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## About This Content

The General Electric P30CH, affectionately nicknamed the “Pooch,” was among the first all-new diesel-electric locomotives built for Amtrak, and is now available for Train Simulator.

Nicknamed after the similarities in its P30CH designation, the “Pooch” locomotives were designed around General Electric’s 3,000-horsepower U30C, but with a streamlined “cowl” more attractive for passenger service. The P30CH was also the first Amtrak diesel locomotive built from the factory that offered Head End Power (HEP), supplied by auxiliary powerplants and alternators.

As the first Amtrak diesels equipped with HEP, the Pooches first went to work hauling short-distance Amfleet-equipped trains, then were also employed on select long-distance trains such as the Chicago-New Orleans Panama Limited and the Washington, D.C.-Savannah (Georgia) segment of the Palmetto. With Amtrak’s decision to standardize on the Electro-Motive F40PH, the P30CH was destined to become an orphan in a world of F40PHs, a fact exemplified by Amtrak’s willingness to lease the Pooches to the Southern Pacific in 1978 for Bay Area commuter service.

But the big P30CHs found a pair of regular homes that extended their operational lives into the early 1990s. One of those regular assignments was Amtrak’s Los Angeles-New Orleans Sunset Limited, which called upon pairs of the Pooches to make the nearly 2,000-mile run across the American southwest. And the other was Amtrak’s Auto-Train operation between Lorton, Virginia and Sanford, Florida. The P30CHs were finally retired in 1992.

The GE P30CH for Train Simulator recreates the locomotive in Amtrak’s “Phase III” livery and features of the model include dynamic braking, rear and forward headlight control, gyalight, and classification lights.

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Also included are a Phase III-liveried Amfleet II coach, Amfleet Café/Lounge, a Heritage Baggage car, Heritage Diner, and Heritage Dome-Coach.

The locomotive is also Quick Drive compatible, giving you the freedom to drive the Amtrak P30CH on any Quick Drive enabled route for Train Simulator, such as those available through Steam. Also included are scenarios specifically for the [Miami – West Palm Beach](#) route (available separately and required to play these scenarios).

## Scenarios

Three scenarios for the Miami – West Palm Beach route:

- Northern Meteor – Part 1
- Northern Meteor – Part 2
- Take Me Out to the Ball Game

More scenarios are available on Steam Workshop online and in-game. Train Simulator's Steam Workshop scenarios are free and easy to download, adding many more hours of exciting gameplay. With scenarios being added daily, why don't you check it out now!

[Click here for Steam Workshop scenarios.](#)

## Key Features

- GE P30CH in Amtrak Phase III livery
- Dynamic braking
- Rear headlight control
- Forward headlight control
- Gyalight control
- Classification lights
- Phase III Amfleet Coaches and Café/Lounge cars
- Phase III Amtrak Heritage Baggage car , Heritage Diner, and Dome-Coach
- Quick Drive compatible
- Scenarios for the Miami – West Palm Beach route
- Download size: 331mb

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Title: Train Simulator: Amtrak P30CH Loco Add-On

Genre: Simulation

Developer:

Dovetail Games

Publisher:

Dovetail Games - Trains

Franchise:

Train Simulator

Release Date: 29 Apr, 2015

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**Minimum:**

**OS:**Windows® Vista / 7 / 8

**Processor:**Processor: 2.8 GHz Core 2 Duo (3.2 GHz Core 2 Duo recommended), AMD Athlon MP (multiprocessor variant or comparable processors)

**Memory:**2 GB RAM

**Graphics:**512 MB with Pixel Shader 3.0 (AGP PCIe only)

**DirectX®:**9.0c

**Hard Drive:**6 GB HD space

**Sound:**Direct X 9.0c compatible

**Other Requirements:**Broadband Internet connection

**Additional:**Quicktime Player is required for playing the videos

English,French,German









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amazing engine! Well worth the money! I am very pleased with it. The horn is a default surfliner horn and the bell is from Pan Am engines on the Portland Terminal DLC. If you want to see what all the passenger cars look like just go onto my profile. This engine runs well and is powerful. Once again I recommend it!. has coupling issues and trucks are lifted into the body or frame of the locomotive. this proves third party content is better than DTG.. I love this vintage Amtrak the locomotive drives, breaks, and looks great and so do the passenger cars and when you turn on the bell the strobe lights up top flash. I 100% recommend this train.. It's puzzling why DTG chose to provide this engine as it was made in small numbers and wasn't regarded as a success, nevertheless what they've provided is a worthwhile pack.

