

# Alco C630

"Moving Railroads Forward With Innovation"



Trains Magazine photo (December 1965)

New: 1 January 2021

In the Fall of 1964, Railway Age magazine and Trains magazine ran an Alco advertisement touting the company's latest high-horsepower locomotive. The headline read, "The Jones Already Have One;" the ad was referring to the Schenectady Builder's new Century 630 being used on the Atlantic Coast Line. More specifically, the six-axle freight hauler was the first alternator-rectifier diesel locomotive to be placed in revenue service on a major North American railroad. An AC transmission / traction system provides significant locomotive-operation improvement. First of which is approximately 100 per cent greater adhesion level, next comes lower maintenance costs, and lastly increased reliability. The engineering achievement was one more in Alco's long line of pioneering advances.

Arguably, there were four different C630 models, each slightly different than the other (depending on builder):

- C630 - built by Alco in Schenectady, NY (77 units)
- C630M - built by MLW in Montreal (56 in accordance with Alco C630 specifications)
- C630 (upgraded C628) - modified by NdeM in Mexico (20 units? in-line with Alco specs.)
- M630 - built by MLW after Alco exited the production field; an enhanced design

Total production reached 133 units sans NdeM's C628 upgrades, and MLW's M630. The 2019 Locomotive Annual magazine (and Greg McDonnell) provided an excellent overview of MLW's M-Line locomotives, including the M630. For that reason, MLW's 3000-hp model has been omitted from this profile. STATUS: Western New York & Pennsylvania 630 still active

## C630: Original Owners



Chesapeake & Ohio #2100 at Grand Rapids, MI on 7 April 1971. (Photographer unknown / R. Craig collection)



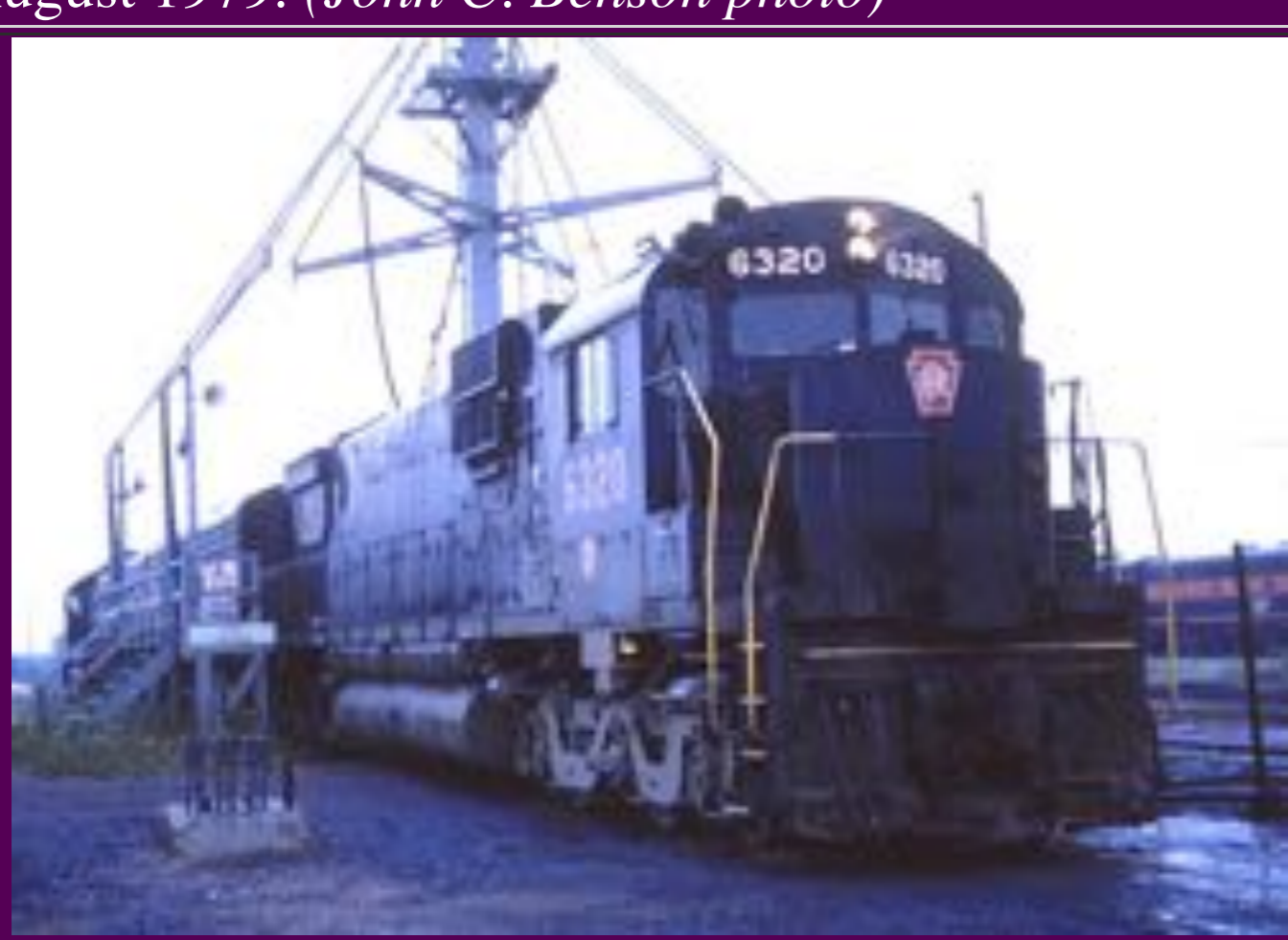
Louisville & Nashville #1431 at Sharonville, Ohio on 19 April 1974. (Dan Dover photo / R. Craig collection)



