

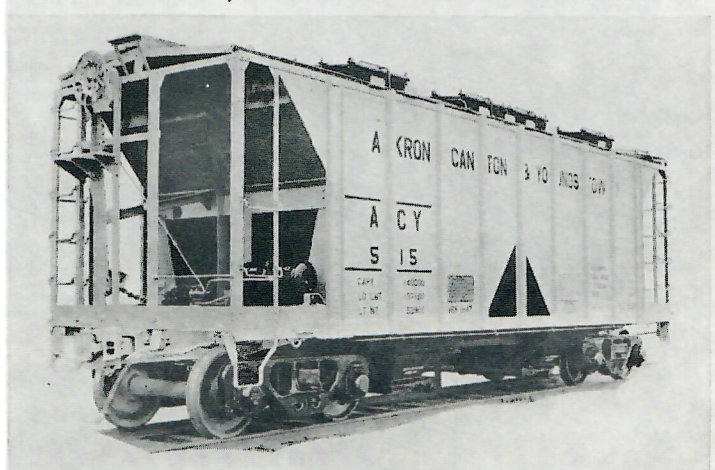
Early AC&Y 70-Ton Covered Hoppers

by Mike Bradley

In 1942, the Akron, Canton and Youngstown Railroad acquired fifteen 70-ton covered hopper cars numbered 500-514. A second order for 25 additional cars followed in June 1947 and were numbered 515-539. These cars were built by American Car & Foundry (ACF) using a design developed by that company in 1939. The ACF cars carried a capacity of 1,892 cubic feet and 140,000 lbs. The inside length was 29'3" and the outside was 35'9". Both series had the same general appearance with distinctive triangular openings at the center of the side sheets and 8 square roof hatches. There were some differences. The trucks were not the same type. The first series ordered in 1942 rode on AAR standard Bettendorfs with friction bearings. The second series had National Type B trucks and Timken roller bearings.

These cars had a long life on the AC&Y. Of the forty total cars, thirty-eight were still in service in July 1967 and thirty-one in January 1973. Even in 1982, six cars were still listed on the roster, although all were gone by 1983. The "LO" classification designated these cars for "special loading" only. As far as we can determine, these cars were assigned to PPG in Barberton, OH (formerly Columbia Chemical), used exclusively for hauling soda ash produced at that plant. All forty cars carried the instructions "when empty return to Brittain Ohio for special loading only".

"ROLLER FREIGHT" CARS NO PROBLEM IN INTERCHANGE, REPORTS AKRON, CANTON AND YOUNGSTOWN RAILROAD



Over two years ago the Akron, Canton and Youngstown Railroad purchased from American Car and Foundry Company 25, 70-ton covered hopper cars equipped with Timken roller bearings. These cars are used for hauling soda ash to Akron and Barberton, Ohio, from points as far west as Texas. They have operated in regular interchange service on the following 34 railroads and go through regular hump yard procedure.

A. & B. Belt	C. of N. J.	D. C. R.R. Co.	I. N.	N. P. R. R.	T. T. R.R. Co.
A. & S.	C. of Pa.	D. & T. Shore Line	K. C. Term.	P. R. R.	Wabash
A. T. & S. F.	C. & O.	D. T. & I.	Miss.-Ill.	P. R. Seashore	W. Md.
A. C. L.	C. & E. I.	E. J. & E.	M. P.	P. & W. Va.	W. & L. E.
B. & O.	C. B. & Q.	G. M. & O.	Mun. & Wes. R.R.	Reading Ry.	
B. R. Co. of C.	C. H. T.T. R.R.	I. C.	N. Y. C.	T. R. of St. L.	

The A. C. & Y. stated recently that the Timken bearings under these cars have given a remarkable performance. No maintenance whatever has been required and no delays chargeable to Timken bearings have occurred.

The A. C. & Y. also said that they selected one car for lubrication tests and that this car has operated fourteen months without the addition of lubricant in the journal boxes.

THE TIMKEN ROLLER BEARING COMPANY, CANTON 6, OHIO
CABLE ADDRESS "TIMROSD"

TIMKEN
TRADE MARK REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
RAILWAY ROLLER BEARINGS

NOT JUST A BALL — NOT JUST A ROLLER — THE TIMKEN TAPERED ROLLER — BEARING TAKES RADIAL AND THRUST — LOADS OR ANY COMBINATION

Above right: This Timken as appeared in 1948 trade magazines. Roller-bearing equipped cars were new to the railroads in those days, often causing handling problems. ACY 515-539 carried operating instructions that hand brakes must be "set-up" when cars were "set out". Courtesy Timken Company of Canton, Ohio.



