

# Small Plant & Machinery

Ian Webb looks at what is new in the scale model world, and reviews models of interest to collectors.

**U**niversal Hobbies has announced two new Komatsu models available from the end of June. These are the HM250 articulated dumptruck and the PC200 hybrid excavator, both in 1:50 scale.

## REVIEWS

### Liebherr TA 230 articulated dumptruck

The BAUMA exhibition of 2010 saw Liebherr debut its long-awaited entry into the articulated dumptruck market. The truck is designated the TA 230 and can carry a 30-tonne payload. Conrad has produced this 1:50 scale model of the new truck.

The underneath of the model shows good detail of the transmission system and the suspension is modelled well with pivoting rear axles and springing on the front axle which both work very well. The rubber tyres are chunky with a good tread. The articulated joint between the dump



**Above:** The Liebherr TA 230 ADT.

**Right:** The tipping angle of the model is really good.

bed and the cab is very good and allows excellent steering movement and rotation. There are plenty of hydraulic lines running to the lift cylinders.

The cab styling is really good with excellent tiny mesh grilles on the headlights and a perforated cover on the exhaust stack.

Hand rails and mirror holders are metal and have to be fitted in place by the collector which is easy to do. There is a nice pair of beacon lights on the roof and another mesh screen on the rear window.

The dump bed is solidly made with stiff mud flaps on the leading edge. An interesting feature of the model is the dump body tailgate which is an option on the real machine. This is made of metal and has a flexible linkage which opens the tailgate when the dump bed is tipped. This works really well and the bed attains a good steep angle.

Conrad has produced a model which is typically robust and well made with plenty of interesting details. It can be obtained for around £70.

**Overall Rating:** *Highly Recommended*



# Sandvik UJ440i crusher

The Swedish company, Sandvik, has commissioned a range of models of its equipment from Conrad, and one of them is this UJ440i crusher which has been made in 1:50 scale and is now generally available. It is a heavy model, and that is because much of it is metal. There are a few pieces to fit when taking it out of the box, and very clear colour instructions are provided. All of the steps and handrails are metal, as are the main components of the machine. The tracks are rubberised plastic although they look fine, and the belts and hopper linings are rubber which give it a realistic feel. Both the fines belt and the main discharge belt can be travelled and they are very smooth.

The detail is good, with the hopper allowing the discharge of fines before crushing, and the crusher jaws are modelled well and the outside of the casting has good bolt details. A hammer is provided to break up larger stones in the hopper, and this can be posed

Left: The Liebherr TA 230 ADT.



Above: Heavy metal construction is used throughout.

flexibly with a full range of movement in the hydraulic cylinders.

Overall, this is a good looking piece of equipment rarely modelled and it would pose well on a low-loader, or with other machines. At over £200, it is expensive, probably due to the low production numbers and the heavy use of metal.

**Overall Rating: Recommended**

# Liebherr LB28 drilling rig

Ground engineering equipment is an area where the number of models made is on the increase. NZG has produced this latest addition, which is in 1:50 scale. It comes in a large box and a good instruction sheet explains the simple operations needed to assemble the model.

The LB28 is very detailed. The tracks are metal, mounted on detailed track frames and are retractable which means the model can be posed realistically

on a suitable low-loader. The cab has windscreen wipers and mirrors with excellent detail both on the windows and inside too. The rest of the body looks great also.

It excels with the piling equipment having a mass of hydraulic hosing around the winch motors and rotary drive. The kelly bar and auger arrangement is metal and a beautiful part. Functionality of the model is good with a working

auxiliary winch, and the kelly bar can be raised, lowered and rotated.

Also included with the model is a plastic base plate which allows the model to be posed as if on rough ground.

This is a high quality model, and well worth the price of £150.

**Overall Rating: Highly Recommended**



Above: The model features excellent detail.



Above: The Liebherr LB28 posed drilling.



Above: The LB28 looks great on a low-loader.

Ian Webb reviews construction models on his website and you can read more at [www.CranesEtc.co.uk](http://www.CranesEtc.co.uk)