National de Mexico #8319 at San Luis Potosi on 17 August 1979. (John C. Benson photo)



Norfolk & Western #1139 at Hagerstown, Maryland on 8 August 1970. (Bob Wilt photo)



Pennsylvania RR #6320 at West Detroit, Michigan on 14 August 1968. (R. Craig photo)- need better photo



Reading #5307 at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on 5 November 1967. (Bob Wilt photo)



Southern Pacific 3153 at Colton, California on 20 October 1973. (Tom Chenoweth photo / R. Craig collection)



Union Pacific #2906 at an unknown location in May 1969. (Photographer unknown / R. Craig collection)

## C630M: Original Owners



Canadian National #2037 at Fort Erie, Ontario on 22 Sept. 1968. (R.W. Richards photo / R. Craig collection)



Canadian Pacific #4507 near London, Ontario in March 1969. (Denny Custer photo)



Pacific Great Eastern #702 at North Vancouver, BC on 6 June 1971. (Doug Cummings photo / R. Craig collection)

**Photo of FNM C630M #702 (ex-BCR 702) needed for Part 2 of this profile: second-hand ownership. It will appear in February, along with a Technical Data sheet**

All Alco C630 / C630Ms built by Schenectady Plant (New York) are scrapped unless otherwise noted

Original Buyer	Road No.	2nd Owner	3rd Owner	Serial No. (date)	Notes or Status
Atlantic Coast Line	2011	SCL 2211	L&N 8007(1433)	3408-01 (7/65)	First domestically built locomotive with AC transmission
	2012 & 2013	SCL 8008 & 8009	--	3408-02 & 03 (12/65)	--
Chesapeake & Ohio	2100-2103	Robe River (Australia) 9417-9420	--	3486-01 to 04 (10/67)	#9417 destroyed, others rebuilt; current status known
Louisville & Nashville	1425-1428	--	--	3464-01 to 04 (6/66)	--
	1430-1434	--	--	3456-01 to 05 (7/66)	--
National de Mexico	8300-8309	--	--	3475-1 to 10 (12/66-1/67)	--
	8310-8321	--	--	3496-1 to 12 (2/68)	--
	8322-8331	--	--	3495-1 to 10 (2-3/68)	--
	Built as C628s and 20 upgraded to Alco C630 specs by NdeM, including 8301, 8303, 8305, 8315, 8318, 8319, 8324 & 8326				
Norfolk & Western	1130-1134	--	--	3456-01 to 05 (5/66)	High-Nose
	1135	--	--	3480-01 (9/67)	High-Nose; now an exhibit at Virginia Museum of Transportation
	1135-1439	--	--	3480-01 to 05 (9/67)	High-Nose
Pennsylvania	6315-6329	--	--	3466-01 to 5 (10-12/66)	--
Reading	5300-5306	--	--	3442-01 to 07 (6/66)	--
	5307 & 5309-5311	--	--	3487-01 & 03 to 05 (9-10/67)	--
	5308	--	--	3487-02 (9/67)	Owned by Reading Technical & Historical Society
	7800-7814	--	--	3439-01 to 15 (3-4/66)	--
Union Pacific	2900-06	Duluth Missabe & Iron Range 2900-2906	Cartier 33, 38, 35-37 & 30-31	3440-01 to 10 (5-6/66)	--
	2907	DM&IR 907	Cartier 34	3440-08 (6/66)	Now exhibited (privately owned) as UP 2907 at Arkansas Railroad Museum
	2908 & 2909	DM&IR 908 & 909	Cartier 32 & 39	3440-01 to 10 (5-6/66)	--
All MLW C630Ms built by Montreal Locomotive Works (Quebec) are scrapped unless otherwise noted					
Canadian National	2000 & 2001	Cape Breton & Central Nova Scotia 2000 & 2001	--	M3479-01 & 02 (8/67)	--
	2002-2043	Cape Breton & Central Nova Scotia 2002 & 2042	IBCX -- 2028, 2029 & 2031(?)	M3491-01 to 42 (12/67-4/69)	--
	-- Multiple units bought by Indiana Box Corp; actual quantity unknown				
Canadian Pacific	4500	Arkansas & Missouri 70	Western New York & Pennsylvania 630	M6002-01	Remains in Service on WNY&P
	4501-4507	--	--	M6002-02 to 08 (7-9/68)	--
Pacific Great Eastern	701, 703 & 704	British Columbia Rail 701-704	--	M6029-01, 03 & 0404 (7/69)	--
Pacific Great Eastern	702	British Columbia Rail 702	FNM 702	M6029-02 (7/69)	--

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