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› PECO N Scale Code 55 Electrofrog #6 Double Crossover Instruction Manual

PECO SLE383F

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Model: SLE383F

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential instructions for the setup, operation, and maintenance of your PECO N Scale Code 55 Electrofrog #6 Double Crossover (Model SLE383F). This precision-engineered track component is designed for N Scale model railway layouts, offering advanced operational flexibility with its Electrofrog design.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW



Image: The PECO N Scale Code 55 Electrofrog #6 Double Crossover. This image displays the complete track section, featuring four main lines converging and diverging through the central crossover mechanism. The Electrofrog design is visible in the metallic frog sections at the center of the crossover, indicating power routing capabilities.

The PECO Electrofrog #6 Double Crossover allows trains to switch between two parallel tracks in both directions, or to cross from one track to the other. The "Electrofrog" designation means the frog (the V-shaped metal piece where rails cross) is live and can be wired to match the polarity of the approaching train, ensuring smooth running and preventing short circuits, especially for locomotives with short wheelbases.

Code 55 refers to the height of the rail in thousandths of an inch (0.055 inches), providing a realistic appearance for N Scale layouts.

SETUP AND INSTALLATION

1. Planning Your Layout

- Ensure adequate space for the double crossover and its approach tracks.
- Consider the radius of curves leading into and out of the crossover to prevent derailments.

2. Physical Placement

- Position the crossover on a flat, stable surface.
- Connect it to adjacent track sections using standard N Scale rail joiners. Ensure all connections are tight and rails are properly aligned.
- Secure the track to your baseboard using appropriate track pins or adhesive, ensuring the track remains level and straight.

3. Electrical Wiring (Electrofrog)

The Electrofrog design requires careful wiring to ensure correct polarity and prevent short circuits. It is recommended to use a switch or point motor with built-in polarity switching for the frog.

1. **Insulate the Frog Rails:** The Electrofrog comes with small gaps at the ends of the frog rails. These must be kept clear of rail joiners or any conductive material that could bridge the gap.
2. **Wire the Frog:** Connect a wire from the frog to a suitable polarity-switching device (e.g., a PECO PL-13 or PL-15 accessory switch attached to a point motor, or a separate DPDT switch). This device will switch the frog's polarity to match the route set by the points.
3. **Power to Stock Rails:** Ensure continuous power is supplied to all stock rails (the outer rails) of the crossover from your main track bus.
4. **Check for Shorts:** Before applying full power, use a multimeter to check for any short circuits between rails or between the frog and adjacent rails.

Important: *Incorrect wiring of Electrofrog turnouts can cause short circuits and damage to your power supply or locomotives. If unsure, consult a qualified model railway electrician or refer to detailed PECO wiring diagrams available online.*

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The PECO Double Crossover allows for complex train movements. Its operation involves setting the points (the movable rails) to direct the train along the desired path.

- **Manual Operation:** The points can be moved manually by gently pushing the tie bar. Ensure the points are fully thrown against the stock rail for reliable operation.
- **Point Motors:** For remote control, point motors (e.g., PECO PL-10) can be attached to the tie bars. These motors will move the points and, if equipped with accessory switches, simultaneously change the frog polarity.
- **Route Setting:** Before a train approaches the crossover, ensure all points are correctly set for its intended route. Incorrectly set points will lead to derailments.
- **Speed:** Operate trains through the crossover at a reduced speed to minimize the risk of derailment, especially with longer rolling stock.

MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures reliable operation and longevity of your double crossover.

- **Track Cleaning:** Keep the railheads clean using a track cleaning block or fluid. Dirt and oxidation can impede electrical conductivity and cause intermittent power.
- **Point Cleaning:** Periodically clean the contact areas where the movable points meet the stock rails. Ensure no debris is lodged between the points and the stock rails, which could prevent them from closing fully.
- **Electrical Connections:** Check all soldered or crimped electrical connections for tightness and corrosion. Loose connections can cause power interruptions.
- **Mechanical Check:** Inspect the point mechanism for any signs of wear or damage. Ensure the tie bars move freely and the points align correctly.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem: Train stalls or loses power on the crossover.

- **Solution 1:** Check track cleanliness. Clean railheads and point contacts.
- **Solution 2:** Verify frog polarity. Ensure the Electrofrog is correctly wired and its polarity switches with the points.
- **Solution 3:** Inspect electrical connections. Ensure all feeder wires and rail joiners are making good contact.

Problem: Train derails when passing through the crossover.

- **Solution 1:** Check point setting. Ensure points are fully thrown and aligned for the intended route.
- **Solution 2:** Inspect track alignment. Ensure the crossover is level and smoothly connected to adjacent track sections.
- **Solution 3:** Reduce speed. Operate trains at a slower speed through the crossover.
- **Solution 4:** Check rolling stock. Ensure locomotive and car wheels are in gauge and free from defects.

Problem: Short circuit occurs when a train enters the crossover.

- **Solution 1:** Immediately disconnect power.
- **Solution 2:** Re-check Electrofrog wiring. Ensure the frog's polarity is switching correctly and there are no accidental bridges between the frog and stock rails.
- **Solution 3:** Inspect for foreign objects. Remove any metal debris or tools that might be bridging rails.

SPECIFICATIONS

Brand	PECO
Model Number	SLE383F
Scale	N Scale
Rail Code	Code 55 (0.055 inches)
Frog Type	Electrofrog
Item Dimensions (L x W x H)	10.67 x 5.91 x 0.79 inches
Item Weight	0.14 Pounds
Operation Mode	Manual (can be motorized with separate point motors)

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

This PECO product is manufactured to high standards. For specific warranty information, please refer to the packaging or contact PECO directly. In case of technical issues or questions not covered in this manual, please reach out to PECO customer support or your authorized PECO retailer.

For further assistance, visit the official PECO website or consult model railway forums and communities for wiring diagrams and operational tips.

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