



HOSTLER - remote control regulated power supply



HOSTLER - hand control



HOSTLER - RCS systems
hand control for
RADIO operation

OVERVIEW

The HOSTLER is an AC track power throttle designed with voltage regulation, momentum characteristics and walk around with memory capabilities. The HOSTLER AC includes a hand held controller which provides for speed and momentum adjustments, also push buttons for direction control, whistle, and bell activation for locomotives so equipped. While the HOSTLER AC was designed specifically to operate the DALLEE ELECTRONICS "IN LOCOMOTIVE STEAM SOUND" as furnished in the Lionel® Smithsonian 3-rail NYC Dreyfuss Hudson, it is also fully compatible with Lionel's RAILSOUNDS™.

The output of the HOSTLER AC is "regulated" to maintain constant voltage, and therefore consistent locomotive speed, as current loads change, also when the bell and/or whistle controls are activated.

The hand held controller connects to the HOSTLER AC by means of a standard 4 conductor modular telephone jack and cable system simplifying installation of multiple control locations around your layout. When the controller is unplugged the train will continue without speed or direction change (MEMORY) until the controller is reconnected at another location. This "MEMORY" feature provides for a most flexible walk around operation.

The hand held controller also has a standard 4 pin modular telephone jack to allow for simple substitution of another handset cord other than the supplied coiled cord if you so desire.

DESCRIPTION & LOCATION OF COMPONENTS and CONTROLS

On the rear face of the HOSTLER/AC you will find the power cord, a resettable circuit breaker and a barrier strip with two terminals. These two terminals are for the output to the track. There are no other outputs provided as it is our judgement that all power in the throttle should be reserved for output to the track and any accessories should be connected to a separate power source. The power switch is located on the front face of the HOSTLER/AC and will glow green when power is "on".

All controls are contained in the hand held controller which plugs into a standard 4 pin modular telephone jack located on the left face of the HOSTLER/AC. At the top of the front face of the hand held controller you will find two LED's. The green LED indicates that power is "on" and the red LED will illuminate during an overload or short circuit condition.

Below the LED's is a large knob which is used to control speed and a smaller knob to adjust the momentum rate, which determines how long it will take the throttle to change from one speed control setting to another. On the side of the hand held controller are three push buttons. The red button is used to sequence direction devices (E- units) in locomotives without actually turning the speed control to "off". Depressing the red button interrupts track power which results in a quick stop when running. When the red button is released, track power is restored gradually as governed by the momentum setting. If an overload or short circuit occurs, a quick stop also results. Following an overload condition, track power will be gradually restored, again as governed by the momentum setting.

The white button activates whistles or horns and the blue button activates the bell on appropriately equipped locomotives. The whistle or horn will continue as long as the white button is depressed so it is possible, with the DALLEE ELECTRONICS "IN LOCOMOTIVE SOUND" systems, to "play" the sound similar to that done on a real locomotive. Other sound systems merely play their "canned" pattern when the whistle / horn is requested. With most sound systems, depressing the blue button will lock the bell "on". To turn the bell "off" simply depress the blue button again and hold it long enough to signal for the bell to stop.

NOTE- if the whistle or bell is activated during an overload or short circuit condition, the HOSTLER/AC will react to the overload by stopping track output, but the red LED indicator will not light as long as either button is depressed.

HOSTLER instructions continued.

THROTTLE OPERATIONS

Now that you are familiar with the location and function of the various components and controls of your HOSTLER/AC, lets hook up to the layout and run a locomotive. Connect the track power terminals on the back of the HOSTLER/AC to the track using your existing power distribution system. The terminal nearest to the power cord is considered to be the "hot" terminal and should be connected to the center rail. The other terminal is the "ground" or "base post" and would connect to the outer rails. We recommend the use of #16 gauge or heavier wire, depending on the size of your layout and the length of the wire runs out to the track. A simple rule to follow: the longer the wire and the larger the load (current draw), the heavier the wire should be to minimize line loss (voltage drop) between the throttle and the track. It may be advisable to use wire as large as #12 or #10 to get the full use of the high current capabilities of your HOSTLER/AC.

