



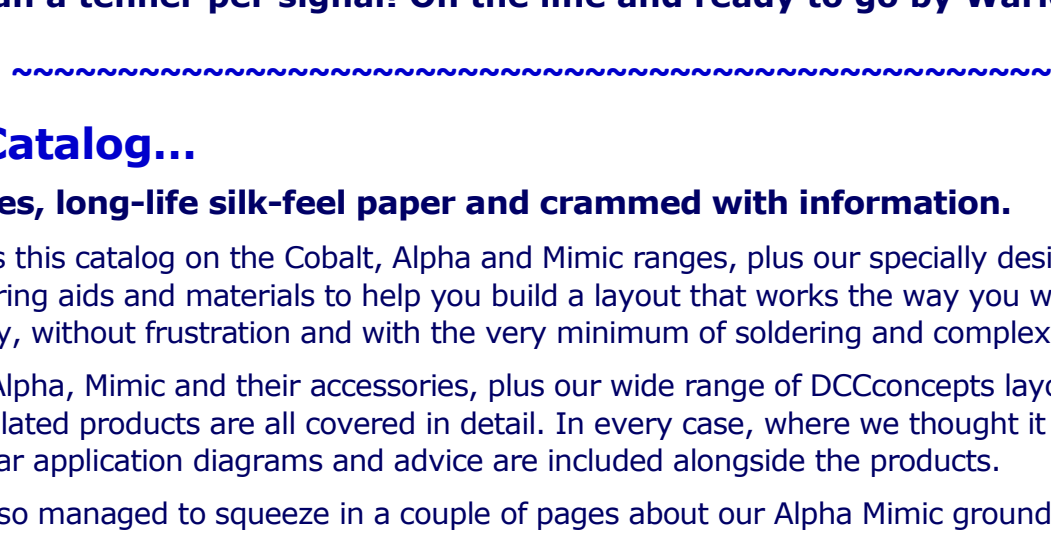
An apology...

I did promise to include an article on the deeper advantages of PowerBase this time. I do apologise that it is not ready yet BUT we do at least have a good reason!

My excuse? I really do want to demonstrate what we show you in the newsletter in a very "real world" way. That means both in print - and in video links. Unfortunately our "round the office" test track is still not quite complete. Additionally, I have not yet been able to find the time to complete the "Powerbase controlled brake-van" necessary for one of the demo's.

Incidentally: No matter who does the tests, we occasionally see comments about some of the demo's from magazines or manufacturers being not the same as the user experience: *In our case at least - the ONLY reason for that can be differences in installation or quality of the work done in installing the product, because every demonstration that we do uses the same track, loco or rolling stock that you have, and to make sure of that we buy everything except the track itself "new and off the shelf" especially for that specific test!*

So: If you can't repeat our results, look locally first... Then do not hesitate to ask us for help or advice! We will always do our best to make sure that you get the best from everything. I sincerely hope you enjoy the newsletter



In this edition of the DCCconcepts Newsletter...

- The DCCconcepts "Layout and control ranges" catalog is on the way.
- Zen is back at last - with silky-smooth motor drive and 2 more light functions added to the versatile "21 pin MTC - 8-pin" Zen Z218 decoder
- FREE samples of DCCconcepts Legacy Ballast are available for those ready to take the plunge and add ballast to their layout.
- Alpha Mimic Ground signals - Plug and play, DCC controlled and less than a tenner per signal! On the line and ready to go by Warley!

The Catalog...

52 pages, long-life silk-fool paper and crammed with information.

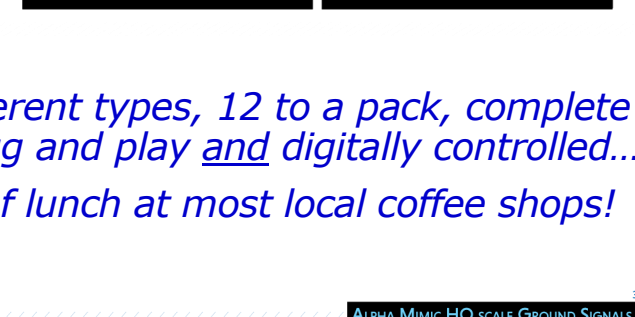
We focus this catalog on the Cobalt, Alpha and Mimic ranges, plus our specially designed tools, wiring aids and materials to help you build a layout that works the way you want... efficiently, without frustration and with the very minimum of soldering and complex wiring.

