

# Eurostar Class 373

## Locomotive Operation and Maintenance

### Introduction

Hornby locomotives and their electric motors are precision built and treated with reasonable care, will work well for a number of years.

#### 1. **Never Connect a Locomotive direct to the Mains Supply**

Locomotives are designed to operate from 12 volts DC, which is obtained from domestic AC Mains through a Hornby Transformer and Train Controller or dry batteries.

2. Current consumption varies between approx -2 and -6 amps depending upon type of locomotive, load and gradient. There will a current surge on starting.
3. Operating current is picked up through the wheels on one side of the locomotive or tender and returned through the other side. It is therefore essential that track and wheel rims are kept clean (see page 2 – Track Cleaning Instructions).
4. Mechanisms should be examined from time to time and any hair or fluff (e.g. from carpets) removed with tweezers.

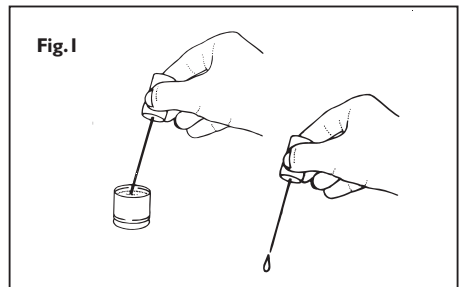
### Hints on Running

If a locomotive does not respond to the controller, check that:

1. All wheels are correctly on the track.
2. All connections have been made correctly and the power plug switch is 'ON'.
3. All fishplates are fully engaged and the track sections properly aligned.
4. The Power Connecting clip is correctly inserted into the track.
5. The instructions on Lubrication and Maintenance have been correctly carried out.
6. The direction control switch on the Train Controller is set for one way or another and not in the central 'OFF' position.

### Lubrication

1. Although locomotives are lubricated before despatch from the factory, the lubricant can dry out during storage. Lubrication should be carried out at approximately 6-monthly intervals, or every 100 hours of running time. **DO NOT OIL THE MOTOR.**
2. A light machine oil such as “3 in 1” can be used. **PLEASE USE CAUTION**, as mineral oils of this type can cause deterioration to the polystyrene plastic from which Hornby locomotive bodies are manufactured. Immediately wipe off, with a cotton rag, any oil which gets onto a locomotive body.
3. An oil dropper can be made by straightening a paper clip and sticking one end into a cork (Fig.1). Fill a small container with oil so that the smallest possible drop can be 'picked up' by the dropper and carefully applied to the correct place. Immediately wipe off any excess oil.



**IMPORTANT – Apply oil only to moving parts. Keep oil away from wheel rims and track.**

### SAFETY NOTES

- Hornby trains are not suitable for children under 3 years of age because of small parts which can present a choking hazard. Some components have functional sharp points and edges – handle with care.
- This locomotive is intended for indoor use only.
- This locomotive is only to be used with a Hornby recommended transformer.
- The transformer is not a toy. It is a “Transformer for Toys”. Before use, check that the transformer is the correct voltage for your mains electricity supply. The transformer should be examined regularly for damage to the casing, plug pins and cables. **In the event of such damage, the transformer should not be used until it is replaced with a new Hornby recommended unit. Never attempt to open the transformer yourself.**
- This locomotive must not be connected to more than the recommended number of power supplies. The output terminals of the transformer must not be connected directly or indirectly to the output of any other AC circuit derived from a transformer or mains power supply.
- Before cleaning any part, disconnect the transformer from the mains electricity supply. **Do not use any liquid for cleaning.**
- Please retail these details and the address for future reference.

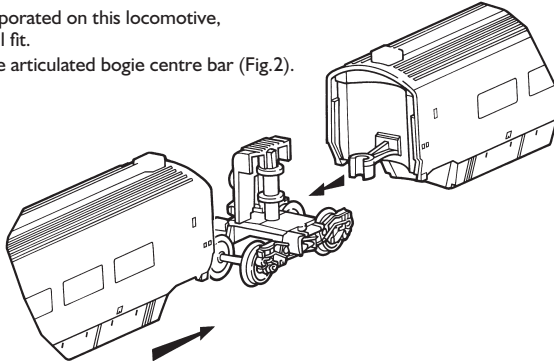
# General Information

## Coupling

The coupling system incorporated on this locomotive, is that of a simple push-pull fit.

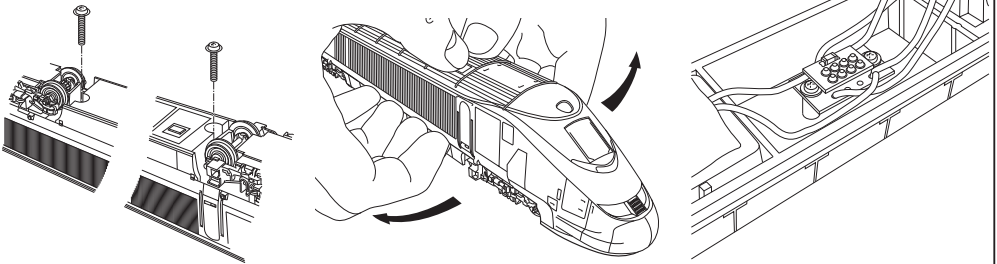
The clip locates around the articulated bogie centre bar (Fig.2).

Fig.2



## Location of DCC Ready Socket

Remove the chassis screws as shown. The body will lift off easily.



## Track Cleaning

- Coated Steel Rails:** It is essential that the rail surfaces are kept clean, as any build-up of dirt will seriously impair the flow of current to the electric motor. The surfaces should be wiped over at regular intervals with a 'Scotch Pad' or similar as available at most supermarkets. Alternatively the Hornby R.296 Track Cleaning Coach is an effective and realistic method of maintaining optimum conditions when 'pushed' around a layout from time to time.
- Nickel Silver Rails:** These can be identified by their slight yellowish gold tinge and are fully compatible with steel rails in the same layout. They have excellent electrical conductivity properties and good resistance to oxidation which requires them only to be wiped over infrequently with a soft cloth.

## Locomotive Bodywork

Hornby locomotive and tender bodies are spray painted overall. Insignia and running numbers are applied by a permanent printing process and are not 'transfers'. No convenient method is known for removing insignia without damaging the paint surface. For people wishing to change names or numbers, specialist suppliers of paint and lettering transfers frequently advertise in the model railway magazines.

## Television Suppression

This model features an effective radio and TV-interference disc-varistor. Should interference occur despite these precautions (as may be the case in close proximity to reception aeriels) it is suggested to move the layout further from any aerial or receiver.

**Extremely important:** Keep track, wheels and pick-ups clean at all times.

## Traction Tyres

Hornby mechanisms with traction tyred wheels have been specially designed to operate on Hornby track. This track has a surface which ensures that the tyred wheels have a good grip thus enabling long trains to be hauled. Any oil spillage on the running rails will cause loss of adhesion. If the performance of product drops, we recommend cleaning of track and changing of Neoprene tyres.

## Spare Parts and Service

Spare parts may be purchased from your Hornby Service Dealer, who also offer a repair service, or alternatively, contact the Hornby Helpline.

Hornby Helpline: 01843 233525 Fax: 01843 233527  
email: [customercare@hornby.com](mailto:customercare@hornby.com) [www.hornby.com](http://www.hornby.com)