

Ultrascale Review

Review: 001-081220

HELJAN CLASS 33 ('CROMPTON').

by **Bob Hart**

Results of test running of Ultrascale's "00" gauge replacement wheel sets for the: HELJAN CLASS 33 ('CROMPTON')

Following over two hours of intensive running of this loco on my own layout, she ran faultlessly & without incident, throughout the following tests:



1. Light engine running (loco only, no stock) over the inner radiuses of Peco's code 100 large curved points, three way points, single slip's & double slip's at a full range of speeds (from realistic to ridiculous), to check the gauging or "back to back" for any signs of fouling or de-railing over this type of track.

2. Hauling a variety of stock, including the heaviest train I can run (a full rake of double deck cartics loaded with vehicles), for the purposes of assessing the haulage capabilities of these wheel set's compared to the originals, from standing starts on curved inclines (1 in 48), to traversing all the above listed track work.

3. Propelling of the same stock over this track work. to assess any "out of gauge" pressures this kind of movement creates on the flanges over facing point work & guide blades.

4. Ultra low speed running over this point work, to assess the standard of electrical pick up provided by these wheel sets.

Having been given the opportunity (for which I am both very privileged & grateful), to carry out these tests on one of my own loco's, I have to say that these wheel sets, as with the entire Ultrascale range, have been made to the highest standards & will greatly improve & enhance not only the running performance, but also the overall look of any loco they are fitted to.

Other Ultrascale replacement wheel sets I employ, with equal success are those for the Heljan Western (see also my review for these on this site), Lima class's 20/26/37/40 & 101 DMU & Triang's EM2 electrics.

Full price details for the conversion packs can be found in the 'Conversion packs' section of the Ultrascale products web site.