Cobalt, Alpha, Mimic and their accessories, plus our wide range of DCCconcepts layout and wiring related products are all covered in detail. In every case, where we thought it might help, clear application diagrams and advice are included alongside the products.

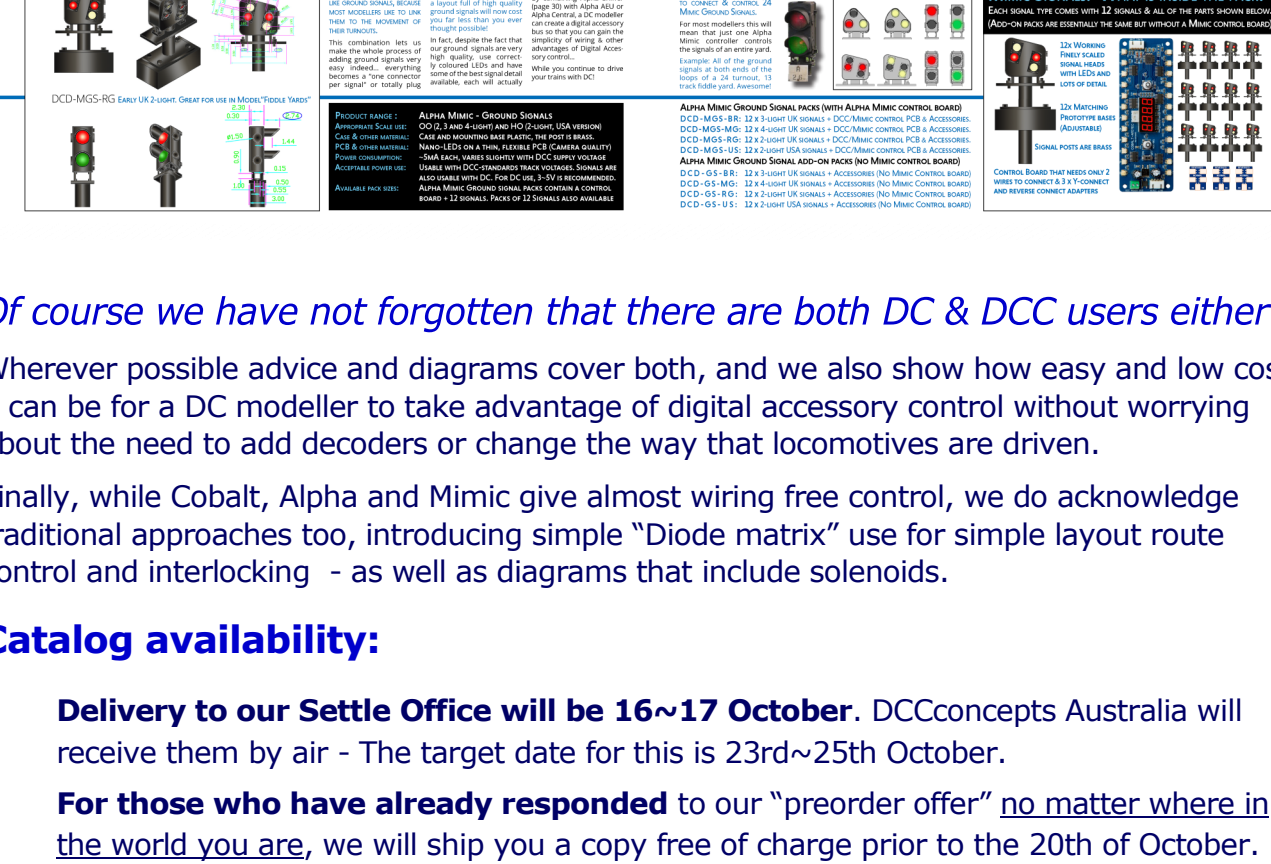
We've also managed to squeeze in a couple of pages about our Alpha Mimic ground signals... Usable on DC layouts with the addition of a low cost and simple to add sniffer-based digital accessory bus or of course by direct link to the track bus of any DCC layout, these are fantastic value.

Additionally, for those who want to control their ground signals their own way, they are also available as "Add-on packs" without the controller.

Here are a couple of examples of catalog content...



Alpha MIMIC Ground signals - 4 different types, 12 to a pack, complete with control board, ready to use, plug and play AND digitally controlled... All for less per signal than the cost of lunch at most local coffee shops!



