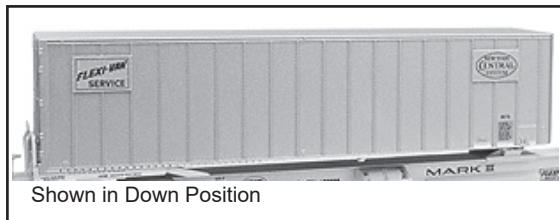


WALTHERS Flexi-Van Trailer 949-2600 Series



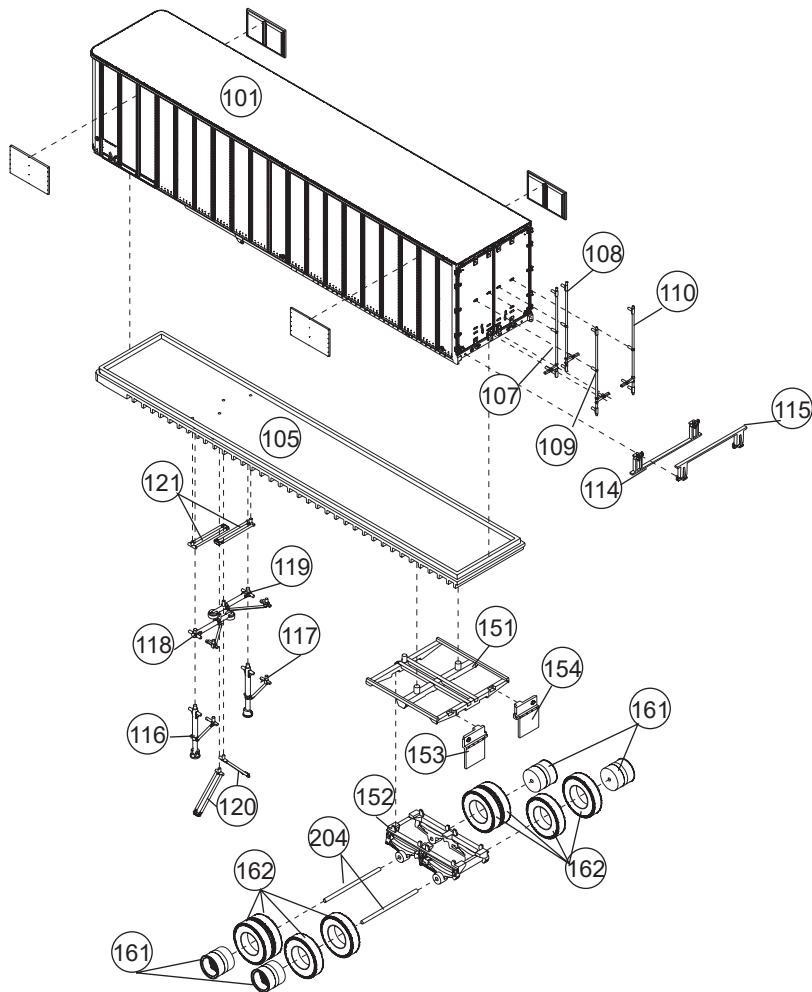
As trailer-on-flat-car (TOFC) service evolved in the late 50s, many roads began trying to cut costs, opening the door to new ideas. Among these was the “Flexi Van” system, first tested by the New York Central in 1957. Designed to speed loading and unloading, the system used special cars fitted with turntables and 36' trailers with removable wheel assemblies (bogie). As 40' was rapidly becoming the standard length for highway trailers, later cars carried a 36 and a 40' unit; cars built from 1961 to 1968 carried two 40' units.

Although intended for most types of freight, the system eventually proved quite popular for handling mail and the cars were also run in passenger service. While it was successful, there were limits. Specially equipped tractors were needed for loading, and the removable bogies had to be kept ready anywhere units were off-loaded. The rapid rise of containers and the acceptance of industry-wide methods for moving trailers on flat cars soon pushed Flexi-Van cars into the pages of history, but existing trailers were simply used as standard TOFC equipment with the bogies locked in place.

Parts List for Flexi-Van Trailer

101	Body	120	Landing Gear Stabilizer-Down Position	140	Side Placard #10 (PRR)
102	Body with Side Door (Not Shown)	121	Landing Gear Stabilizer-Up Position	141	Side Placard #11 (PRR)
105	Floor #1	131	Side Placard #1 (NYC, US Mail, Flexi-Van Service)	142	Side Placard #12 (CB&Q)
107	Rear Door Main Rod-Left	132	Side Placard #2 (US Mail)	143	Side Placard #13 (CB&Q)
108	Rear Door Main Rod-Right	133	Side Placard #3 (MILW)	144	Side Placard #14 (WP)
109	Rear Door Secondary Rod-Left	134	Side Placard #4 (NYC, P&LE, Flexi-Van Service)	151	Bogie-Top Frame
110	Rear Door Secondary Rod-Right	135	Side Placard #5 (PC)	152	Bogie-Bottom Frame
114	ICC Post-Down Position	136	Side Placard #6 (IC)	153	Mud Flap-Left
115	ICC Post-Up Position	137	Side Placard #7 (SAL)	154	Mud Flap-Right
116	Landing Gear-Left-Down Position	138	Side Placard #8 (SOO)	161	Wheel Hub
117	Landing Gear-Right-Down Position	139	Side Placard #9 (SOO)	162	Tires
118	Landing Gear-Left Up Position			202	Formed Grab Iron #2
119	Landing Gear-Right-Up Position			204	Metal Axle (1.0mm Rod)

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Thank you for purchasing this model. The trailer can be used with the landing gear in the UP or DOWN position. The parts are all press fit. You can glue them in place if desired, but keep in mind that the positions will then no longer be interchangeable.

UP Position

1. Assemble parts 121, 118 & 119. Press fit assembly to the floor (105).

DOWN Position

1. Assemble parts 120, 116 & 117. Press fit assembly to the floor (105).

Mudflap installation

1. The trailer mudflaps are included as separate parts. First, carefully remove the press-fit bogie assembly. To attach the mud flaps, glue parts 153 & 154 to the bogie top frame (151) as shown in the exploded-view diagram. Once the glue has set, press fit the bogie assembly to the trailer floor (101).