CLASS 56
Railfreight Sectors

Release Version 1.0

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1 Background

Class 56 Locomotive

The British Rail Class 56 is a type of diesel locomotive designed for heavy freight work. It is a Type 5 locomotive, with Ruston-Paxman diesels 16RK3CT type, initially rated at developing 3,520 HP (2,625 kW). The 16 cylinder unit was a direct descendant from the LMS / EE design prototypes No. 10000/01 built in the late 40's. The bogies have a Co-Co wheel arrangement and were derivative of a Swiss design by SLM. The fleet was introduced between 1976 and 1984.

Once the order was placed by BRB and Brush, Electroputere soon stated work on the first thirty locomotives in 1975. The locomotives went through trail runs in Craiova to other various points in Romania, it was also seen in Russia hauling passenger stock at Bucharest station. When they arrived in the UK they were given a major inspection by BR and Brush engineers and in many areas failed to meet the minimum safety standards. The contract conditions that were agreed meant they could have gone back to Electroputere for attention, but were carried out in the UK. The remaining 105 locomotives were built by BREL at Doncaster works.

In April 2004 a deal was made between EWS and a French engineering company 'Fertis' to hire 30 class 56s for use on the LGV construction. The locomotives were given some attention such as braking systems, bogies, wheelsets, component replacement, overhauled batteries, body work and Q-tron data recording systems. The locos were also repainted into Fertis Grey livery. When their use had expired the locos were returned to the UK at various sites and were offered for disposal.

Design & Specification

Builder	**BREL**
Locomotive Weight	125 tonnes
Vehicle Length	63 ft 6 in (19.35 m)
Vehicle Width	9 ft 2 in (2.79 m)
Fuel Capacity	1,380 US gal
Vehicle Power	2,400 bhp (1,790 kW)
Top Speed	80 mph (129 km/h)
Brake Types	Air
Tractive Effort	**61,800 lbf (275 kN)**

Rolling Stock

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2 Driving the Class 56 Diesel Locomotive

Cab Controls
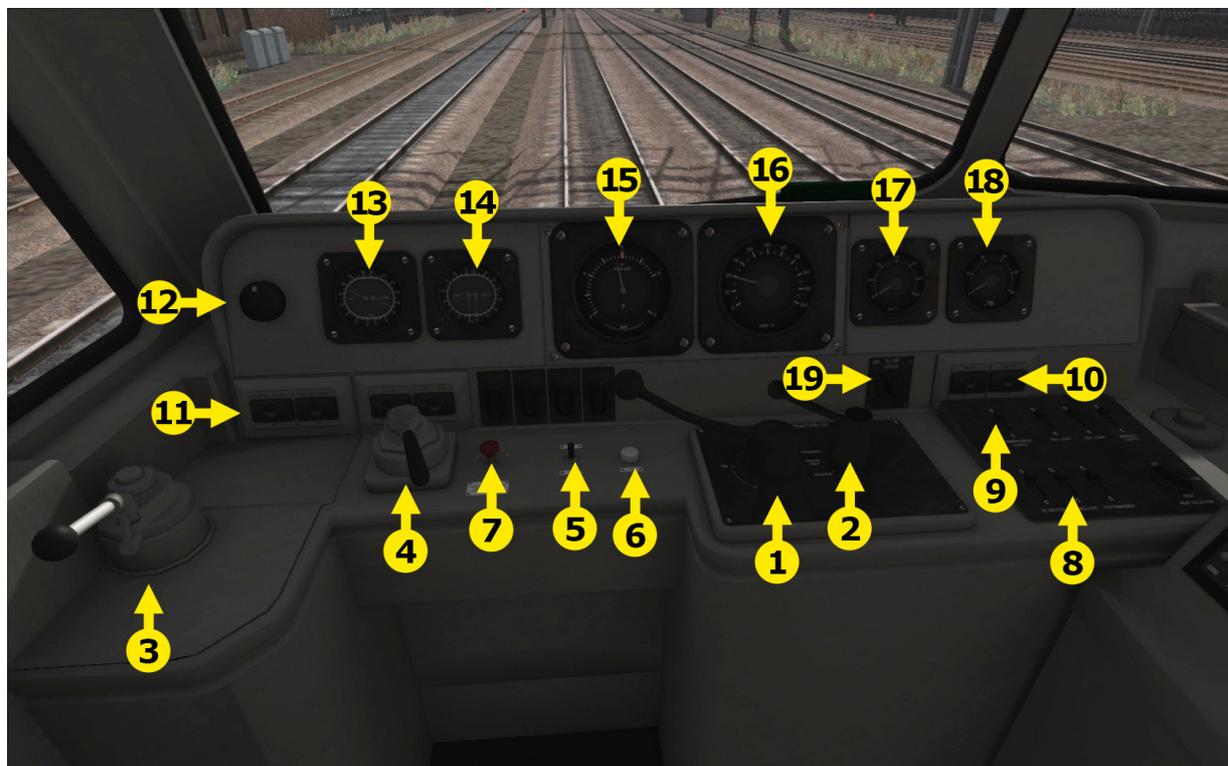
1	Throttle	(A + D)	12	Wiper Switch	(V)
2	Reverser	(W + S)	13	Main Reservoir/Brake Pipe Pressure	
3	Train Brake	(; + ')	14	Bogie Brake Cylinder Pressure	
4	Loco Brake	([+])	15	Air Brake Pipe Pressure	
5	Horn	(SPACE)	16	Speedometer MPH	
6	AWS Reset	(Q)	17	Slow Speed Control Speedometer	
7	Emergency Brake	(BACKSPACE)	18	Ammeter	
8	Headlights	(H)	19	Slow Speed Control Switch	
9	Cab Lights	(L)	20	Driver Vigilance Alarm	(CRTL + D)
10	Engine Shut down/Start up	(Z)			
11	Parking Brake On/Off	(/)			

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3 Scenarios

Training: Class 56 Simple & Expert Controls

You will be shown how to drive a Class 56 Diesel Locomotive.

This will include: How to couple up to wagons; Safety systems; and Stopping at signals.

Don't worry though, all will be explained at a comfortable pace.

[56] Heavy Going

With a heavy load of coal from Ravenstruther, you are driving a Class 56 diesel locomotive in a 'double headed' formation. Starting at Carstairs, you will take this service as far as Lockerbie.

You are currently waiting in the up loop at Carstairs to allow an express passenger service to pass. Once this train has passed and you are given the signal, you can proceed on your journey.

[56] Ready for Repair

Following the earlier failure of a Class 47 locomotive at Carstairs whilst hauling wagons for repair at Hamilton, you have been sent from Mossend in order to rescue the failed train and complete the journey.

Having arrived at Carstairs, you are now ready to couple to the stricken locomotive. Once this is done, you will be able to proceed to the wagon repair complex near Hamilton.

4 Acknowledgements

RailSimulator.com would like to thank the following people for their contribution to the development of the Class 56.

Beta Testing Team