Of course we have not forgotten that there are both DC & DCC users either!

Wherever possible advice and diagrams cover both, and we also show how easy and low cost it can be for a DC modeller to take advantage of digital accessory control without worrying about the need to add decoders or change the way that locomotives are driven.

Finally, while Cobalt, Alpha and Mimic give almost wiring free control, we do acknowledge traditional approaches too, introducing simple "Diode matrix" use for simple layout route control and interlocking - as well as diagrams that include solenoids.

Catalog availability:

- Delivery to our Settle Office will be 16~17 October. DCCconcepts Australia will receive them by air - The target date for this is 23rd~25th October.
- For those who have already responded to our "preorder offer" no matter where in the world you are, we will ship you a copy free of charge prior to the 20th of October.
- For anyone who responds to this newsletter by emailing a request to us we will do the same during the week commencing 23rd October (or earlier if we can do it). [CLICK HERE TO MAKE YOUR REQUEST!](#)
- Initial "local catalog stock" will be also sent to our Distributors and to our more specialised DCCconcepts retailers prior to the 20th October. The cover price will then become £3.00 or \$AU 5.00 - OR you may have a copy 100% free of charge with any order for DCCconcepts branded products.

We do hope that you will enjoy reading it...

Zen decoders are back...

We do apologize for the longer than intended gap in stock availability, but we like to innovate so we've spent a lot of time re-looking at the software yet again to refine it even further...

Testing and evaluation of all batch parts was completed earlier this month.

The Zen range is on the production line now, and the first of them will be though their post-production testing and on the plane as you read this.

They will arrive here in Settle mid October. Then it's just a matter of days for a final third test before they will be ready for delivery!

We are certain that you will love them:

Always smooth, they now have a truly superb loco drive and an even wider array of adjustable and re-mappable function abilities, including more than 30 different light functions plus extended control ability for our easy-to-use fluorescent flicker option.

Of course, Zen's "Instability" is still the best there is. The range includes the worlds smallest direct-plug 8-pin direct decoder (literally the same footprint as the NEM652 plug on decoders of other brands), 6 pin decoders that fit directly or with 6 to 6 and 8 pin harness options and the most versatile decoder available, the Zen Z218 which allows either 21MTC or 8 pin connection.

Let's talk a bit about the Zen Z218 and its new added functions.

The compact Zen Z218 now has SIX totally independent light functions which are properly configured as per global standards and ready to use...

The default function setting is very simple and just as you are used to.

IE: automatic directional lighting switched by controller function 0 or "light" button, and four more functions switched by F1, 2, 3 and 4 on your controller.

Of course, every function can also be re-mapped to work with ANY DCC controller function button AND set to trigger ANY of the 30 plus light control functions, turn things like BEMF on and off or do many other things of your choice.

Despite the added functions, installability remains excellent - and quite simple! Being both 21 pin and 8 pin as well as quite compact, this is the perfect decoder to put into your "installation parts drawer" ready for your next locomotive purchase.

It is a very tidy-to-install decoder too.

- The only wires that are attached to the decoder itself are the blue and black used for connection of the stay-alive.
- For 21 pin loco's, ALL "operational connections" are made directly when the 21MTC connection is used and so there are no stray wires to worry about.
- Even when you use the harness for an 8-pin locomotive, all the decoder wires are together in one harness that is easy to insert into the end of the decoder.

DAPOL and 6-function decoders

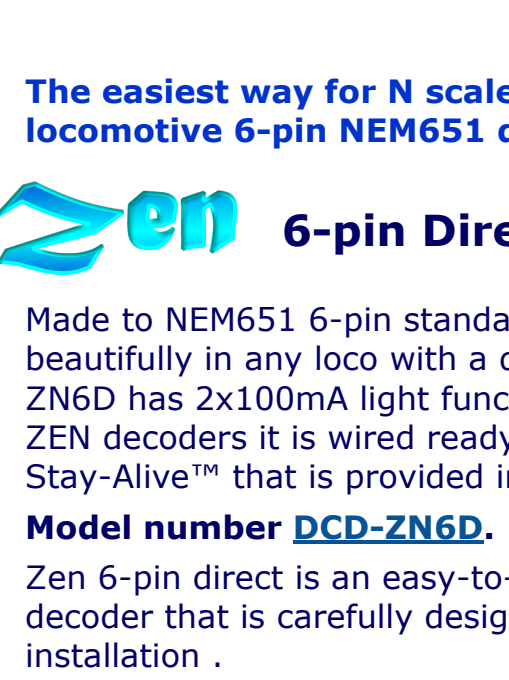
It appears that DAPOL originally designed their class 68 board for a full decoder such as the ZEN218-6 then later modified it with magnet wire and a couple of added parts to work with "Virtual functions" on a Specific European made decoder.

