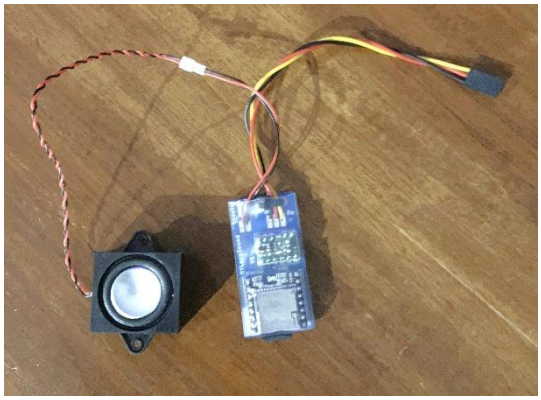
MYLOCOSOUND

Whistles for Live Steam Locomotives

Installation and Operating Manual Australasian Edition

- Easy plug in installation with no soldering.
- Uses your choice of whistle.
- For radio controlled live steam locomotives.
- Measures 50mm x 25mm x 8mm plus 32mm x 29mm x 15mm speaker

1. CONTENTS



2. OVERVIEW

The sound unit plugs into the servo four socket of the radio control receiver. The whistle sounds are then triggered by tapping the transmitter button. In the case of Fosworks this is the top right button 3.

The sound unit contains a micro SD card on which six whistle tracks are stored. Each time the transmitter button is tapped the sound unit plays the next sequential track and then returns to the beginning after the sixth.

The sound unit is delivered with the whistle you nominated when you ordered. If no whistle was nominated then a Puffing Billy NA whistle is on the micro SD card. Different whistles can be downloaded from the MyLocoSound website or, if you have a basic knowledge of editing sounds, you can create your own. At www.mylocosound.com select Whistle for Live Steam in the products menu.

3. SELECTING THE WHISTLE FOR YOUR LOCOMOTIVE

The micro SD card contains six sound files named:

01.mp3 02.mp3 03.mp3 04.mp3 05.mp3 06.mp3

When you receive your sound unit, these files will contain Puffing Billy NA whistle tracks unless you specified otherwise. If the files are the correct ones for your locomotive then you need to do nothing more.

If you want to have a different whistle then, on your computer, go to www.mylocosound.com . Click on the **Products** menu and then select **Whistles for Live Steam**. A page will open which contains a library of alternative whistles. These whistles can be selected and downloaded, free of charge, as often as you wish.

The procedure is:

- Select the whistle you wish to try and click on the adjacent download button.
- When downloading is complete, open your Downloads folder. You should see a whistles ZIP file at the top of the list.
- Double click on the ZIP file and it will open and show the six files listed above.
- Remove the micro SD card from the sound unit, place it into the adaptor and insert both into your computer.
- Extract the files onto the micro SD card and confirm that the existing files are to be overwritten.

Replace the micro SD card into the sound unit and you are ready to test the new whistles.

4. PREPARING THE TRANSMITTER

For the sound unit to work, the Channel 4 button of the transmitter must be set to momentary, not latching, mode. It will not work at all in latching mode. With the Fosworks transmitter, momentary mode is set as follows:

1. Turn off the transmitter.
2. Press and hold buttons 1 and 2, then turn the transmitter ON.
3. Wait until both LEDS go solid, then release the buttons, you are now in calibration mode and the only exit is to power off the transmitter.
4. LED2 now indicates which servo is being set, one flash for SERVO 3 and 2 flashes for SERVO 4. Press button 2 to move to SERVO 4.
5. Set the S1 (Regulator) knob to fully anticlockwise for Momentary mode.
6. Press button 3 to save this setting.
7. Power off the transmitter to leave the procedure. The transmitter is now ready for use with the sound unit.

5. TESTING THE WHISTLE SOUND UNIT

Please carry out the following steps:

1. First switch off the locomotive and check that the battery is charged.
2. With the Puffing Billy NA loco from Accucraft you can access the servo receiver in the coal bunker without the need to remove any bodywork. For other locos you may need to remove locomotive body work to the extent necessary to access the servo receiver which will probably be in side tanks or in a tender.
3. Plug the sound unit cable into the servo 4 pins making sure did the orientation is the same as the other servo connectors.
4. Make sure that the micro SD card is fully home in the card reader.
5. Switch on the locomotive power. A yellow LED in the sound unit should start flashing regularly to indicate that it is powered. If not, then check your battery charge and that the unit is plugged into the receiver correctly.

6. Tap the transmitter button (button 3 on Fosworks). A red LED in the sound unit should come on and you should hear a whistle sound. If the red LED comes on but there is no sound then micro SD card may not be fully home or you may be holding down the button too long.

Important

When operating the whistle, do not hold the transmitter button down for more than half a second. The button needs to be tapped, not held down. If you hold the button down then the whistle will not sound.

When the sound unit is installed in the Puffing Billy NA or in the cab of other locos, there is a risk that live steam will enter the open end of the sound unit, condense and cause a short circuit. Once the Micro SD card has been inserted with your chosen whistle, we recommend that you cover the open end with masking tape or similar.

7. If the sound unit still does not work then please e-mail sales@mylocosound.com and include your phone number and a good time to call.

6. INSTALLING THE SPEAKER

With the Accucraft Puffing Billy NA, please refer to the installation instructions published by Argyle Loco Works.

For other locomotives, if not required for fixing, the lugs each side of the speaker can be removed. The most common locations for the speaker are:

- Under the front buffer beam.
- Attached with Velcro tape to the bottom of the boiler between the frames.
- Under the cab floor.
- With Roundhouse tank locos, in a 3D printer coal bunker on the outside rear wall of the cab.
- Under the cab roof where only the ants can see it.

The speaker wires can be extended if necessary.

Your whistle unit is now ready for use.

7. MAKING YOUR OWN WHISTLE

To do this you need to know how to edit sound files using an application like Wavepad or Audacity.

First you need to locate good clear recordings of your chosen whistle with minimal background noise. These recordings can be:

- Sound only recordings which can be open directly by Wavepad or Audacity for editing.
- YouTube videos. In this case we recommend using the Google Chrome **Sample** extension which will extract the sound into a file while the video is running. You can then edit that sound file in Wavepad or Audacity.

Your goal then is to produce six whistle files:

01.mp3 02.mp3 03.mp3 04.mp3 05.mp3 06.mp3

We save the files in the mp3 format using best quality, variable bitrate as this gives the best sound.

In the whistle files supplied by MyLocoSound, the whistle sound is followed by an extended steam hiss sound. There are two reasons for this. First, it sounds realistic. And second, it stops the sound unit producing a quiet electronic beat when it has nothing to play.

