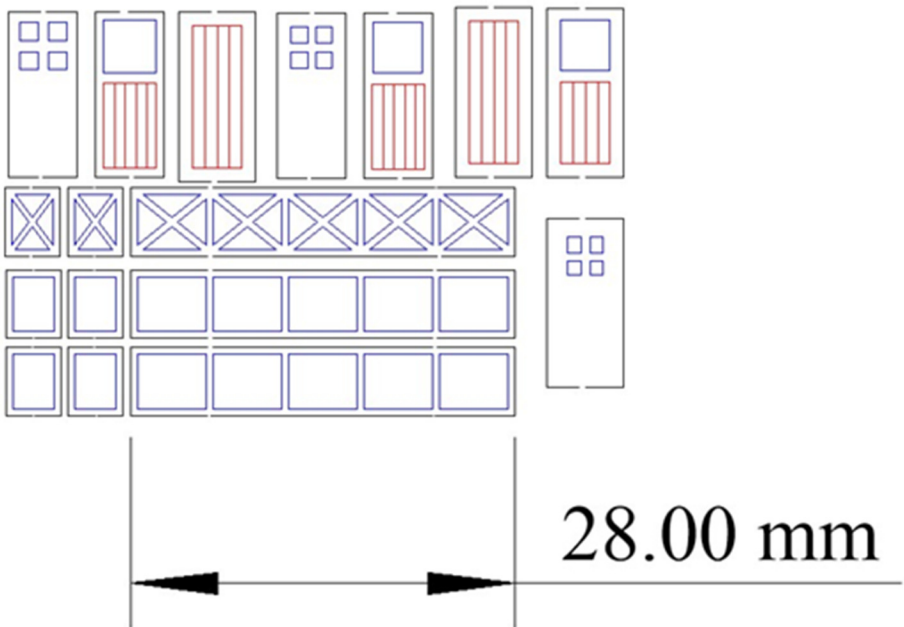


Simple laser cutting projects

I have been making more use of our laser cutter in making parts for buildings.

Signal box. This N gauge kit is made by Tilly Models of the Netherlands and is of a small Dutch signal box, specifically that which used to be at Boxtal. The kit is made from resin and is fairly well cast, only needing light sanding. It is assembled with superglue. The railings around the balcony seemed a little chunky to me so I thought I could do better. The drawing was very simple:

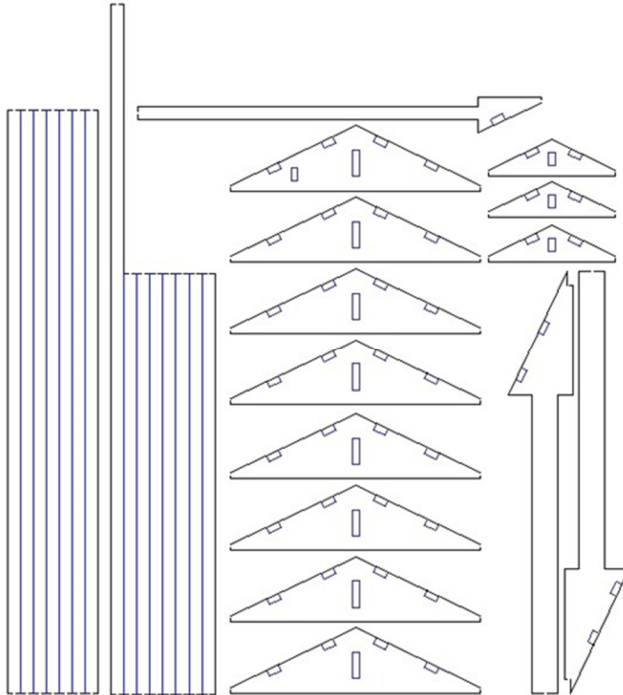


The design was for a layer with the cross bracing and then a layer for the frame. As it turned out the frame layer is not needed. The laser does not give a perfectly vertical cut so the cross bracing had ended up with a much better profile than expected. Some doors were added at the same time with slight variation in the window bars. These are 2 layers for those with windows and a single layer for the solid wooden doors. The parts are cut from 0.5mm Rowmark.

The photos on the next page show the fitted balcony and a comparison with the original kit part. The white parts in the photos on the next page are the laser cut parts. The lower photo shows the difference between the laser cut balcony and the original resin cast part.



Station roof: The station started life as a Kibri kit but has been built to a completely different floorplan. Therefore it needs a new roof. I designed this to be cut in 2mm cardboard as the parts may need to be cut about to get the finished roof shape. The card sections formed the main roof structure and I then scratch built the ends to see how they would look. The idea was to try different roof shapes as this is not a specific station but based on two similar designs to the same floorplan. The structure is very rigid and will be kept as is, there is no need to recut in plastic. The remaining 2 roof sections have now also been drawn and cut. Cutting in 2mm card produces some soot along the edges but for a substructure this is not an issue.





The roof covering will be cut from Evergreen styrene raised seam roof sheets.

These 2 projects were very simple and a good place to start. So what else could you do as a starter project? We could do with some wooden crates for the goods shed on Okehampton. We could also laser cut some plants from paper. Have a think what you would like to do and we will provide help and training.

Paul