MAINTENANCE and REPLACEMENT

1. Keep derail freshly painted in yellow gloss enamel. Besides maintaining good visibility, the glossy paint surface acts as a lubricant in the event of a derailment, easing the wheels’ passage.

2. Do not reuse a portable derail after a derailment.

ACCESSORIES

#4124-97 Derail Padlock
Brass, leaf-built

#4015-32 Magnet Base Blue Light.
Steel clip is screwed into aluminum holder to provide place for magnet to adhere

ALDON Company, Inc.
3410 Sunset Avenue | Waukegan, Illinois 60087
847.623.8800
www.aldonco.com

SaberTooth® Portable Derail

U. S. Patent No. 7,753,317

Tool-Free Installation Guide

TWO-WAY DERAILING
for FREIGHT CARS and 4-AXLE LOCOMOTIVES
For use on wood ties or full length pre-stressed concrete ties
NOT RECOMMENDED FOR 6-AXLE LOCOMOTIVES

4014-09-S

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**SaberTooth® Portable Derails** provide temporary protection against unauthorized movement of railcars and protect sidings from unexpected intrusion by rolling stock or locomotives. The derail lifts the flange of the wheel high enough to drop it off the rail and onto the ties. Simultaneously, the wheel opposite the derail is guided off its rail. Once the wheels leave the rails, forward movement is greatly impeded.

**DERAILS HELP PREVENT THESE TYPES OF SPUR TRACK ACCIDENTS:**

1. One car rolling into another
2. A loose car rolling out to the mainline
3. Unauthorized locomotive coupling to stationary car

**CAUTIONS**

1. Use locking pin supplied with derail. Do not use any other pinning device. If lost, reorder #9000 pin.
2. Do not install on flush rail.
3. Install on wooden tie or full length pre-stressed concrete tie track.
4. Do not use on steel or resin ties.
5. On curved rail, install on outside rail.
6. Use on flat track only – never on a sloped track.
7. Do not re-use derail after a derailment.
8. Limit use of derail to freight cars and 4-axle locomotives
9. Do not install where train speed exceeds 5 mph.

**INSTALLATION**

3. While adjusting tie brace against tie plate or edge of concrete tie be sure derail is level in both directions and aligned with the rail.
4. Draw derail snug against field side (outside) of rail.
5. Swing locking arm up and re-insert locking pin.

6. Tighten locking arm screw and then tighten all three screws on field side. All four screws must be tight. Derail must be level and straight.

7. Install sign holder.
8. To Padlock Derail: Install derail (steps 1-6). Do not remove locking pin. Red rings on locking pin accept short-length or long-length padlock (maximum shackle length: 3.25”). Line up red ring with yellow ring on derail and insert padlock.

9. Swing locking arm up and re-insert locking pin.
SECURING *SaberTooth® Derails* TO THE RAIL

Follow these steps in sequence to insure a proper installation.

1. Release locking arm pin. Back out all four thumbscrews so that 1/2” or less of threading shows inside housing. Put derail on rail.

2. For wood or concrete tie track, ties must be at least 19 in. apart on centers. Dig away enough ballast on each side of the tie so derail can lie flat on the rail and a tie brace notch of either step bar can engage the edge of the tie plate (wood tie) or edge of concrete tie or the rail anchor clip.

The double step bar of this derail is designed to accommodate a variety of rail heights. For this reason, only one of the two step bars will butt against the tie plate or concrete tie edge. The *SaberTooth® Derail* hook at the bottom of each of the step bars will ensure that the derail does not move more than a few inches in either direction during derailing.

Effective derailing with *SaberTooth® Derails* requires:

1. Proper rail size range. (100-136 lbs./yd.)
2. Not installing where train speeds exceed 5 mph.
3. Flat track — no grades, as acceleration may be too great.
4. Fully exposed track: ties and ballast absorb impact of derailed wheels and help bring the car or locomotive to a stop. If you have flush rail, do not use the portable derail.
5. Providing ample room off-track for the derailed car or locomotive to come to a stop.
6. Proper installation on sound wooden ties with tie plates in good condition or pre-stressed full length concrete ties made to North American designs. Do not install on resin or steel ties.
7. In curved track, installing derail on the outside rail, not the inner rail.
8. Installing the derail according the instructions in this Guide

**Clearance Above Rail**

*SaberTooth® Derails* project 2¾” above the top of the rail, thus meeting locomotive clearance requirement.

**Special Features**

*SaberTooth® Derails* are secured to the rail by means of:

1. **Tie Brace:**
   - A) Wood tie track. The notched brace butts up against the tie plate to minimize forward movement. Notches correspond to rail heights from 100-136 lbs./yd. The tie brace ends in a sharp curved point which bites into the tie if the notch slips off a worn or thin tie plate. Any backward movement is limited by the tie brace butting against the tie behind.
   - B) Concrete tie track. Notch on tie brace butts up against top edge of tie. Edge must be smooth and uncracked. Notch can also brace against rail anchor clip.

2. **Four thumbscrews** -- three on the field side, one on the gauge side -- prevent side-rolling and lifting during derailing. Blunt end of screws contacts the *underside* of the rail head with no damage to rail surface.

**TOOL-FREE INSTALLATION**, no wrenches needed
**CHOOSING A LOCATION TO INSTALL SaberTooth® Derails**

Install derail where there is ample room off-track for a derailed car or locomotive to roll into the ballast and dirt. Do not install derails near buildings, roadways, or other vulnerable objects. Depending on speed, a derailed car or locomotive may slide 50 or more feet before coming to a stop.

**RAIL SIZE RANGE**

Two-way SaberTooth® Derails fit rails 100-136 lbs./yd. Do not use this derail on rail smaller than 100 lbs./yds. as derail may not function properly due to loose fit. Rail size/section (100-ARA-A, etc.) are stamped at intervals on the rail web. If you cannot locate these marks, measure height of rail from top of tie to top of rail, including thickness of tie plate. Contact Aldon for help in determining rail size.

**TRACK CONDITION**

A) Wood Tie Track

- Track should be well laid with exposed rails, sound wooden ties, and fully-tamped ballast. Tie plates must have good edge for tie brace contact.
- Rail size range: 100-136 lbs./yd.
- Tie spacing 19”-24” on centers

B) Concrete Tie Track

- Ties must be sound, pre-stressed, full length, and of a design used on North American railroads.
- Rail size range: 100-136 lbs./yd.
- Tie spacing 19”-24” on centers

**DERAIL DIRECTION OF THROW**

Two-way SaberTooth® Derails are made to throw the car or locomotive to the field side of the track for both directions of travel. Derail can be installed on either rail.

**CURVED TRACK**

- In curved track, for more assured derailing, always install the derail on the outer curved rail. Wheels naturally hug the outer rail as they round into the curve, and thus are more likely to climb over the rail and down to the ballast. Conversely, wheels tend to draw away from the inner curved rail on entering the curve, thus reducing the likelihood that a derail installed on the inner rail will carry the wheel over the rail.
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**Effective derailing with SaberTooth® Derails requires:**

1. Proper rail size range. (90-141 lbs./yd.)
2. Not installing where train speeds exceed 5 mph.
3. Flat track — no grades, as acceleration may be too great.
4. Fully exposed track: ties and ballast absorb impact of derailed wheels and help bring the car or locomotive to a stop. If you have flush rail, do not use the portable derail.
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