to Bernard Hughes for building another excellent mold to produce this product. Also for prolonging his retirement to finish the mold and for helping Rix start up in the injection molding business.

Dispatcher background on label courtesy of the L&N Historical Society.