WP Horns

QUESTION (August 2018): I am interested the 5 chime whistles used by the Western Pacific. Can you shed some light on whether they were purchased from a major manufacturer (Nathan, Star Brass etc.) or if they were of their own design.

ANSWER: WP purchased Nathan M5 horns direct from the factory. Specifically, they used mainly the R24 variant, where the #2 and #4 bells were turned backward.

Here is some more info on M5s and the M5R24 horns: <u>http://atsf.railfan.net/airhorns/m5.html</u>

As far as we know they were specified as Nathan M5R24 horns on locomotive orders. I would assume they were purchased through Nathan or a reseller by EMD and GE. Horns purchased by WP were more than likely purchased direct from the manufacturer, Nathan.