



Model Train Technology

April 2021

Hello Jim,

Yes, I know its May 2021. Where did April go??

(This is a quick update and then you can expect more product news and videos later this month.)

I am catching up - quite literally on all fronts. If you have an order in the system for a Precision Detector and other related products, they are coming. I apologize for the delay. We have shipped the O scale products (which are our first O Scale products!) and now we are working through the HO

backlog. It is quite a backlog. In the meantime we redesigned the N scale mounting system and those are in production now. We have several new Signals including Dwarf Fiber signals in N, HO and O scale. Lastly, we added **Latching** to the Signal Controller. Oh yeah, our Custom Remote Control devices are in.

What happened?

On April 16th we sent a mail blast about our new Precision Detectors to the Model Railroad email list - roughly 120,000 subscribers. In that email was link to the video that you had already seen (link below) Then, as the expression goes, "All hell broke loose". The YouTube video was viewed more than 4,000 times in the first 5 days. That was ten times the usual traffic!

As you can imagine, that resulted in a flood of new orders on top of the backlog of more than 50 Installation request for Car lighting boards. This is all good news of course unless you are waiting for your order to be delivered. Again, I apologize for the delay. Our team (yes, team now) is working 7 days a week. The machines, robots and printers are running full tilt and we have other equipment on the way. As a former corporate exec in the software industry I've been here before but, this is more fun! It also means we will be around for a while and have plenty of new innovative products to share with you.

Here is a brief summary of product news and updates:

- The eco system for the Precision Detector, Signal Controller and Sound Module will now run on 5-12VDC. Previously, it was only 5VDC.
- The N Scale mounting system has been change, shrunk to scale, is

adjustable and works with Kato Unitrack rail heights. The Horizontal version is no longer needed and has been eliminated.

- The previous N scale electrical box covering the Precision Detector is now the HO scale version. It's now the proper scale.
- For T-Trak users who have a 15VAC accessory bus, an adapter will be available within two weeks that converts the 15VAC to 7VDC - which will directly power the detectors, signals, etc.
- There are now TWO version of the LED Signal controller; one for Cathode common wiring (GND common) and Anode Common (VCC+ voltage common). NJI signals are mostly Anode common as are some of the products from China. If you are not sure, contact me. All orders in the system will go out with the Cathode(GND-) version. Again, contact me if you need to change your order
- The Signal Controller now has a **Latching** feature and all but a few customers will receive the new featured version in their order.

This is how **Latching** works:

The Signal Controller has 9 built in Aspect scenarios. For example, one scenario is Red - Yellow - Green. When the detector is tripped, it changes to Red. Then after a preset time and after the detector is clear it will change to Yellow. Then it will wait again and finally change to Green.

If the Block ahead has a Precision Sensor and you connect that signal wire to the **LATCH** port of the Signal Controller behind it, the Signal controller will HOLD the last aspect (in this case Yellow) until the block ahead is clear. Once the block ahead is clear (detector ahead UNOCCUPIED, the near Signal Controller will release and change to the final aspect which is always Green. This is quickly seen in pictures and a video. It's harder to describe in

words. This is a really simple way to add some additional flair to a super simple signaling system

- Signal Controllers will be DCC upgradeable. That means that you can power and control them via DCC. Which also means that you can set a Signal Controller to the same address as your switch and both will work in sync without external software. With the Fiber version you can run the block signals AND extend a fiber to your control panel to show status. We have special 2-core pins for this purpose.
- Dwarf Signals in O, HO and N scale will be available for order next week.
- Our custom remote is finally complete. This Model Train Specific "universal" remote can be used to:

Remotely control HO Car Lighting (No DCC needed)

Remotely control our Animation Lighting Controller III



As a final note I want to mention that we are going to drastically reduce the number lighting installation that we perform. Right now there is a complete hold. I would like to find some young local talent who are super detailed and skilled to do this work for us. We will likely raise the price slightly to cover costs. We never made a profit on the installations. It was more of way to make it easy for people to buy the light boards.

I've included the link the Precision Detector video if you haven't already seen it.