Pros:

Good loco modelling, inside and out. Rolling stock is good, with some interesting views in the dome cars. Loco sounds are well above the normal standard for DTG; plenty and depth and richness to the motor sounds with dynamic brakes sounding believable and a good selection of other run and system sounds. The horn sounds a bit generic, but as no one will ever again hear a P30CH for real, who's to say they're wrong. Rolling stock sounds are ok.

Lights are great. The cab light illuminates the interior realistically and there are three intensities of head and tail lights, so you can run during the day without appearing to have a portable sun strapped to the front of the loco. Strobes work, though they're slaved to the bell and there's also an independent gyralight.

Scenarios are entertaining, though I would prefer more. Two are night runs which bring out the atmosphere of the route.

Cons:

Physics are questionable. Acceleration and braking seem credible, but sustained speeds seem odd. Being able to hold 60 mph on the level in notch 1 and barely making 79 mph in notch 8 are questionable, but perhaps that's the way they were.

The speedometer needle isn't lit by the gauge lamps, so at night the only way you can see is by leaving the cab light on or driving with the HUD.

I enjoy driving this loco, it's got plenty of immersion factor and looks great in the Phase III livery.

. Hmm, this locomotive passes with a 95% in my book, here's why. Pros: 1. Crisp sounds, this loco, and the passenger cars sound amazing, and speaking of the passenger cars, 2. New views, You can actually look inside the dome car, 3. more features, it acts more like the actual "Pooch" would act, but now the cons. 1. No passenger cars, this goes back to the "glory days" of Amtrak service, to not include actual sleepers is a shame, well actually . . . If you go to make a scenario, the dome car is called a "10-6 sleeper". Well, Dovetail, A for effort, but you kinda messed up here. but overall, that's about it for the cons, only one. so, Dovetail didn't mess up this time, great. overall I would suggest getting this for the actual DLC, or even for some east coast services with the F40PH in the California Zephyr, Amtraks, original auto train (The original auto-train ran with P30CH's) or even with the late 90s-early 2000s transition from phase 3 to phase 4. This Loco is great, I would suggest getting it whenever you can..

Like:

Textures are good

New cab

Lots of details

Opening windows

Dislike:

Recycled sounds

Retextured rolling stock

Same passenger view as Amfleet

Rolling stock textures are bad

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Great Loco, sounds are quiet good too so i will recommend :). Train looks great and is nice to drive. Horn is ok. The short blasts of the horn seem to get cut off. The headlight on the two night scenarios doesn't really do anything. From the external view you can see that it is on but from within the cab I can't even see the tracks in front of me. If it was free I would recommend it but not for \$20.. I like this loco and the cars are great as well! My only complaint is the sound, but only in certain camera views. Let me try to explain. In the cab, the sounds are great! In helicopter view 1, however, I can't hear the prime mover at all when my camera is up close and facing the front of the loco or when I'm in a broadside view of the loco. I CAN hear the bell, horn and track sounds just fine, though. Now, if I move the camera to the rear of the loco, the primer mover sound really booms in nicely, but pan to the middle (broadside) or front and the sound vanishes completely! I generally don't have issues like this with my other locos, so I'm thinking the problem is with this loco? Hopefully, someone will look into this and correct. Someday I hope to learn how to adjust these things myself, but it would be nice to not have do it (it should be released with these problems already ironed out). One other sound complaint is I think the bell is much too loud in the cab, but it's fine outside. Otherwise, the texturing is very good and so is the physics. The cabview is nice and overall, the loco is really a joy to run! In spite of the minor sound issues, it's definitely worth a \$20 bill and the new Amfleet coaches and dome car is icing on the cake! I predict this DLC will be used a lot by scenario makers, and in fact, two or three have already jumped on the wagon!



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