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Building a SBB/BLS Schalthaus

Boyd Misstear tackles this 5-part resin HO scale model from Tilly Models (87065)

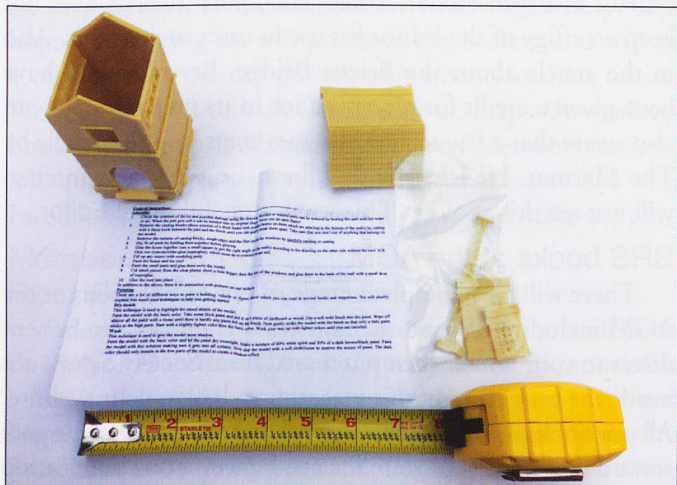
This is a perfect model for anyone wishing to have fun whether new to model kit assembly or wishing to try their hand at a straight-forward inexpensive resin kit. This model is of a typical old form of power switching house found across the Confederation, and is available online from www.tillymodels.nl. The instructions are simple, on two sides of one A5 sheet of paper, and in clear English. Once the resin castings have been removed, the few parts fit snugly. Thus my emphasis here is on painting and weathering. While there are many ways to go about this and everyone has their own preferences, suggested painting colours are provided along with helpful explanations for "Dry-brush" and "Wash" techniques.

Five suggestions for this five-part kit!



Step 1 - Obtain the kit.

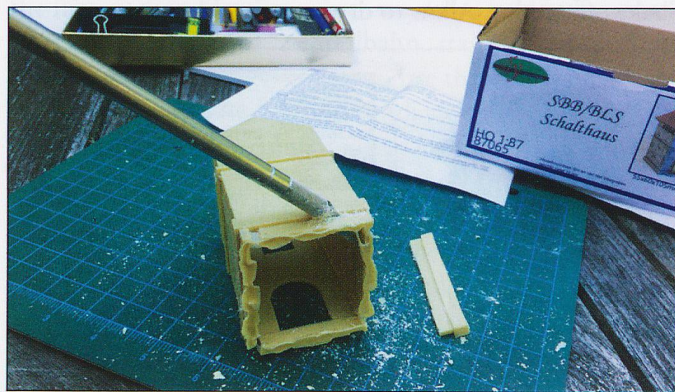
1. Having familiarized oneself, an "X-Acto" saw blade (or equivalent), as well as a sharp knife blade is useful. The saw blade cuts through the resin much more easily and faster than scoring the resin and 'snapping' off the casting blocks.



Step 2 - Familiarize yourself with the contents.

2. Once the casting blocks have been removed, wash all parts in soapy water to remove any residue from the casting process

and one's finger grease. This will help paint adhere to the resin. Allow to dry. Dry fit parts to size



Step 3 - Carefully remove the casting blocks.

3. When happy with the fit, separate. Generally, I find it preferable to paint and weather before assembling



Step 4 - Test fit the parts.

4. Choose oil based paints to match your intended colour scheme for the first layer. While colour recommendations are made, I chose to deviate as you can see from the photographs

