

Small Plant & Machinery

Ian Webb reviews models of interest to collectors.

REVIEWS

Sennebogen 690 HD dragline

The Sennebogen 690 HD is a heavy-duty cycle machine designed for repetitive activity. This 1:50 scale model by ROS has a dragline attachment and comes in a branded box which is large because the model is fully assembled and reeved. A simple pictorial instruction sheet is included.

The metal tracks are good with snap-fit links which were tight enough on the review model. They are mounted on retractable track frames but

unfortunately the rest of the model cannot be disassembled into a transport load.

The cab is plastic and the body has a very good paint finish with small graphics that look realistic. To gain access to the winches, one side panel is removable - which is a far better solution than just holes in the bodywork.

Inside the panel there are

a couple of large keys and these can be used to operate any of the three working winches. Flexible plastic handrails surround the roof and the walking areas have an extremely fine textured surface. At the rear the counterweights are solid blocks detailed with sharp graphics.

The boom is metal with a plastic walkway inside the top surface, and its structure is a reasonable representation. At the boom head the large pulleys look fine but the smaller brass ones would have looked better painted.

The metal dragline bucket is large and the draining perforations are also on the big side.

Overall there is a relatively higher amount of plastic on the model but the colour match with other parts is very good and it looks striking. It can be obtained for around £110 from the Sennebogen web shop.

Overall rating:
Recommended

The Sennebogen 690 HD dragline.



The D5K2 being loaded for transport.



Caterpillar D5K2 track-type tractor

The Caterpillar D5K2 is a machine in the ten-tonne weight class and this Low Ground Pressure (LGP) configuration is for soft ground conditions. This 1:50 scale model is by Caterpillar's long-time model maker, Norscot.

There is little detailing underneath other than the maker's name and model number. The metal tracks are good and have fixing bolts detailed within the shoes. The tracks share a common rear axle so they roll together with a reasonably smooth action and the drive sprockets are spring-loaded to maintain tension.

Detail around the cab is of a good standard with wipers, aerial and painted lights and interior detailing is good too with the controls visible.

The engine cover has a plastic exhaust and grab rails, and the detailing within the casting picks out the various panels. Although the radiator panel at the front is plastic it looks good.

At the rear the triple-shank ripper is modelled in metal and the rivets are painted. It raises

and lowers and can reach a good depth. The blade has wear plates along the bottom edge and a nice touch is the lifting eyes at the top corners which are properly formed with holes. It can be angled, and it raises

and lowers but with limited travel. This is a robust model with a high metal content which is good representation of the D5K2 and it is reasonably functional. It can be obtained for around £50.

Overall rating:
Recommended

The Caterpillar D5K2 LGP dozer.



Liebherr LH 24 material handler

The LH 24 has a detailed body and hydraulics.



The Liebherr LH 24 is a 24-tonne machine and, in this model configuration, is fitted with a sorting grab. It is in 1:50 scale and was a new release from Conrad at the 2013 BAUMA exhibition.

The transmission is modelled and the chunky tyres look good on the plastic wheels. One axle steers to a reasonable angle and also floats transversely. The four stabilisers can be lowered and will support the model wheels-free.

The detailing of the body is of a high standard with small graphics to improve the realism and panel details within the casting. Four

Liebherr LTM 11200-9.1 – Denzai

The large size of the crane compared with the operator.



The Liebherr LTM 11200-9.1 mobile crane first appeared at the BAUMA exhibition in 2007. It travels on a nine-axle carrier and the weight of the boom is such that it has to be transported on a separate vehicle. The dimensions of the real crane are huge with the carrier almost 20m long, and the boom weighs around 100 tonnes and is also nearly 20m long.

As the name suggests, the crane is rated at 1,200 tonnes lifting capacity, albeit at 2.5m radius. Lifting height on the telescopic boom is nearly 100m, and a variety of fly jib combinations can increase the overall lifting height to 188m.

This NZG model is 1:50 scale and the version reviewed here is in the colours of the Denzai-Juki Corporation, a Japanese crane hire company.

The model comes in a fairly large Liebherr-styled box which is quite heavy, and the model is securely contained within three expanded polystyrene trays. A large, coloured instruction sheet is provided and describes how the various configurations of the crane can be built. Assembly of the model is easy, and the model engineering is very good so it goes together well.

The carrier is heavy, and turning it over carefully reveals an excellent level of detail. The

The nine-axle Liebherr LTM 11200-9.1 crane carrier.





mirrors have to be fitted although surprisingly they are not silvered.

The cab is largely plastic but that allows it to be detailed and it looks fine. It elevates smoothly on a parallelogram mechanism.

The boom and stick are a highlight as the model features extensive hydraulic hosing and it is all the better for it. The range of movement is good and at the end of the stick the grab rotates and has jaws which open and close in tandem.

This is a good-looking, well-made, model and can be obtained for around £90 from the Liebherr web shop.

Overall rating: Highly recommended



The Liebherr LH 24 material handler.

transmission and suspension is modelled and there are various tanks and other features. Each axle steers and has working suspension and the wheels have excellent Michelin-branded tyres.

The outrigger beams are metal and very solid, with outrigger pistons that are smooth and look realistic. Heavy metal spreader plates provide a solid footing and it is nice to see these included with a crane model.

At the front, the driving cab has good detailing and behind the cab a fine diamond textured surface covers most of the carrier. The beacon lights on this crane are blue which is the correct colour for a Japanese vehicle. Behind the cab on the left hand side is an interesting graphic which says 'Stand Up Japan!!'. This is a rallying cry following the 2011 tsunami in Japan and is a nice touch.

The crane has a detailed operator's cab which swings into position and also tilts. At the rear, the counterweight tray has interlocking weights and each piece is well formed with good graphics.

The main boom lift cylinders have plastic jackets complete with pinning holes so a boom elevation can be maintained. The colour match of the plastic parts is good but metal parts would have been in keeping with the rest of the model.

The separate boom is a hugely impressive piece and is very heavy as it has eight telescope sections. The lowest section

has working boom-mounting outriggers modelled and these are all metal parts. The telescope sections are engineered very well and at the boom head there are excellent black metal pulleys which are perfectly free rolling.

The Y-Guy arrangement is robustly modelled with good details at the winches where bolt heads are modelled within the casting. The connections from the Y-Guy to the bottom of the boom are modelled in a pliable metal material which hangs realistically in a catenary shape.

Two boom attachments are supplied. A short heavy lift head is fixed directly to the fourth telescope section and is modelled very solidly, and the lattice mast jib is a bigger assembly which is also adjustable for angle.

Three hooks are supplied. One is a single line block and the others have three and 11 pulleys respectively. They are very nicely made and detailed pieces with the two larger blocks having a swivelling hook.

A great feature of the model is that it can be set up in five different configurations by mixing the jibs and use of the Y-Guy arrangement. These, coupled with the various transport possibilities give an excellent variety of posing possibilities. The build quality and detailing are excellent and it is an impressive model.

This is an expensive model at around £500, but there is no doubt it is also excellent value.



The boom carried on a separate transporter (which is not included).



The Liebherr LTM 11200-9.1, rigged and ready to lift.

Overall rating: Outstanding

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