

The drawings will help you make a complete all metal animated slack wire in 1/4" scale. It is designed to use super Circus figures, but any true scale figure can be used as sizes of this type equipment vary. Sketch A, B, C & D are full size, the others are for reference purposes. Make both completed A sections first, then add C & D and other parts. Use only Brass Tubing as it is best for soldering. Cut all leg joints as shown on fig, E & F and make sure all parts fit and are clean before soldering. (This is the trick to soldering), plus the use of a good soldering paste. Let parts lay flat in position then heat good and let the solder flow around joints. When adding small parts make sure to tin both ends then a little heat will secure them without unsoldering the other parts. Before soldering the wire bearings "C" make sure they are cut square and that there are no burrs on the ends or in the hole of the tube. This is important if the animated slack wire is to operate smooth and free. Also make sure when soldering not to fill the hole with solder. As you complete the "A" frames clean up all solder joints with a file and clean with a cleaner to remove all solder paste or resin. Next make up the two landing platforms as shown and add to your "A" frames.

Now you are ready to add the slack wire through the bearings of both "A" frames. Shape your wire as shown with about a -- inch drop in center, then put one end through one of the rings as shown at fig. H and bend wire to a 90 degree so it will act as a stop. Now put the other end through the other bearing so there will be about 7 inches between frames and allow some small slack and make a hook as shown in fig. I. While we are on the wire let's at the mounting for our figure as shown in fig. J. You're now ready to mount your completed act on a panel as shown in fig. F. Drive a small nail up through panel as shown and just set frames on them. This is all the support needed so that during animation they will have a swaying motion adding to your animation

Next put on guy wires as shown using a small spring on the one end to also give play for realism and animation. Now add your animation bar as shown in fig. I and run through small hole in mounting panel, The only motion needed will be an up and down one which will in effect make slack wire go back and forth. For this type animation motor and gearing see a past article in your LCW on animation. You are now ready to paint or complete as you wish, For added realism make a small parasol for figure's hand, make a ring cover for under act or have another figure standing by pointing to the figure on the wire or even animate this added figure.

**Material List**

- 16" of 3/32" Diameter Brass Tubing
- 3" of 1/16" Diameter Brass Tubing
- 12" of 20 Gauge Brass Spring Wire
- 12" of Picture Frame Wire
- 1 each Small Sprint
- Solder

**Superintendent of Plans Comments (2/15/2003):**

1. This plan was original written in 1961. In some cases items described my either not be available or currently go by different names (i.e. Brass Spring Wire.) I would use normal spring or piano wire.
2. The "past articles in LCW" mentioned in the last paragraph are unknown as to there content or issue.
3. The instruction refer to a Figure I and J. No such figures were included in the information available for scanning.

<b>Animated Slack Wire Act</b>			
DATE: None	SCALE: 1/4" = 1'	SCANNED & REVISED: 02/14/03	Pg 1 of 2
<b>Circus Model Builders</b>			
Drawn By Walter Heist			DRAWING NUMBER <b>#0131</b>