It takes only minutes to change it back to the way it SHOULD be! We have written up and photographed the simple changes needed.

You will find a PDF file of instructions with photographs on our website from Monday 16th October. Click [HERE](#).



The Zen decoder range



21MTC & 8-pin NEM652 in ONE decoder...
Zen Z218 versatile
Why do loco makers make it so hard?
If you model UK prototype, then there is a fair chance that you will end up buying both 21mtc and 8-pin NEM652 locomotives and you will never know which one is inside until you decide on the loco!
Zen Z218 takes away the guesswork as it has both 21pin & 8-pin installation ability in one decoder.
The Z218 has SIX 100mA light functions.
Of course it's also wired ready for the slim Stay -Alive™ that's included in the pack.
Model number DCD-Z218
It has a 750mA / 1 amp motor drive.

Smaller decoders make it easier:

Zen NANO 8-pin Direct.

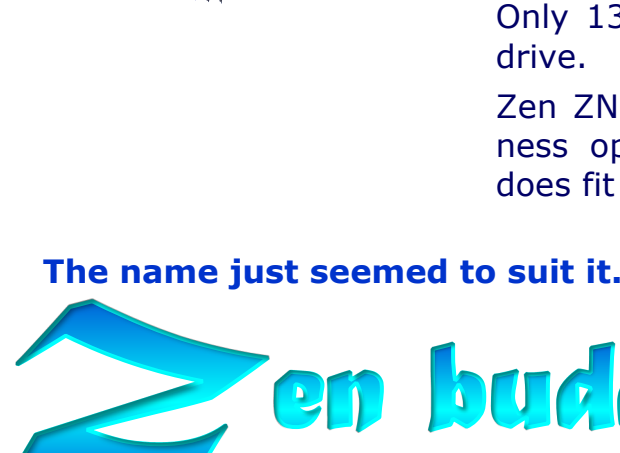
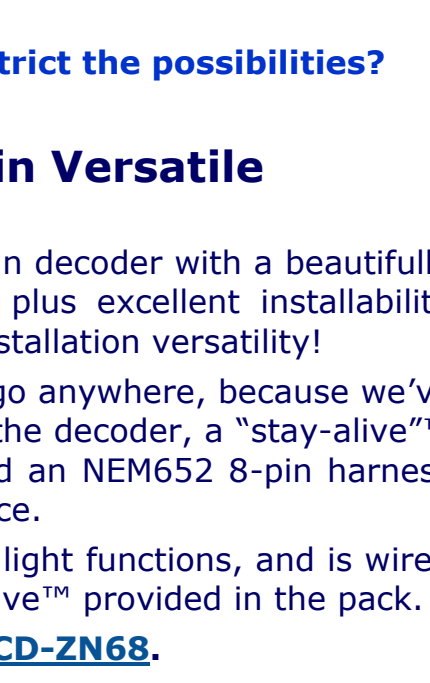
The worlds smallest direct 8-pin decoder. It has 4x100mA light functions... and it is wired ready for the Stay-Alive™ provided in the pack.

Model number DCD-ZN8D.

Zen Nano Direct really is unbelievably small. So small in fact that its dimensions are less than the blanking plug that you'll remove to install it. It's only 15x7x5mm.

It has a 750mA / 1 amp motor drive.

Zen Nano Direct is smaller than many DCC blanking plugs... fits anywhere!



Smaller decoders can also be versatile:
Zen NANO 8-pin Wired...
We start off with what is already the world's smallest, then shrink it even more!
Starting with the same footprint as a NANO 8-pin direct, we added wires... and shrunk it in thickness by nearly 50% to create a super-small go-anywhere wired decoder.
It has 2x100mA light functions... and is wired ready for the Stay-Alive™ provided.
Model number DCD-ZN8H.
It is only 15x7x2.7mm
It has a 750mA / 1 amp motor drive.
Zen Nano NEM652 with an 8-pin harness is the ultimate "go-anywhere" decoder.

