

Above: The connections window allows you to choose the manufacturer and the type of connection you will be using to operate your railroad. You can also switch your serial port if needed.

The icon on the right is settings (Screen Shot 6). This is where you can select the throttle configuration, set the throttle sensitivity, mute, hide unlabeled functions, set routes, throw turnouts, and check on a lot of other system settings such as the SSID of the network, and so forth. There is even a flashlight icon that when touched turns your iPhone into a flashlight, great for nighttime operations.

I found setting up and launching this application very easy and simple. I also found it easy to use. I was successful on my first attempt. Using the WiThrottle

was very easy, and I had good control of the locomotive. There is a screen that shows how many and what devices are connected to the WiThrottle Server (Screen Shot 7).

On Monday night, prior to the start of the work session, we tested this with a second and third WiThrottle. However, before you can use it in this way, you need to change some settings in DecoderPro. Click on Edit and then click on Preferences. Change your System Connection to SPROG Command Station. You may have to specify your COM port again. Save it, and you are ready to go (Screen Shot 8).

SPROG 3 works well as a DCC Command Station, and our smartphones worked well as throttles. The overall system

capacity of the SPROG 3 is 3 AMPS and 15 throttles, which means that we can run about six average HO locomotives at any given time.

If you have a smaller model railroad, have not converted to DCC yet, want to give it a try, but don't want to spend a lot of money, here is a way to get started in DCC for less than \$150 (excluding locomotives). I hope that this information helps you with the process. 📱

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