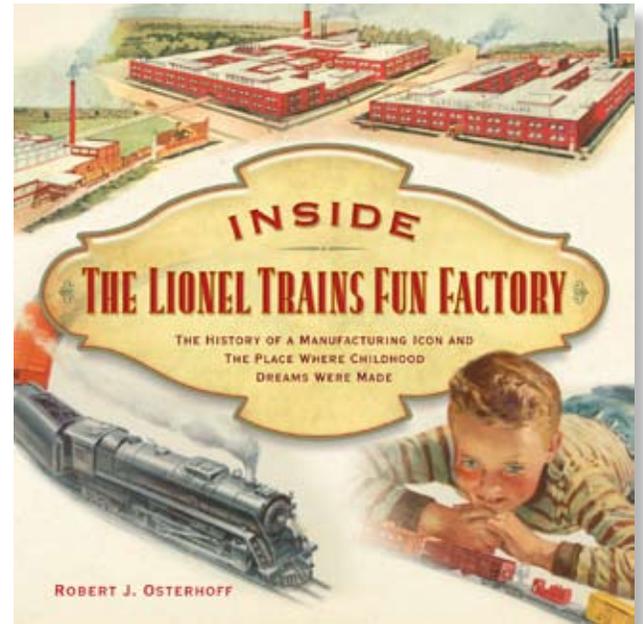


Midwest Book Review

Few toys are of such an iconic force for nostalgia as the Lionel model train. Lionel train expert Robert J. Osterhoff draws upon his many years of research and expertise to present a superbly illustrated and definitively informative history of the Lionel model train company and its enduringly popular toy train creations that were to thrill children (and adults!) here at home and around the world. It's not widely known that the Lionel company was one of America's first mass market manufacturing factories. Osterhoff lays out the origins and early years of the company in the first of four major parts comprising "Inside The Lionel Trains Fun Factory" in 'Building the Fun Factories'. Part II covers 'New Opportunities & Diversification', Part III features 'Lionelers & Their Inventiveness', and Part V is a compilation of appendices detailing Lionel Factor Departments; Timeline of Major Lionel Fun Factories; and Lionel Patents. Enhanced with a bibliography and an index, "Inside The Lionel Trains Fun Factory" is **a model of meticulous scholarship, thoroughly 'reader friendly', and a welcome addition to personal, community, and academic library American Popular Culture History collections** in general, and the supplemental reading lists of all model railroading enthusiasts in particular.



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