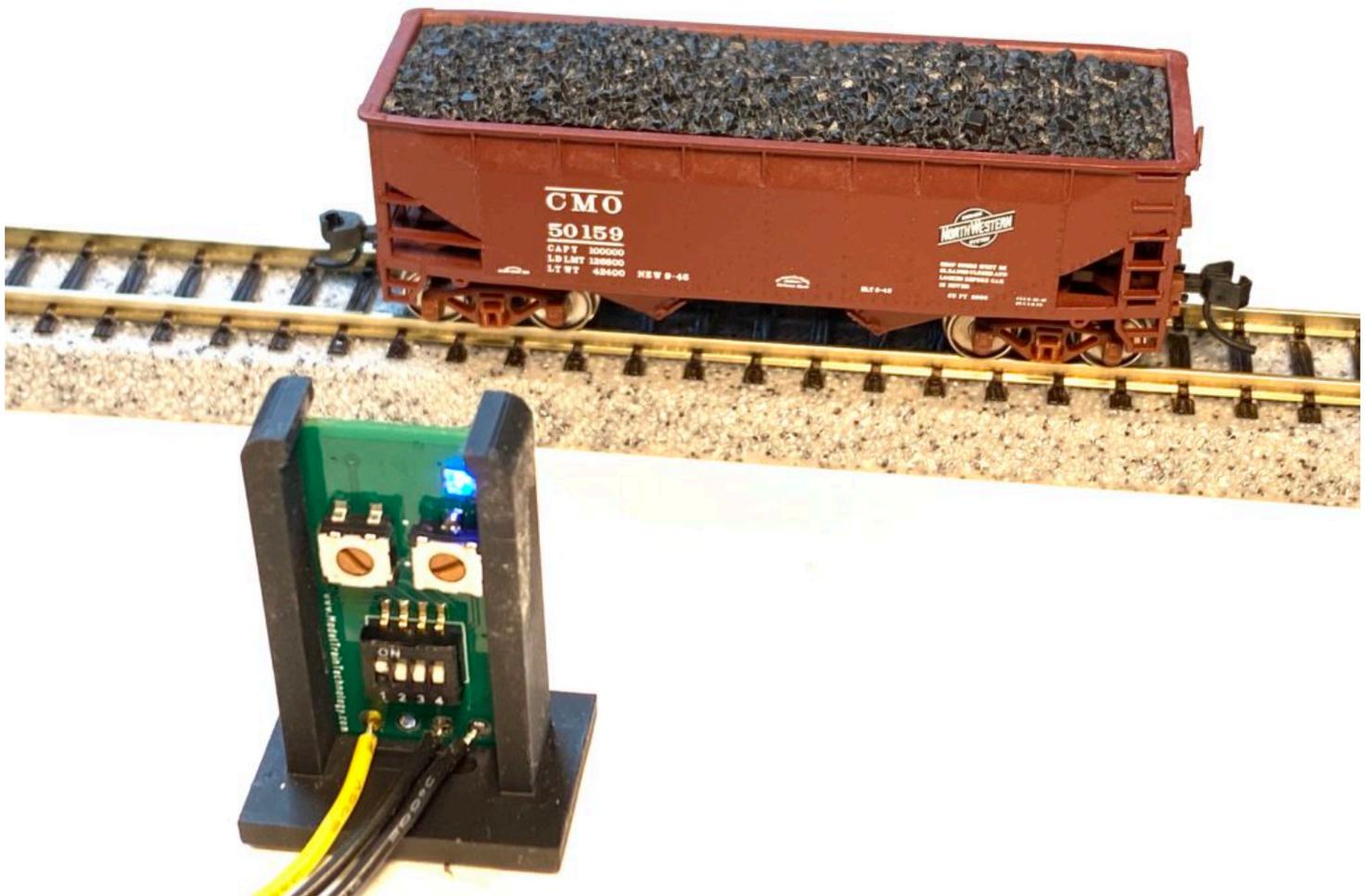
Tonight I am conducting a virtual workshop for an NMRA club in the

