

Kadee<sup>®</sup> Quality Products Co. 673 Avenue C White City, OR 97503-1078 U.S.A.

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## The Coupler People®



## #231 "Greas-em" Dry Graphite Lubricant

This fine, dry graphite lubricant is specially selected for use with Kadee<sup>®</sup> Couplers & Trucks. 5.5 gram tube Also an excellent general purpose lubricant for use all around the layout to reduce friction in moving parts and bearing surfaces. Add a puff inside your couplers, move them back-and-forth a few times to burnish and enjoy smooth action of your couplers. Ideal for reducing friction of moving parts and bearing surfaces.









## Sam's Corner

This series is to help answer the many questions about Kadee<sup>®</sup> products and to provide "Helpful Hints" to modelers using our products. Sam the Answer Man will only be available after 1 to 4 p.m. PST Mon-Thu to answer your Kadee<sup>®</sup> related questions or e-mail him at mail@kadee.com Sam will be retiring in October of this year.

Sam the Answer Man: #176 October 2021 "Trip Pins"

As a reminder, I will be retiring in October, I "might" work part time.

I'm finding that there are many modelers using our #237 trip pin pliers far too much and far too soon. Adjusting the trip is "only a last resort" after all efforts are made to proper coupler mounting. Use a coupler height gauge (our #205 or #206) as you need to make sure the couplers are at the correct height and as level as possible, no slanted couplers, no droop! If the trip pin is too low checked on the gauge or hangs up in the track you need to check the coupler height first. I've seen too many "fish hook" trip pins on videos and on layouts at train shows. This tells me the modeler/s are not spending enough time and effort with proper coupler selection and mounting. The trip pins are set at the factory to the proper curve and height and are rarely if ever not correct. The trip pin height is very critical especially if you use Magne-Matic<sup>®</sup> uncoupling. The tip of the pin should be at the right height just parallel with the top of the magnet, not hooked upward. If the pin is too low it will hit the end of the magnet, or gauge, or hang up in the track, if it's too high the magnetic uncoupling will be sluggish or not work at all. If, for any number of reasons, the trip pin becomes loose in the knuckle, the coupler is too damaged and needs to be disposed of and replaced. You can not manually replace the trip pins, they are mechanically installed at the correct off center angle and properly curved. Even with our larger scale couplers you can not replace the pins manually. Unfortunately, we do have modelers contact us and ask to buy some trip pins for a number of reasons, they may have purchased some models with couplers that had the trip pins cut off because the previous owner did not use magnetic uncoupling. Once the trip pin in is cut off you can not replace it, the coupler will probably still work just fine but now it's limited to manual uncoupling.

Please follow the coupler's or the coupler height gauge's instructions as they will help with most coupler height issues, use the trip pin pliers only as needed as a last resort "after your coupler mounting is correct".

Now take a break from life, relax, and play with your trains.

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