

Dingo Servo Mounts



**Newsletter
September
2026**



Hi, once again, fellow modellers.

I trust you all made it through the Eclipse. What a wonderful experience, although sadly the sun disappeared behind the houses on the opposite side of the street before it got to it's best part.

But it gave us a new way of using the colander.

We are in the throws of building work once again. Our garage (my workshop) roof collapsed and it has had to be taken down and rebuilt in part so that we can have a really good workshop for me and for my wife, Caryl, to do her flower arranging in. The biggest heartache was having to chuck my layout in the skip as it was quite damaged and really way beyond repair. Also, there won't be place for such a large layout in the new build so that's a challenge to look forward to.



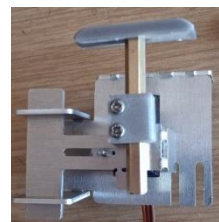
As you might imagine, this has put a bit of a crimp in my production, but have managed to stay on top of things as well as doing some really good development work.

1. Uncoupler explosion.

That doesn't mean that things went bang!

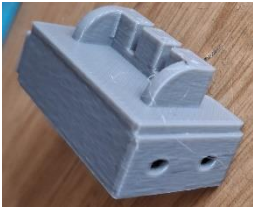
There is a lot of development work around uncouplers at the moment.

As mentioned in my last newsletter, the Tension Lock uncoupler is now available for OO and is selling really well.



On the magnetic side of things, I have recently made some modifications to the magnet holder for the Uncoupler Version B.

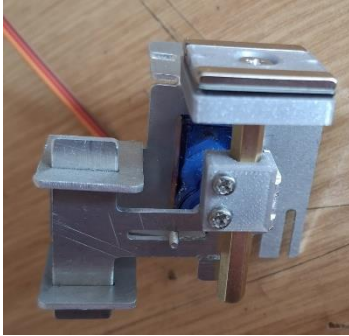
These include 2 small holes at the end of the holder so that the magnets can be easily pushed out.



On the other side I have put a M2 insert into the middle web so that a clip can be screwed in to stop said magnets from falling out.

I'm sure these improvements will be helpful in terms of assembly and operation.

Thank you to all those who have voiced ideas in this respect.



Then I have gone a stage further with 2 more uncouplers for this type of coupling.

The first is similar to the Tension Lock design but puts a small flat plate (20 x 20 mm) up though the baseboard with 2 small magnets attached – again using the Signal VerB mount as the holder.

It's a bit more difficult to fit as it need a square hole to be cut into the baseboard. There is a 3D printed sleeve in the kit which helps to cover up the cutting.

Taking things in a totally different direction, I have developed a rotary magnetic uncoupler which works by turning the magnets at right angles to the track to stop uncoupling and parallel to the track to activate.

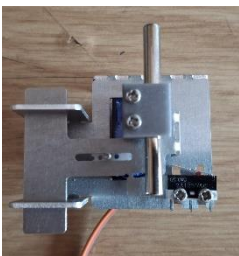
This fits onto our Universal mount but MUST use a FitecFS90 servo as its' designed for this servo boss.



I have tried both out on a demo board that they work well.

There is a video here.

<https://youtu.be/IJnLBKNcJs>



The latest trials concern a design specifically for the Dinghan couplers which is being trialled at the moment.

This could also work with n gauge Rapido coupling fitted with the Peco little metal strips.

I'm waiting on a delivery of these to try them out.

Again, this is fitted to a Signal VerB mount and has a long rod magnet.

More on this if it works out as planned.

A Word of warning when using Magnets.

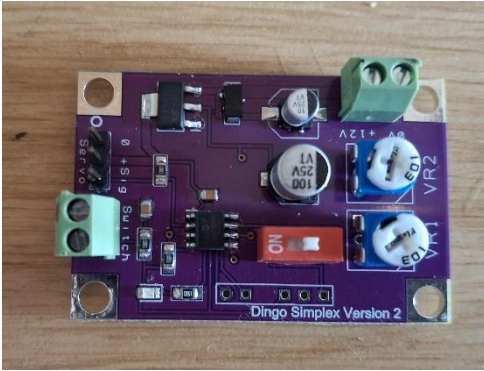
Make sure that you keep them well away from control boards as we have had a few boards go fut due to magnetic interference.

2. The Simplex Board revisited.

One of our most popular boards has been the Simplex board.

These cheap and cheerful boards are relatively easy to set up just using a screwdriver and work really well.

However, some folk have had some difficulties in the setting up as the button press and screwdriver settings are quite definitive and if they are not completed exactly as specified the firmware can be corrupted.



In an attempt to solve this issue, I have totally redesigned the board using 2 pots instead of one with switch etc.

The new boards carry the exact same firmware as our red boards but do not require the use of a setting box.

These will be known as Simplex Version 2 “The Purple one” as they are purple.

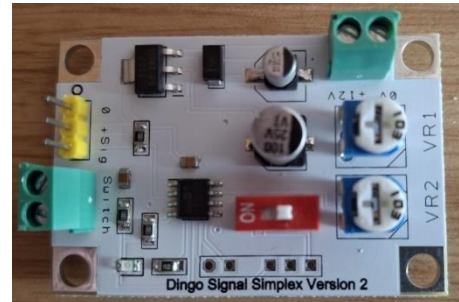
It has only a single power supply so as to keep the costs down and is put into setting mode with the DIP switch.

During testing of this board, I realised that I could swap the chip and the firmware to our “Bouncy” firmware thus making a simple signal control board. – and it worked.

We are marketing that as a Signal Simplex Version 2 “the White One” as they are white.

There is a first video here

<https://youtu.be/LcWY0yKmP0o>



Both items are now in stock, but we still have some of the older ones available which will be discounted while stocks last.

3. Continuing Laser woes!

Sadly, the other company we tried made a total dog’s breakfast of the mounts and we had to reject the lot. So, for the time being I will just keep on brushing the mounts.

I have developed a system and it’s not too arduous so I can live with that.

The downside is that the mounts are going to cost me nearly double to what they used to so may have to lift prices a bit once my present stock is exhausted – but I have plenty in stock at the moment.

4. Warranties

We have had a few issues over the years with people using cheap “TowerPro” SG90 clones bought off Ebay and other places.

Most of these board failures have been regulator failures triggered by faulty servos.

I will still repair boards that have been blown by these issues but they may incur a charge unless used with servos bought from us.

I stopped selling SG90 clones because I was not happy with the quality despite purchasing from a reputable supplier.

5. Cost decisions.

I have been inundated with cost increases over the last few months. This is especially true with the cost of PCB’s. One company I use has doubled their costs while the other one has tripled their costs.

It's totally insane but it does mean that my Boards are costing more and will need to be a bit more expensive.

I will always try and absorb as much as I can, but you may begin to see small increases from time to time.

6. And what about the holiday?



As mentioned in my last Newsletter, Caryl and I spent 10 days riding the trains all the way from St Pancras to Switzerland and back.

I was an awesome experience and we had a fantastic time.

We rode the Eurostar, The TGV as well as the Benina Express, The Glacier Express and the Gornergrat



Rack railway.

Our final day in Zermatt saw us catching a cable car to the top of a glacier at the foot of the Matterhorn. Where we went inside the glacier to see the ice carvings.



And what about this for trackwork?



With Kind regards

Dave