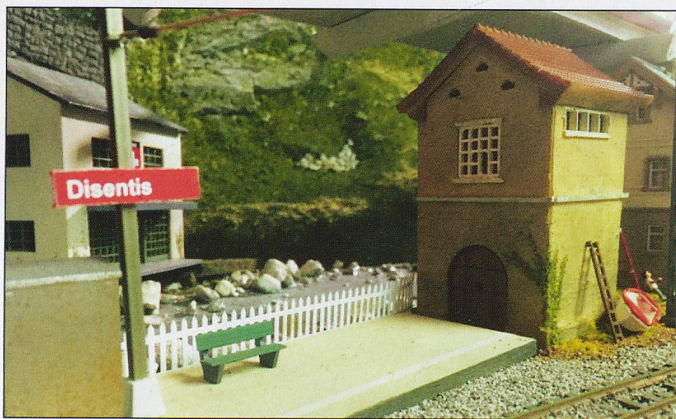
5. Glue together using a Superglue like medium gap filling Cyanoacrylate adhesive CA+, making certain to have de-bonder available WITHIN REACH just in case you get stuck to your work desk or worse! Remember, superglue was developed for surgeons to bond skin, although now it has many industrial, household as well as medical uses! Apply final paint and weathering "touch-ups". Consider adding vegetation in the form of creeper plants up one or more walls – this is dependent upon the intended building location. This can be done by using a 'blob' of white glue at the building


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base, then spread out in thin lines up the wall using a toothpick and sprinkle on ground foam colour mix of choice. Shake off surplus. Allow to dry.



Step 5 - Paint & assemble.



Position the finished model in situ on your diorama or layout. Add 'ambience' to bring to life! 

Ingredients

Tilly Models 87065 SBB/BLS Schalthaus

Superglue – and de-bonder!

Oil paints of choice – I chose Tamiya spray paint range.

Water based paints of choice – for dry brushing on top of the dry oil paint to highlight the features.

Modelling putty is suggested to fill cavities – although I didn't find a need for it!

White glue and scenic material if applying vegetation.

Suitable Modelling Tools

Sharp knife + blade(s)

X-ACTO saw tooth blade(s)

Small paint brushes (various), Stirrer and Toothpicks

Fine tweezers (don't have to be antistatic for this model)

Flat working surface / Cutting mat / Straight edge!

Small pieces of non-toxic foam wedges (found at beauty counters!) – for dabbing on weathering colours.

Take normal precautions when using tools, glues and paints.

Step 6 - Place in position on the layout.

SOCIETY PAGES

Society AGM 2018 and Spring Get-Together

A reminder that the Society's Annual General Meeting is on Saturday 17th March at the Best Western Stuart Hotel, 119 London Road, Derby, DE1 2QR, and not at the Midland Hotel that has been the venue in recent years. The Get-Together is from 10:00 until 16:30 with the actual AGM commencing at 13:30. The hotel is just a 5-minute walk from the station and can be found when exiting the station by going straight ahead down Midland Road, leaving the Midland Hotel on your left, then turning right into London Road. Full details were in the December *Swiss Express*, or they can be accessed on our Website.

Birmingham Branch to close

Steve Buck, Birmingham Branch Organiser writes: "It is with regret that following the May 2017 meeting the Birmingham branch of the Society will cease to meet. This is due to falling attendances, which in turn means we are unable to pay the room rental. It is also unfair to expect speakers to travel from a distance to give a presentation to some eight members. We have taken this decision very reluctantly, but see no other course of action unless we are inundated with new attendees at our last two meetings. I know that other groups are suffering the same problems and I would ask all members within travelling distance of a branch to please support that branch so that others do

not suffer the same fate."

"Mea Culpa"

I apologise to Rob Morrey for misspelling his name on P43 of the last magazine. Also the signal controlling the 'line-to-nowhere' is on Platform 5 of Genève Cornavin station, not 'Cornaviv'. Rob assures me that he has now removed the pins from my effigy! Two small errors also crept into Column 2 on P12 of Bryan Stone's article. He reports that he does not keep an effigy of the Editor for use in cases such as this. Also in the article about the Brienz Bridge, Bryan should have been given a credit for his assistance in its preparation. I am also aware that a few technical errors crept into the article by The Marmot. He is currently hibernating for the winter so will not see this apology. This was a stressful issue! Editor.

SRS books at the AGM

There will be a complete range of our publications at the AGM including at least one new title. They can also be sent direct to your home when purchased from Society Sales – see inside the back cover of this magazine or look on our Website. All our books normally sell very well and any profit made goes toward the running of your Society. However one publication seems to have slipped below many peoples radar as we understand that some (including booksellers!) had assumed that it was about physically ascending the mountains. This is the excellent "Swiss Mountain Climbing – the easy way", which