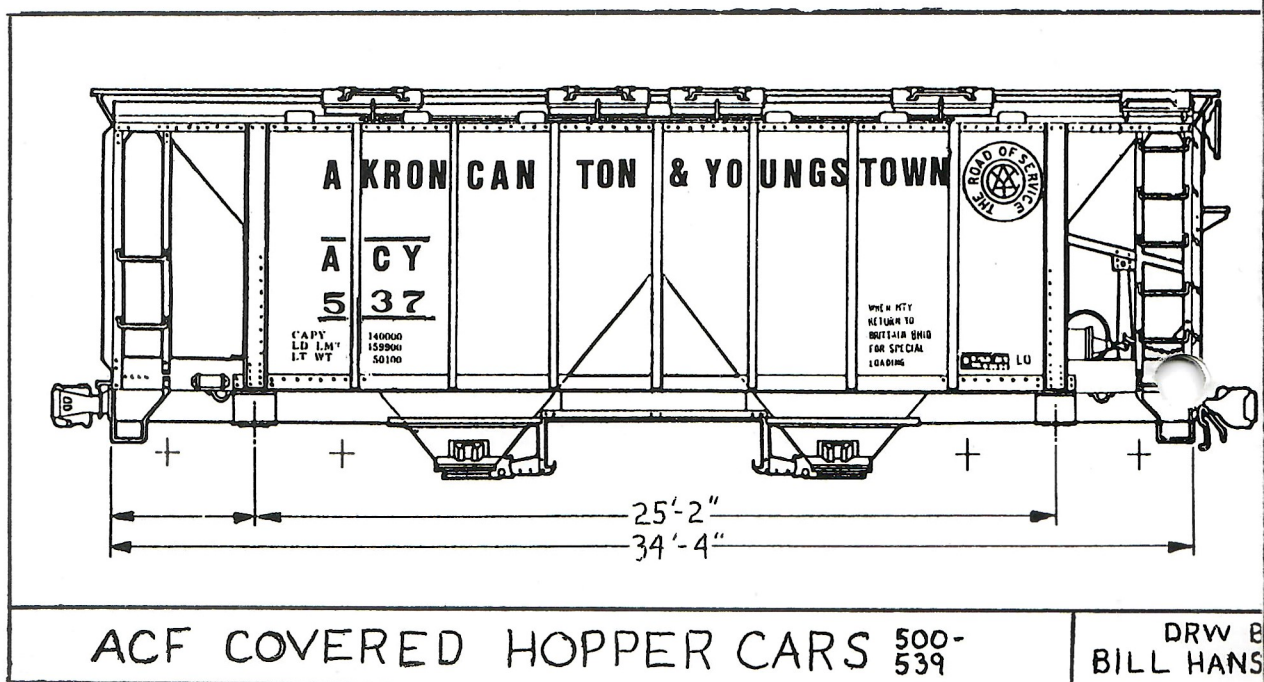
Above: One of the second series built in 1947 with unique National B Roller-Bearing trucks, ACY 535 has been repainted black with white lettering sometime before September, 1954. Photo courtesy of Bob Lorenz.

Over the years, AC&Y's 70-ton ACF covered hoppers wore a number of paint schemes. All cars delivered new from ACF were light grey with "Akron, Canton and Youngstown" spelled out along the top. Ends, underbody and trucks were black. The roof was also black for ACY 515-539. All lettering was black with no heralds. Some grey cars were repainted black in the early-50's with white lettering including the round "AC&Y Road of Service" herald. By 1955, light grey with black lettering became the standard with both the round herald and new image "egg" herald. Late 60's and early 70's schemes were simplified to solid light-grey cars with large block **ACY** lettering in black on the top center or just ACY reporting marks.

ACF 70-ton Covered Hoppers

ACY Series	500-514	515-539
ACF Lot No.	#2293	#3049
Build Dates	5-1942	6-1947
Brake Appliance	Equipco	Ajax
Running Board	Apex Trilok	Apex Trilok
Truck Type	Bettendorf	National B
Bearing Type	Friction	Timken RB

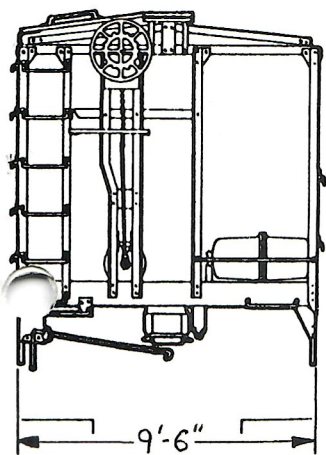
ACF Information Courtesy of RailModel Journal