The easiest way for N scale and smaller OO locomotive 6-pin NEM651 direct installation

Zen 6-pin Direct

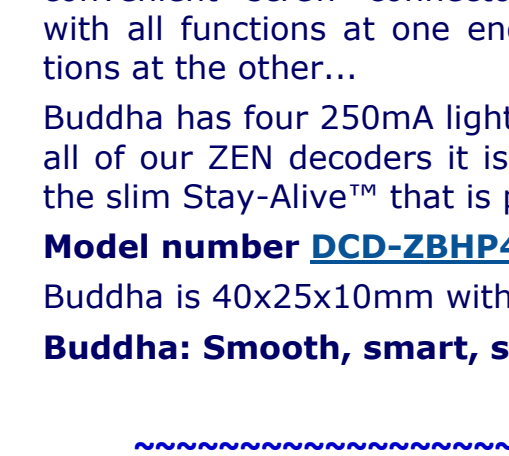
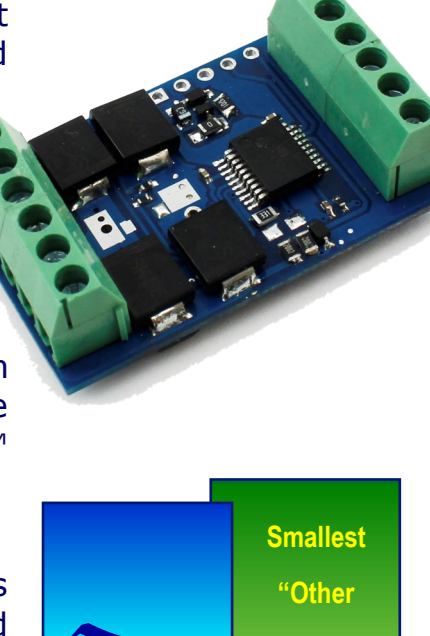
Made to NEM651 6-pin standards the ZN6D fits beautifully in any loco with a direct plug interface. ZN6D has 2x100mA light functions... and like all ZEN decoders it is wired ready for the super slim Stay-Alive™ that is provided in the pack.

Model number DCD-ZN6D.

Zen 6-pin direct is an easy-to-install NEM651 type decoder that is carefully designed for a direct plug installation.

It's only 13.5 x 8.5 x 3mm

It has a 750mA / 1 amp motor drive.



Why should we restrict the possibilities?
Zen 6-pin Versatile
Take an NEM651 6-pin decoder with a beautifully smooth motor drive plus excellent installability and add some real installation versatility!
The ZN68 really will go anywhere, because we've included in the pack the decoder, a "stay-alive™" an NEM651 6-pin and an NEM652 8-pin harness to give you total choice.
It also has 2x100mA light functions, and is wired ready for the Stay-Alive™ provided in the pack.
Model number is DCD-ZN68.
Only 13.5 x 8.5 x 3mm. 750mA / 1amp motor drive.
Zen ZN68 with Direct 6-pin plus 6 & 8-pin harness options is the perfect choice as it really does fit everything!

The name just seemed to suit it...

Zen buddha

As the name suggests... a cheerful, large decoder that's as tough as nails - but still small enough to get into the heart of any suitable locomotive...

Designed for O and larger scales, we've also kept it small enough to fit some of the big articulated or double-motor HO, OO or S scale loco's.

Buddha is tough! It has a 3 amp RMS motor drive capable of handling peaks of 5 amps.

Buddha is protected! It has overload and thermal as well as short protection.

Buddha is, in fact, virtually un-killable!

Buddha will never hesitate... it has built-in brown out protection for the microprocessor and can be connected to our DCCconcepts "Stay-Alive™" (included in the pack)

Normal decoder wire just won't cope.

