# RIVAROSSI (NEW PRODUCTION) HEISLER TWO AND THREE TRUCK

### #31 TRUCK MOUNTING COUPLER CONVERSION

This newer production differs from the previous models by having a "metal post" in the coupler pocket that the coupler snaps around. The earlier models had a rivet actually holding the coupler in place. The truck mounted coupler pocket is same on both production models.

**1.** First remove the original couplers, then remove the gear housing cover plate on the bottom of the truck, do not loose the screw.

**2.** Assemble the #31 coupler with the spring side of the draft gear box on top and the "thicker" lid (.030") on the bottom. Note, the current 30 series couplers have two different thicknesses of lids on the sprue, 2 thin .015" and two thicker .030" lids. The older packages of 30 series couplers have only the thin lids. If you have only thin lids then you will need to make a small shim from .015" plastic about the size of the draft gear box.

**3.** Place the assembled coupler onto the top of the post. Use a 3/8" (.375") x 0-80 screw with a washer and slip it through the draft gear box and the hole in the post then a hex nut on the end (see the illustration). Pull the coupler forward as much as possible and tighten the screw just enough so draft gear box does not turn.

**4.** To place the coupler/cover assembly into position you will have to work the assembly around to get the knuckle to fit through the step board opening. Or you can slip the coupler through the front of the opening then attach it to the post of the cover plate. Secure the cover with the original screw and check the coupler height. Depending on the individual model, if the coupler is too high you can use the thin lid instead of the thicker. If it is too low you can use thin shims under the coupler.

**5.** Again depending on the particular model, there may be some clearance problems for the trip pin and draft gear box. If the trip pin does not clear the front of the step board (the front coupler has less clearance than the rear), make sure the coupler assembly is pulled forward a far as possible, the 0-80 screw does not fill the center hole of the coupler assembly. If this is not enough then you can take a small round file and file the hole of the coupler assembly towards the rear, making the hole an oval shape. Take care because only a small amount is needed. If the draft gear box hits the under side of the end sill then you can file the top front edge of the box to clear the sill. Be sure to place the locomotive on a track to check the clearances and coupler height.