

Small Plant & Machinery

Ian Webb reviews models of interest to collectors.

REVIEWS

Wirtgen W 100 F 'Borkowski'

The interchangeable milling heads on the W 100 are excellent.



Overall rating:
Outstanding

THE Wirtgen W 100 F Cold Milling Machine is used for removing asphalt paving surfaces and this 1:50 scale model has been produced by NZG in the colours of Borkowski, a German company.

The shaped rubber tracks are tiny and are yellow to match those supplied on the real machine. They are mounted on legs which extend and the front two can be steered also.

The body has deep grilles and panel handles are highlighted with silver paint. The operator's area is high quality with metal handrails, a textured floor, and detailed control panel. It has a folding canopy above which can be lowered to reduce the transport headroom. The engine cover opens and the Borkowski livery and graphics are represented well.

The milling drums are excellent. Three are included and an opening door provides access to allow a drum to be

fitted, where it can rotate on its mounting. Each drum has detailed picks tipped with paint which is first class work.

The main conveyor has a textured canopy to represent tarpaulin and it has good

graphics applied. The conveyor belt is rubber and the whole structure is supported by thin metal wire guy ropes. It rotates from side to side and can be raised and lowered.

This is another excellent

model of a Wirtgen Group machine by NZG. The functionality is impressive and this limited edition has been made in a run of 300 models. It costs around £85 and is very good value.

The Wirtgen W 100 F loads a truck.



Volvo FH16 + Scheuerle trailer 'Affolter'

This 1:50 scale heavy haulage model by WSI is in the colours of Affolter, a Swiss haulier. The tractor is a Volvo FH16 10x4 and the trailer is a vessel carrier with a Scheuerle three-line module and vessel bed. It comes in high quality packaging with a colour instruction sheet which provides the main assembly points for the model.

The Volvo chassis is very detailed although the steering has very limited movement which is not surprising given the complexity of three-axle steering.

The cab detailing is excellent with an authentic number plate and the cab interior includes the Volvo logo on the steering wheel. It tilts forward and underneath is a detailed engine bearing the Volvo name. Detail behind the cab is also very good with a fine equipment tower.

The trailer is made up of the gooseneck, a three-axle Scheuerle module and the vessel bed. It is all highly detailed and the Scheuerle module even has intricate hoses underneath which join the tanks. The

steering linkages in the module are metal and diamond-plated metal cover plates provide the protection. It has excellent independent suspension and the steering is proportional.

The vessel bed has nicely-

engineered parts which can be configured in a normal, or extendable, width configuration, and they are also telescopic, so a large model around 60cm long can result. Overall, the model is high quality and the paintwork

and graphics make for a smart looking vehicle. It can be obtained for around £140 and similar combinations in other liveries are also available.

Overall rating:
Outstanding



The Volvo configured to carry a wide load.

The Volvo FH16 is an impressive heavy haulage machine.

Liebherr PR 754 crawler tractor 'Screg'

The Liebherr PR 754 crawler tractor is a larger machine in the Liebherr range and it has an operating weight of around 40 tonnes. This model by Conrad is in the colours of Screg, a French construction company, and is in 1:50 scale.

The metal tracks have bolt heads just visible on the pads and they are mounted on track frames which have no working rollers. The tracks roll well on a rougher surface and the track frames are linked by a transverse beam so they can oscillate relative to each other.

The operator's cab has a simple interior and there are wipers on the front windows. It has metal grab rails, painted lights and an air conditioner at the rear. Outside the cab, the access platforms are textured with an anti-slip surface.

At the rear, the Screg graphics are reasonable and the ripper assembly looks good with lifting eyes in the frame and the ripper shank has a sharp tooth. The parallelogram ripper assembly has two degrees of movement and the ripper shank can be set at three different positions, or removed completely.

The blade assembly has some detailing within the casting and the cylinder jackets have pipes and other elements detailed.

The metal blade is very good with wear plates along the lower edge and there is a good structure underneath too. The blade can be raised and lowered, and it also tilts forward.

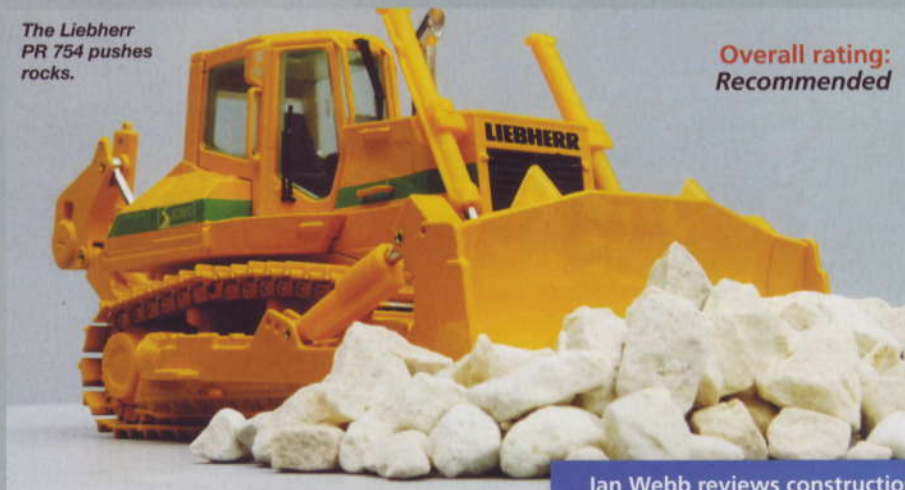
This is a typically robust Conrad model with a high metal content. The paintwork is good, and the applied graphics are reasonable if not the best. It is good to see models made in the colours of construction companies and it costs around £85 which is fair value for a limited edition model.

The Liebherr has a fearsome-looking ripper.



The Liebherr PR 754 pushes rocks.

Overall rating:
Recommended



Ian Webb reviews construction models on his website and you can read more at www.CranesEtc.co.uk