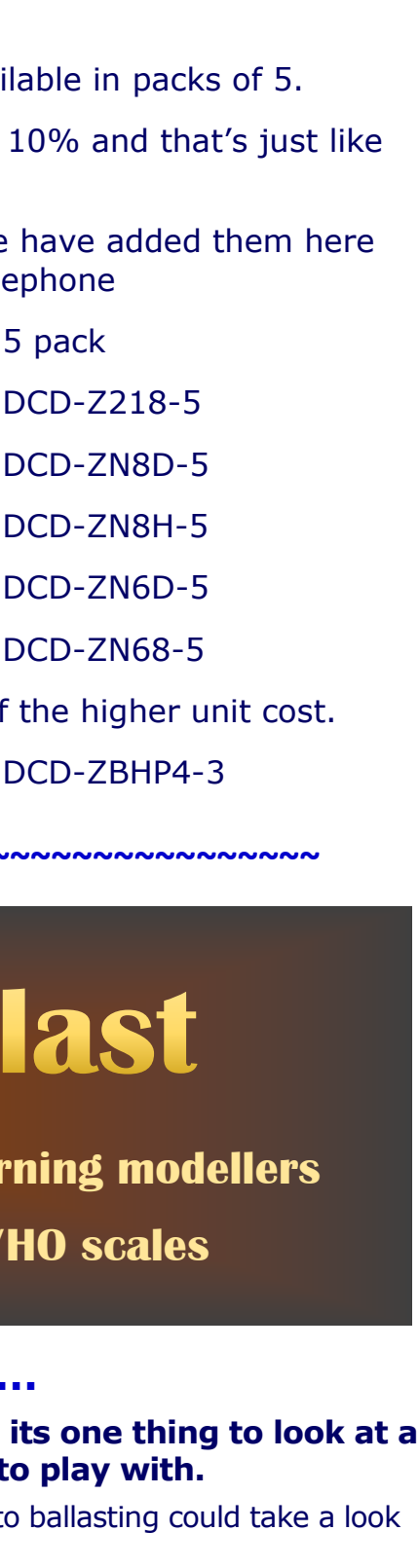
Big power also needs bigger wire, so Buddha has convenient screw connectors, nicely arranged with all functions at one end, all power connections at the other...

Buddha has four 250mA light functions... and like all of our ZEN decoders it is wired and ready for the slim Stay-Alive™ that is provided in the pack.

Model number DCD-ZBHP4.

Buddha is 40x25x10mm with 3 Amp motor drive.

Buddha: Smooth, smart, safe & beautiful!



ZEN Value enhancement

Zen is also available in packs of 5.

You never just need one decoder, and once you find a decoder you like, you will need to buy several.

To acknowledge this, all ZEN decoders are also available in packs of 5.

This is not just for convenience - You will also save 10% and that's just like getting the 5th decoder at half price!

Part numbers and prices are on the website, but we have added them here too for those who prefer to shop in person or by telephone

Model	Single pack	5 pack
Zen Z218 6-function	DCD-Z218	DCD-Z218-5
Zen 8-pin Direct	DCD-ZN8D	DCD-ZN8D-5
Zen 8-pin Wired	DCD-ZN8H	DCD-ZN8H-5
Zen 6-pin Direct	DCD-ZN6D	DCD-ZN6D-5
Zen 6-pin Versatile	DCD-ZN68	DCD-ZN68-5

For large scale users, we make a 3-pack because of the higher unit cost.

Zen Buddha	DCD-ZBHP4	DCD-ZBHP4-3
------------	-----------	-------------



Legacy Ballast

Carefully blended Ballast for discerning modellers
creating layouts in N and OO/HO scales

FREE sample pots of Legacy Ballast...

We covered ballast in detail last newsletter, but its one thing to look at a picture and another to have some in your hand to play with.

We thought it'd be nice if modellers who are getting close to ballasting could take a look and make their decision based on a real world example.

Here is our offer:

- You send us a photograph of your layout or the area to be ballasted.
- We will send you a small sample of each colour no charge.

You can be anywhere in the world and the offer remains the same... but please: do make sure that you also tell us about the layout and the scale that you are building it to.

You will need to email the request to us at THIS address only.

