## **Micro-Mark**<sup>®</sup> 340 Snyder Ave., Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922 Tech Support: 908-464-1094, 1 pm – 5 pm ET MMTechService@micromark.com

## WATER-SLIDE SURFACE DETAILS - INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

Create rivet patterns, louvers, grill work, safety tread and other surface details with this special water-slide decal paper. It's easy to apply, and, with a few simple techniques, will add a wealth of detail to your models. We've shown a locomotive tender in our example below, but these details may be added to model planes, ships, cars, trucks, military vehicles, machinery, bridges and other structures, figures (buttons on a coat), etc.

Good surface preparation is paramount to the successful application of any kind of waterslide decal. Decals should be applied to a clean, glossy surface. This will make the decal film practically disappear after the application of decal solvents and a top coat of paint.

Note: Metal surfaces should be coated with gloss paint, either clear or tinted, to prevent corrosion of the surface from water, decal solvents and finger oils. Spraying a clear gloss coating, such as Micro-Mark #82858, is highly recommended. A clear gloss coat will also seal wood surfaces, and improve the application of decals on dull or flat finishes.



Once the surface has been cleaned and coated, do not touch the surface with your bare fingers. Oils from your skin will interfere with decal application and could cause later corrosion of the surface under the decal.

Draw light pencil lines as guides for your decal applications. Then, use a brand new blade in your hobby knife handle with a metal straight edge to cut out the section of rivet lines or other details you wish to apply to your model. (As opposed to decal lettering on which you cut the film as close to the image as possible, for this product you cut the film as far away from the rivets as possible.) We recommend using a cutting pad, such as Micro-Mark #36134, as the ideal surface for maintaining sharp edges on the blade and clean cut lines. When you're ready to apply the decal, dip it in clean water for about 1 minute, then place it on a corner of your cutting mat. If the decals float free of the paper, reduce the dip time.

Apply a thin wash of decal setting solution (the kind that smells like vinegar) at the decal location and hold one end of the decal in place. Now, gently slide out the paper backing from under the decal. The setting solution helps air escape from under the decal film.

Note: This solution is an acid and will corrode metal surfaces if not protected by a clear coat...do not skip the clear coat! If the decal needs to be realigned, use a small, soft, wet brush to gently push it into position. Use a decal blotter to soak up excess water without disturbing the decal







After all your decals have been applied, apply a light wash of decal solvent to the decals, but do not touch them again until totally dry. During the drying process, the decal film will soften and partially dissolve; touching it will ruin the decal. Apply successive washes of decal solvent (letting them dry between applications) until the decal has totally snuggled down to the surface of the model and the edges of the decal film have blended with the surface. When completely dry, paint your model in the usual way...we recommend using an airbrush to avoid a too-heavy application of paint that will ultimately obscure any and all kinds of surface detail.