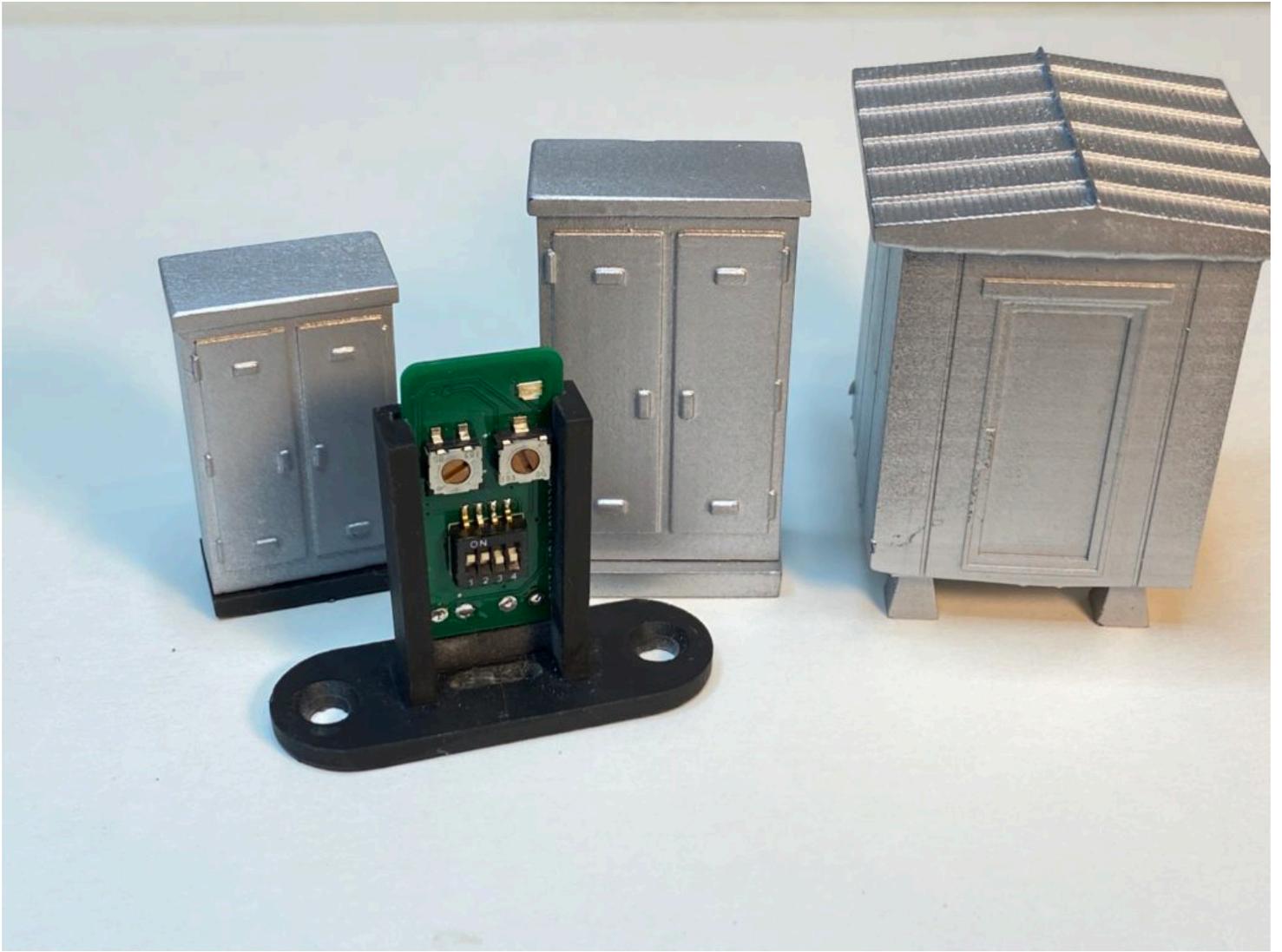
southeast. The topic is sensors, signaling and sound. I built a small loop layout to demonstrate and depending on how that goes, it will form the basis of the next few videos about signaling and detection

Thank you for all your support!