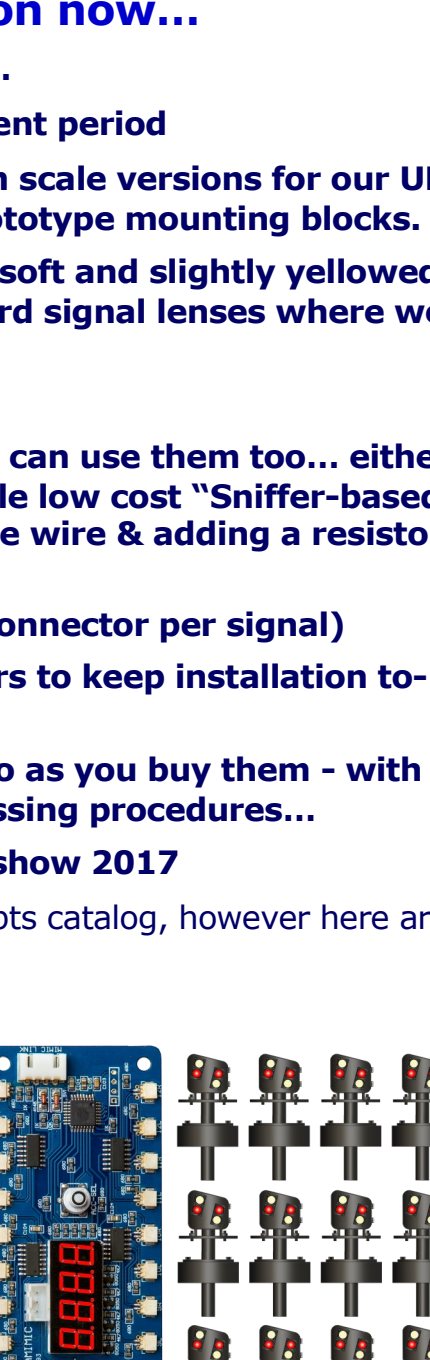
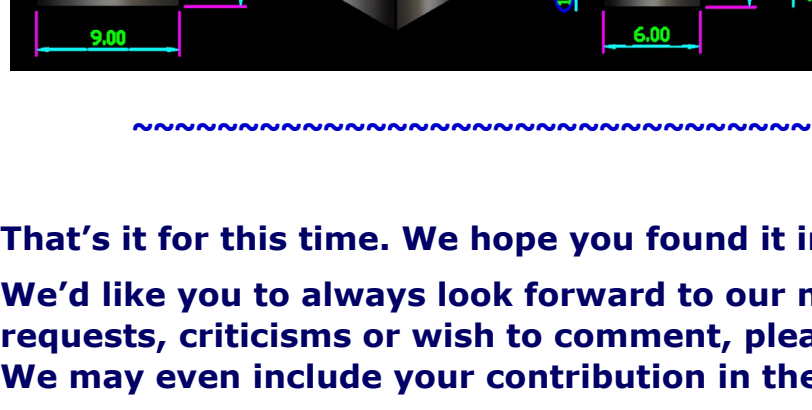
web@dccconcepts.com

Clicking the link will add a subject for you—please do not change it.

Do not forget to include:

- Your name and postal address
- A description of the layout, including the scale
- A photo or two of your layout or trackwork.

This what we will send to you.



Bought in a pack like this, each signal costs you less than the average lunch at a local coffee shop!

That's it for this time. We hope you found it interesting

We'd like you to always look forward to our newsletters so if you have requests, criticisms or wish to comment, please feel free to do so.

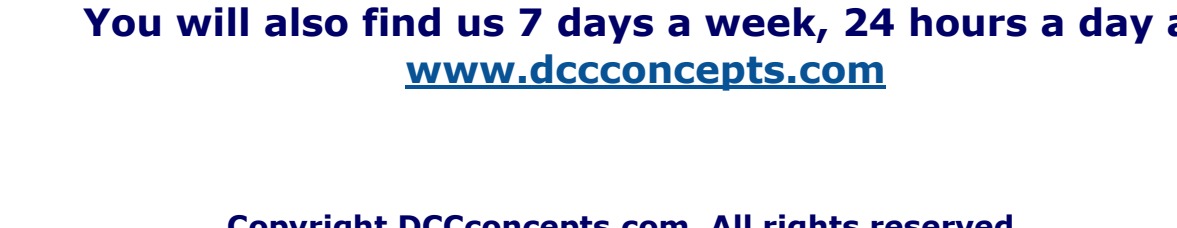
We may even include your contribution in the next one!

You can email us on web@dccconcepts.com and our webmaster will make sure we all read it!

Contact, subscription and other details are below

Kind regards

Richard Johnson and all of the staff at DCCconcepts



Our UK contact details are:

DCCconcepts Ltd, Unit E, the Sidings, Settle BD24 9RP

Telephone is (+44) 01729 821 080.

Our UK Email address is salesuk@dccconcepts.com

Our Australian contact details are:

DCCconcepts Pty Ltd, Unit 3, Lionel St, Naval Base 6165

Telephone is (+61) 08 9437 2470.

Our AU Email address is sales@dccconcepts.com

You will also find us 7 days a week, 24 hours a day at www.dccconcepts.com

Copyright DCCconcepts.com, All rights reserved.

We hope you found this message to be useful.

However, if you'd rather not receive future e-mails of this sort from us, please send an email to web@dccconcepts.com with the word STOP in the subject line.