

## RIVAROSSO (POST 1993)

## 2-8-8-8-0 &amp; 2-8-8-2 MALLET

## #33 PILOT COUPLER CONVERSION

## PILOT

Invert the locomotive and remove the dummy coupler by pressing the pin up from the bottom enough to grip the top with a pair of pliers. The pin is usually very tight so use caution. You may have to use a punch or slide a thin screwdriver blade under the head of the pin but either way, be very careful.

Assemble the #33 coupler according to the instructions with the spring side of the draft gearbox on the bottom of the coupler and the lid on the top.

Remove the pilot wheel assembly and take care not to lose the spring, bushing, or screw.

The coupler pocket opening needs to be enlarged enough to slide the new coupler into the pocket and use the existing hole. Cut or file the sides and bottom of the pocket until the #33 draft gearbox fits over the hole in the upper pilot platform. This should remove all of the pocket material between the cross beam and the top of the "cow catcher". Do not remove any material from the upper portion of the pocket. Leaving the upper lip as part of the mounting platform (see illustration).

Enlarge the original pin hole with a #50 drill and tap for a 2-56 screw. Be sure the coupler lift bar is clear.

Place the coupler over the hole and secure it with the plastic 2-56 screw included with the coupler and trim with the top of the platform surface.

Replace the pilot wheels. If they do not clear the draft gearbox, you can file a small amount from the back of the box.

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