WEATHERING ACCURASCALE CEMFLOS

Part 1 –The Prototype and Developing the Method

By David Wager

The Prototype

Getting photographs of wagons as an aid to weathering is not always easy, especially colour photographs which make the task somewhat easier. Good close up pictures of Cemflos for the period, mid to late 60' for example are rare. This is the period I was modelling, and it took extensive research to gather enough information to be able to accurately represent Cemflos which had been in service for between 4 and 6 years. It helped to look at more recent photographs of later period wagons, PCA's for example that had been subjected to the similar duties for the same period of time. Enough information was eventually cobbled together, and hopefully the weathering applied correctly depicts the Cemflos subjected to deterioration and gathering of spillages over the period modelled.
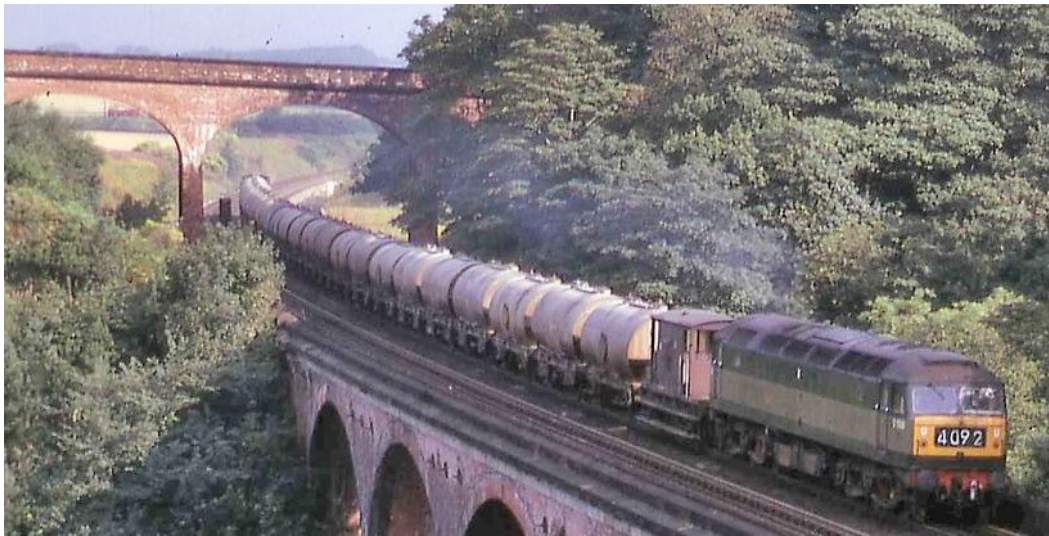
Black and white, no problem

Whoops!

Colour – not close enough

Too new

As good as it gets

More recent wagons (similar duties) – thanks Mick

Weathering was started on two Cemflos by applying base coats of Life Colour Tensocrom colours and panel line washes. These were taken along to one of Pendon Museum weathering courses, where Tim Shackleton and Mick Bonwick tutored us on new, (to me anyway) weathering techniques that could be applied to the Cemflos. Quite surprisingly a set of oil paints came out, but it worked. This, together with some additional experimentation back home resulted in the two weathered wagons as below. The weathering represents general corrosion of the aluminium tank, repeated cement spillage, staining from hatch lubrication, and an underframe suffering an accumulation of dirt, but with relatively light corrosion.

Compare the pristine

There was another 10 wagons to weather. These would also show spillage, some corrosion and accumulated dirt, but to a lesser extent than the first 2. A couple of them would be fairly new into operation to give some variety in the rake. Importantly the same basic colour palette would be used.