Connect the power cord to a grounded household line outlet matching the input indicated on the back of the HOSTLER/AC. Connect the hand held controller, with speed set to "off" and momentum at minimum, to the HOSTLER/AC. Rock the power switch to the "I" position to turn the power on. The "O" position turns the power "off". The green lamp on the HOSTLER/AC should illuminate and the green LED on the hand controller should glow. The red LED will also illuminate for a period and then go out. This overload indication at power "on" is normal. If the green lamps do not illuminate, check the power cord and plug, the outlet receptacle and the household line circuit.

Place a locomotive on the track and advance the speed control to get the locomotive to move. Try sequencing direction, initially by rotating the speed control back to "off", then by leaving the speed control set and using the red direction button. Sequence the locomotive to the neutral position, preferably prior to forward, and then turn the speed control to "off". Set momentum at about 10 o'clock and advance the speed control. Notice that there is a delayed acceleration. Sequence direction with the red direction button and note that the delayed acceleration still exists. Try different momentum settings to establish a delay rate that suits your operating preference or to simulate different types of trains. The heavier the train the longer it should take to accelerate to speed. Some electronic "E" units may skip sequence positions with longer momentum delay settings.

Select a locomotive equipped with a horn or whistle. With the locomotive in neutral and track power "on", depress the white whistle button. If the whistle or horn does not operate, try the blue bell button. If the whistle activates with the bell button, the wires from the HOSTLER/AC to the track are reversed and must be changed. Now put the locomotive in motion and activate the white whistle button. Note that locomotive speed did not change when the whistle was activated. The track output of the HOSTLER/AC is regulated to hold its voltage constant even though the current draw has increased because of the whistle. This regulation feature will also maintain voltage when current draw decreases so it is possible to have relatively consistent speed regardless of up grades or down grades provided the locomotive is capable of maintaining the speed up grade and does not coast out of control on the down grade.

If you have a locomotive that includes bell sound try the blue bell button in neutral and with the locomotive in motion. Remember that the bell may be locked "on" when the bell button is depressed and the button must be depressed again to turn the bell "off".

WALK AROUND OPTIONS

The hand held controller plugs into the 4 pin jack on the side face of the HOSTLER/AC or into any 4 pin modular telephone jacks which you install around your layout and which are then connected to the 4 pin jack on the HOSTLER/AC. When making these installations be sure that the connections between jacks are parallel and that none of the wires have switched position. When you disconnect the hand held controller from a jack to move to another location, the HOSTLER/AC remains connected to the track and will supply power to the train allowing for continuous operation until you plug the controller into another jack and make a change in control settings.

MTH PROTOSOUNDS® equipped locomotives

When initially powered, PROTOSOUND goes into "reset". Turning speed dial on HOSTLER to about "10" should cause "reset". Wait 3-5 seconds and then rotate speed dial to full (at least above "80"). Wait about 10 seconds, longer if momentum is on, and then :

Method 1: rotate speed dial down to about "10" (DO NOT ADVANCE CLOCKWISE DURING THIS DECREASE IN VOLTAGE STAGE!). Continue slowly lowering speed dial until sound changes (not the distortion in the sound but, as in diesels, the prime mover leaving "idle" and changing to "running" rpm). This usually happens before you get to "5". As soon as sound changes, rotate speed dial up and locomotive should leave "reset" and go into forward.

Method 2: lower speed dial to a running setting of "20" to "30". Depress the direction button for 2-3 seconds. Again, locomotive should leave "reset" and go into forward. Once out of "reset" all controls should function normally.

To program during "reset", rotate speed dial above "80" and below "20" and as a convenience it is suggested that momentum be at minimum. Do not use the direction button for programing.

RADIO CONTROL OPERATION

The HOSTLER/AC can be controlled via radio with the optional Remote Control Systems transmitter / receiver combination. To operate the HOSTLER/AC requires unplugging the existing hand control and plugging in a RCS receiver. You will also need a transmitter. One transmitter will control two or more receivers (depending on which system you purchase). The unit allows for control of the Whistle, Bell, Accelleration (increase voltage), Braking (decrease voltage). The accelleration and braking rate are independently set by user controls on the receiver. This allows for independent action of each function for fine tuning to the type of locomotive you are operating.

ONE FINAL COMMENT: The black finish of the HOSTLER/AC is a powder coating which makes the application of the white lettering and artwork very difficult to apply. We have taken great care to protect this lettering however because of the powder coat base the lettering is subject to scratching. PLEASE HANDLE WITH CARE.