The members of NMRA TSD held a visit to the central of Taiwan, Hu-Wei Sugar Refinery, in January 2012.

In early Taiwan, sugar was an important contributor of creating much of Taiwan’s export revenue. From central Taiwan to the south, throughout more and more sugar mills and all use the 762mm sugar transport railway. In 1970, 762mm sugar transport railway can not only transport sugar cane and sugar packets, but is also used by the military for their transport purposes and also shares a large part this transportation with the 1067mm of Taiwan’s main railway system.

With the change of time, Taiwan’s sugar mills have been closing continuously. The equipment of sugar refineries has been sold to Southeast Asian companies.

With the closure of these mills, these sugar railways are being dismantled. Now, there are only two sugar mills still in production and this has only left one or two lines running. The majority of the harvesting business of sugar cane now uses trucks as transport to operate.

During our visit we were able to see the internal operation of the sugar mill this time, unloading sugar cane, pressing out the juice, separating, to the final bagging and storage steps.

We are recording as much information of this railway with a possible production of modelling the existing scenes as a basis for a future model railway.