



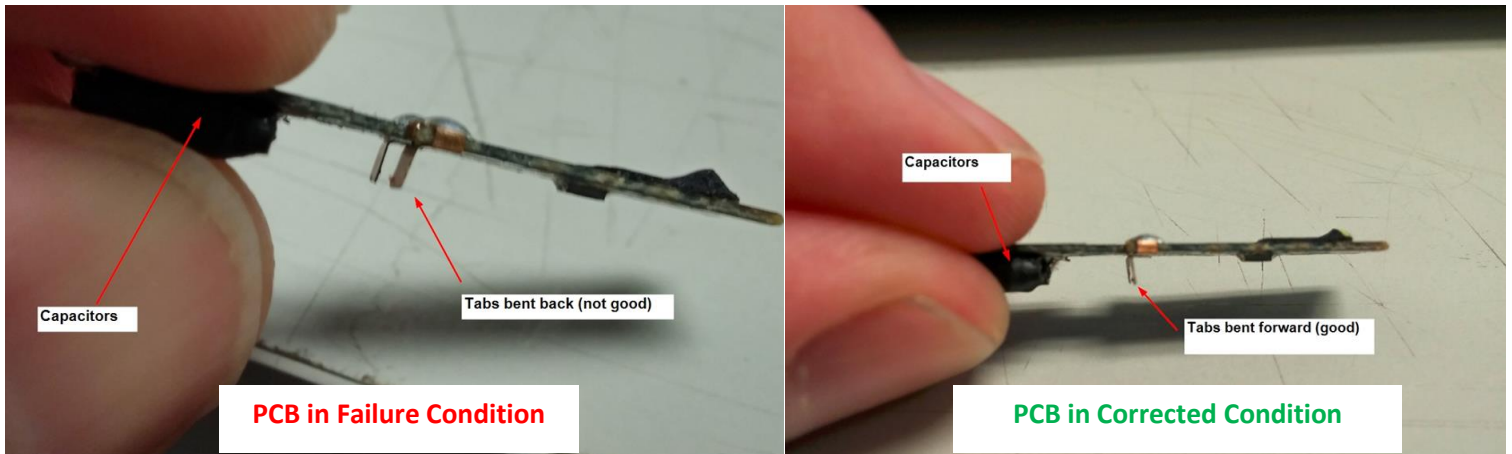
GP30 | GP38 | GP38-2 PCB

June 28, 2012 – Robert Allbritton, Co-Owner of American Z Line; Edits by Frank Daniels z.scale.hobo Nov 30, 2015

There can be problems with the GP30, GP38, GP38-2 printed circuit board (PCB). Most problems with the GP30, GP38, GP38-2 revolve around the PCB, and how it makes contact with the locomotive frame and motor. This is not a problem with the dealer who sold it to you, but is an out of the box issue we have experienced. If you have problems with the GP30, GP38, GP38-2, here are a few things you can try:

Bronze Tabs on PCB Making Poor Connection to Motor Tabs

There are two bronze tabs on the underside of the circuit board that connect the board to the long motor contacts. Sometimes the PCB tabs get a little bent out of shape and then do not make good contact to the motor. They should be at about an 85 degree angle to the PCB (not quite up and down, just ever so slightly pointing towards the front of the locomotive). They both should be at the same angle, so if one is angled differently than the other, you need to correct this. VERY gently apply pressure to bend these, but stabilize their solder connection by pinching them to the board while bending the tab. This is a very thin circuit board and it can be easily damaged if you pull or bend the tabs without supporting them ON the board at the same time.



Motor Rotation

On very rare occasions, the motor itself rotates a little in the frame and it loses contact with the motor tabs. With the PCB out, look down and if the motor is out of alignment, gently rotate the motor to center for better contact. Do not worry about the tabs shorting out on the frame, there is some clear tape on both sides of the frame with the motor connections are made that will prevent short circuits. Make sure the tape is in place before re-seating the shell.

We're here to help you!

If all else fails, contact your AZL dealer, z.scale.hobo. They will work with you to resolve the issue. Of course, you can also contact Rob Kluz of Ztrack Distribution directly at rob@ztrack.com.

Locomotive Break-In Period

AZL has found that the GP30, GP38, GP38-2 needs about 30 minutes of running to break in, but after that, it is a super runner and very strong puller. When you are breaking it in, please run it in BOTH DIRECTIONS and BOTH LEFT AND RIGHT TURNS. That will help the gears set up better. Once the circuit board makes good contact, your locomotive should be good to go. If the contact is lost again, try re-seating the board as shown above.

WARRANTY: AZL does provide a 90 day warranty in case we break it. If *you* break it, we will do what we can to help, but we have to determine who was responsible, then decide if we can repair or replace it. Be GENTLE when you are making adjustments to the locomotive. They ran perfectly well when they were shipped from z.scale.hobo so if something happened between here and there; it is probably a very minor adjustment that is needed