



(Above) In 1935, work began on specially equipped and lettered cars for what was initially called “PMT service.” The “PMT” stood for Pacific Motor Trucking, SP’s highway subsidiary which provided store-door pickup and delivery at either end of the rail journey of LCL (and occasionally carload) freight between principal cities. Starting in January, 1933, this cargo was handled in baggage cars, but SP decided to inaugurate dedicated “Overnight” trains for this service. The first ones operated on October 22, 1935 between San Francisco and Los Angeles. The car is black with Daylight Orange striping outlining the car body and door, and the same orange lettering. Incidentally, use of the orange color predates introduction of the *Daylight* train itself; it is in fact Pacific Fruit Express orange, introduced in 1929. Original car number was SP 37608. (Southern Pacific photo, SUL)

(Below) Much has been made over the years about this “photograph” of a full-length wing emblem for the Overnight cars. As is visible on close examination of this unaltered image of the original artwork, the raised ink lines made by a drafting pen are clearly evident. This was obviously created on a print of the photo at the top of the page (background has been airbrushed, but details in the foreground trackage confirm the identification), was merely a proposal for possible painting and lettering, and was never applied to an actual car. The wing emblem itself, however, was used in advertising for the “Overnight” train service; see page 224. (Steve Peery collection)



(Above) In the fall of 1935, SP equipped 45 cars of classes B-50-15 and -16 for passenger service, including steel wheels and high-speed axles along with steam and signal lines. The cars were painted SP’s passenger color, Dark Olive, with gold lettering. Initially car numbers remained the same (these are 14932 and 15755); in March, 1936, they would become 9004 and 9015, respectively. The placard by the doors reads, “THIS CAR IS ASSIGNED TO EXCLUSIVE MISCELLANEOUS MIXED TRAIN SERVICE AND WILL RETURN TO OAKLAND WHEN EMPTY.”

(Below) By the summer of 1936, however, steel sheathing began to be applied, along with this eye-catching black and orange paint scheme. Number 9107 originally was no. 37393. (both photos, Southern Pacific, SUL)