YouTube Precision Detector Video

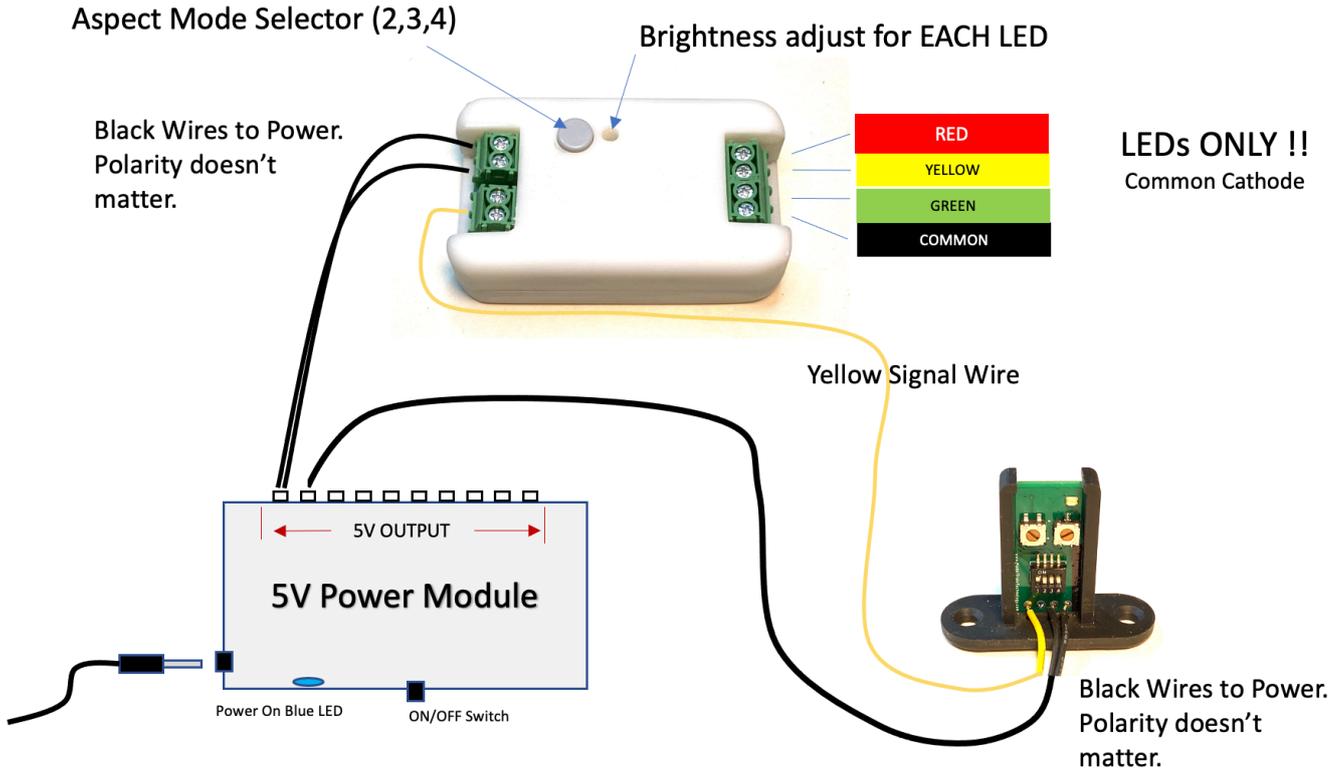
PRECISION TRAIN DETECTION:



