AutoControls.org Williamsport, PA Videos & Notes for Automatic Controls for multiple trains on the same track — G & S gauge

A. Comments:

Technical assistance – Many THANKS to **FRED CUPP** (http://DelawareAndHudson.net) of Williamsport, Pa, for technical assistance and EDUCATING-ME, how to use DCC, and how to use the Mini Panel

The following Pages 2 thru 5 show the commands used in the NCE Mini Panel for the video "AutoControls #804: Demo of NCE DCC Mini Panel for Auto. Train Control".

Note that this word processing document is just DOCUMENTATION for my own REFERENCE, so I can remember what instructions are entered in which location . I had to enter all these commands into the Mini Panel, line-by-line, using the NCE ProCab throttle.

A person with a photographic memory could SKIP this whole documention part of the process. I'm not claiming these programming sequences are either good or efficient; it's just how I BLUNDERED my way through the project.

The Normal Operating Sequence

For the last iteration of this display (modified slightly after the video was recorded), I used "button 9" (the pushbutton connected to Input 9). This caused the Mini Panel to start executing the instructions in memory location for Input 9.

Startup: Input 9 - Turn on lights and rooftop strobe light on stationary HO D&H diesel, then link to Input 14.

S Gauge: Inputs 14-20 (page 3) - Operate the S gauge train (small loop with electric eye to position stopping train in front of station).

LargeScale: Inputs 21-26 (page 4) - Operate the LargeScale train (point-to-point with reed switches at each end of the track).

N gauge: Inputs 27-30 (page 5) - Operate the N gauge train (small loop, simple sequence, just start up, run, and slow down; no sensors in track).

At this point, I was out of instruction space (you don't want to use Input 31 unless you want the Mini Panel to start executing automatically, which I did not), so I "Linked to" Input 8 which had available space, and entered an additional 3 instructions to turn off the sound on the MRC sound decoder used for the N gauge.



About The Sequences:

Continuous Memory – Starting at Input 14, memory is set to "continuous". Below Input 14, the code in each input only executes the 4 steps for that input, unless the 4^{th} step is a "Link" statement. This is explained BETTER in the NCE Technical Reference manual on Page 3.

Spagetti Code - This looks somewhat like what programmers would disdainfully call "spagetti code" if it were in a computer program. I "jumped around" with the code somewhat, to fit it in the available memory locations.

If this was in code in a computer program, I would have used the Editor to "clean it up". But since you have to re-enter each line of instruction to move it to another location, I just "improvised" as best as possible.

Special Stopping Sequence

Although I didn't normally use this sequence, if I wanted to stop the trains and shut off their sound units without turning off the whole command station, I could use the RESET button (connected to the Mini Panel's "reset" terminals) to cause it to stop executing instructions, then use Pushbutton 4 to initiate the "all stop" sequence in Input 4 through 7.

Note that execution would stop at Input 7 Step 4, since there is no "Link" instruction, and "continuous memory" is not set below Input 14.

B. The Instructions:

The instructions programmed into the Mini Panel are shown on the following Pages 3 thru 6 .

Changes: v30: add C628 HO, v29: Link S to N, to run without G, combine stop sequences. S ga used inp 11, G ga uses inp's 12+13

((use cont. memory, starting input 14)) (set mem loc 3 = 14)