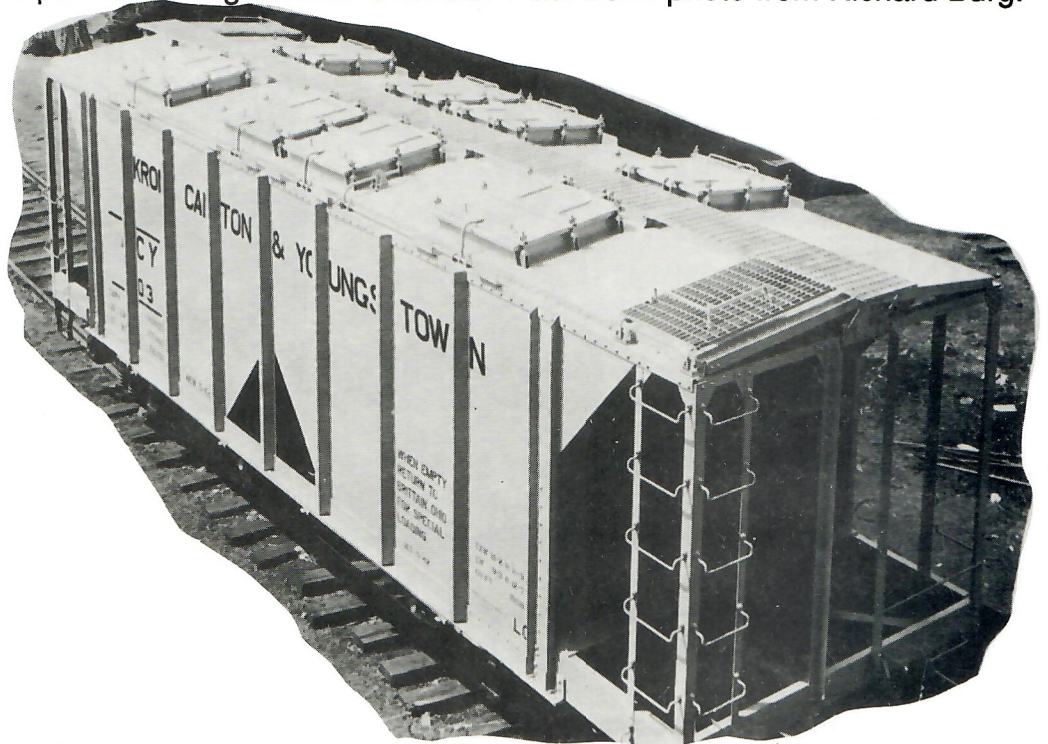
Above: ACY 500 in a mid-50's paint scheme was built by ACF in 1942. Photo from Bob Lorenz collection.



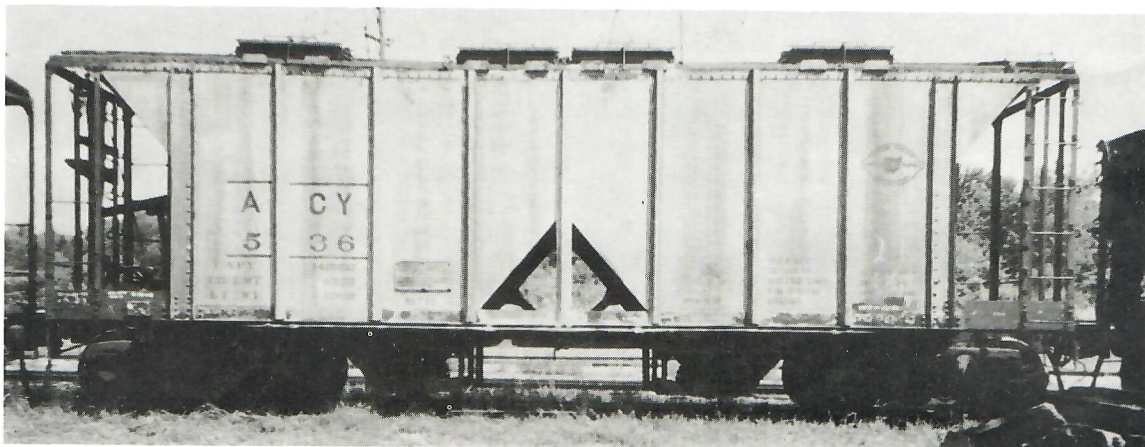
Above: ACY 537 sports new paint including the round herald. Paul Dunn photo from Richard Burg.



Y: LIK JR $\frac{3}{16} = 1 \text{ ft.}$



Above: A 1942 ACF photo of ACY 503 in the original scheme. Courtesy of Hawkins/Wider/Long.



Above: ACY 536 has a new-image "egg" herald first appearing July 1955. Howard Wilkerson photo.