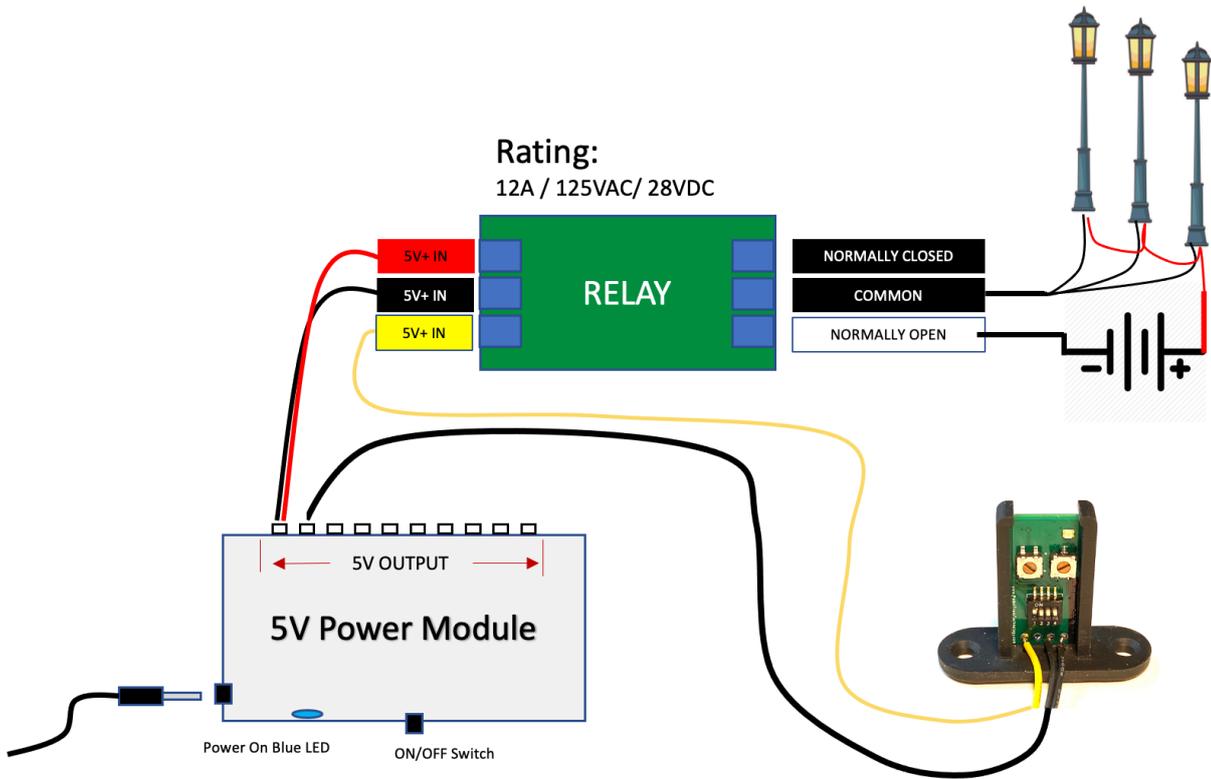


MTT Precision Detector™

LED SIGNAL CONTROLLER HOOKUP



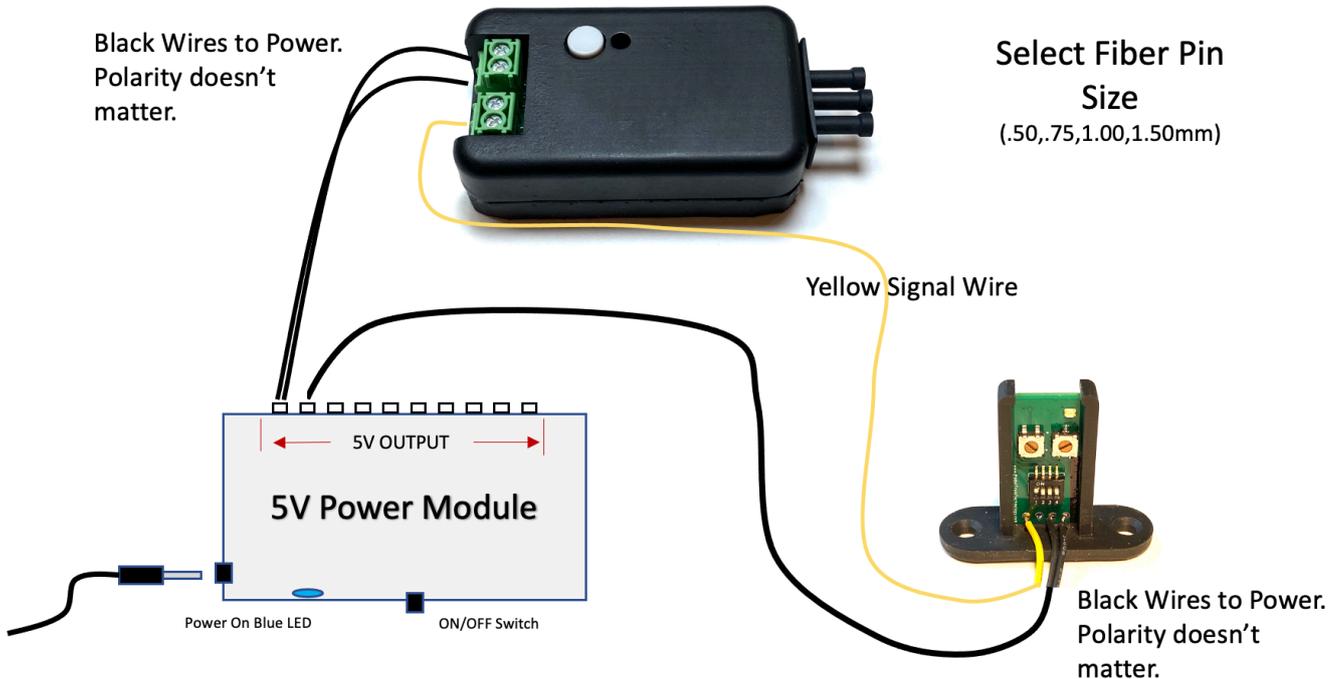
MTT Precision Detector™ RELAY HOOKUP





MTT Precision Detector™ FIBER SIGNAL CONTROLLER HOOKUP

Fiber Output Light is WHITE
Block Signal Lens are colored



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Until next time, best regards and stay safe and healthy,

Jim

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