To generate "end", use Selection 7 "Terminate" under "5 other" Eng. 228=FEC, 302=Atlantic, 305=Frisco, 452=EL Cv3=acc=30, Cv4=dec=30 (1/8" drill bit for eye) 16=D&H N ga, 760= SF G ga. Command Action Summary N strt 1 | 1 Link to Input: 27 jump to Loco 16, D&H N ga. PA N strt 1 2 nop 1 3 nop 1 | 4 nop -S strt 2 1 Link to Input: 14 jump to Loco 452, S ga. Erie Lackawanna -S strt nop 3 2 nop 2 | 4 nop G strt 1 Link to Input: 21 jump to G ga.Loco 760, Sante Fe GP-9 3 G strt 3 sound off nop 3 3 nop sound off 3 4 nop All Stop 1 ~~~~> Select Loco: 16 Select Loco: 16, D&H N ga. PA 4 N off 2 Speed Fwd: 0 STOP speed 00 ~~STOP 4 4 nop 4 Link to Input: 5 ~(stop N ga) 1 F5-F8: ---8 sound off (like pushing button 3 times) 5 2 F5-F8: ----5 sound off 5 3 F5-F8: ---8 sound off 5 4 Link to Input: 6 ~(stop S ga) 6 1 ~~~~> Select Loco: 452 Select Loco: 452 Erie Lackawanna SW-9 S off 2 Speed Fwd: 0 STOP speed 00 ~~STOP 3 F5-F8: ---8 F6=strobe OFF, F8 also (sb F5-F8: -6-8) turn sound off 4 Link to Input: 7 off ~(stop G ga) 1 ~~~~> Select Loco: 760 Select G ga.Sante Fe GP-9 G off STOP speed 00 2 Speed Fwd: 0 ~~STOP 3 F5-F8: ---sound off 7 4 nop Turn off MRC Sound, end of RUN Loco 16 N ga. N snd off (part of operating N cont sequence) 8 1 F5-F8: ---(cont. from inp 30, ran out of space for commands) 2 F5-F8: ---8 8 8 3 F5-F8: ----8 4 Link to Input: 14 start up S gauge Link to S gauge **HO** light **HO lights & strobe** 1 ~~~~> Select Loco: 610 Select HO ga.D&H C628 G off 2 F5-F8: 6--8 turn on strobe (will turn sound off) 9 ~~STOP 3 F0-F4: 0---headlights on jump to Loco 452, S ga. Erie Lackawanna 4 Link to Input: 14 Link to S gauge

Input 10 - memory location not used Inputs 11 (S gauge eye), 12, & 13 (largescale reed switches) are hooked up the layout

button 1 > N ga. 27-30 +8 snd button 2 > S ga. 14-20 -> 27 N ga button 4 > all stop button 9 > HO ga. lights -> 14 S ga (button 6 > G ga. 21-26 -> 27 N g)

18	lights F0 0126-8 F8=sound bell F1 F6=rooftop strobe	1 S gauge
	horn F2 Functions, S ga. #452	Button 3 start, stop
14 1 ~~~~> Select Loco: 45		
14 2 F5-F8: -6	F6=strobe ON, F8 also (sb F5-F8: -6-8)	
14 3 Delay 4 sec: 002	delay 8 second	let sound settle
14 4 F0-F4: 01	headlights on, bell ON	bell
- - - - - - - - - -		
15 1 Speed Rev: 10	←Reverse	←Reverse
15 2 Delay 4 sec: 2	delay 8 second to ring bell	
15 3 F0-F4: 0	headlights on, bell OFF	
15 4 Delay 4 sec: 8	delay 32 second between bell & horn	delay bell -> horn
-		
16 1 F0-F4: 0-2	headlights on, horn ON	horn
16 2 Delay 4 sec: 001	delay 4 second (blow HORN 4 sec)	
16 3 F0-F4: 0	headlights on, horn OFF (F0 lights, F2 horn)	
16 4 Wait Inp: 11 Open	wait for eye #11 to be crossed (resistance incr)	wait
-		
17 1 Speed Fwd: 0	STOP speed 00	
17 2 Delay 4 sec: 004	stop at end for sec	coast to STOP
17 3 F0-F4: 01	headlights on, bell ON	bell
17 4 Speed Fwdv: 10	Forward	Forward ->
18 1 Delay 4 sec: 2	delay 8 second to ring bell	-
18 2 F0-F4: 0	headlights on, bell OFF	
18 3 Delay 4 sec: 8	delay 32 second between bell & horn	delay bell -> horn
18 4 F0-F4: 0-2	headlights on, horn ON	horn
-		
19 1 Delay 4 sec: 001	delay 4 second (blow HORN 4 sec)	-
19 2 F0-F4: 0	headlights on, horn OFF (FO lights, F2 horn)	
19 3 Wait Inp: 11 Open	wait for eye #11 to be crossed (resistance incr)	wait
19 4 Speed Fwd: 0	STOP speed 00	— Want
20 1 Delay 4 sec: 004 (6)	stop at end for 24 sec	coast to STOP
20 2 nop		
20 3 F5-F8:8	F6=strobe OFF, F8 also (sb F5-F8: -6-8)	turn sound off
20 4 nop		
	(21 thru 26 is g scale commands	Continue to LargeScale

_	-	$2 \cdot \frac{12}{13}$	lights F0 01258 F8=sound F3=coupler F4=horn 1 F6=horn 2 F6=horn 3	2 LargeSca le
21	1	~~~~> Select Loco: 760	Select G ga.Sante Fe GP-9	
_	_	F0-F4: 01	headlights on, strobe light on	
		F5-F8:8	sound on	
		Delay 4 sec: 004	delay for sound to ramp up	
_	_		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
		Speed Fwd: 18	Forward →	Forward >
		Delay 4 sec: 004	delay sec to get moving	
		F5-F8: 58	horn 2 ON, keep sound on	horn
22	4	Delay 1/4 sec: 008	delay to force horn on	
-	-			
		F5-F8:8	horn off	
23	2	Wait Inp: 13 Ground	wait for reed sw. to be crossed (resistance decr)	
23	3	Speed Fwd: 0	STOP speed 00	coast to STOP
23	4	Delay 4 sec: 003	delay	delay for de-accel
_	-			
		Speed Rev: 18	←Reverse	←Reverse
		Delay 4 sec: 004	delay sec to get moving	
-		F0-F4: 04	headlights on, horn 1 ON	horn
24	4	Delay 1/4 sec: 008	delay to force horn on	
-	_			
		F0-F4: 0	horn off	
		Wait Inp: 12 Ground	wait for reed sw. to be crossed (resistance decr)	
		Speed Fwd: 0	STOP speed 00	coast to STOP
25	4	Delay 4 sec: 004	delay	delay for de-accel
-	_			
		nop	1 66	
		F5-F8:	sound off	Continue to N gauge
		nop		
26	4	nop		
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_	-	3 (1)	lights F0 0126-8 F8=sound+ bell F1 Functions, N ga. #16	3 N gauge
27	1	~~~~> Select Loco: 16	Select Loco: 16, N ga. D&H PA	
27	2	F5-F8:8	F8=sound ON)	
27	3	Delay 4 sec: 002	delay 8 second	let sound settle
27	4	F0-F4: 01	headlights on, bell ON	bell
_	-			
28	1	Speed Fwd: 12	Forward →	Forward →
28	2	Delay 4 sec: 2	delay 8 second to ring bell	
28	3	F0-F4: 0	headlights on, bell OFF	
28	4	Delay 4 sec: 8	delay second between bell & horn	delay bell -> horn
-	-			
29	1	F0-F4: 0-2	headlights on, horn ON	horn
29	2	Delay 4 sec: 001	delay 4 second (blow HORN 4 sec)	
29	3	F0-F4: 0	headlights on, horn OFF (F0 lights, F2 horn)	
29	4	Speed Fwd: 0	STOP speed 00	coast to STOP
_	-	-		
30	1	Delay 4 sec: 6	delay second to get stopped	
30	2	Link to Input: 8	go to input 8, to turn off sound	Go To more N gauge
30	3	nop		
30	4	nop		



Summary: This "sequence" is being written to control an S-gauge, Sountraxx-equipped diesel in forward and reverse directions on a point-to-point layout.

Technical assistance courtesy of FRED CUPP

Note Eng. #452: F5-F8: -6—turns strobe & sound on; F5-F8: ---8 turns strobe & sound off