

# Nuremberg Toy

Ian Webb reports from the world's largest toy fair.



Bymo's Clark Michigan 475B wheel loader.



Ros' Sennebogen 8130 EQ material handler.



Conrad's Terex AT20 mobile crane.



Conrad's Liebherr R 9800 mining shovel.

**T**he annual Toy Fair in Nuremberg marked a very big year for diecast construction model makers. Every three years the world's largest exhibition of real construction, mining and related machines (BAUMA) takes place in Munich and the next show will be held this coming April.

The makers of real machines have had the model makers busy preparing models to support the marketing effort at the BAUMA show.

Hall 7 in the Nuremberg Exhibition Centre is the home for the model exhibitors and most of the recognised makers were present. From the UK, Corgi was present but the Dutch truck model-maker, Tekno was absent again. Some model-makers had supply chain issues in China last year but they claim to have worked through these now. Time will tell.

Motorart had a very quiet 2012 but this year looks completely different with 11 new, or reworked, Volvo models announced, together with seven for New Holland and a couple of JCB models too, including an updated JS 220 excavator and a 467 WLS wheel loader. Unusually, a 1:40 scale model will be produced of a Turkish Hidromek excavator, with the scale dictated by Hidromek.

NZG introduced four new models for Liebherr including a huge model of the LR 1600-2 crawler crane which has been under development for around two years. At the other end of the scale is the Liebherr 81K mobile tower crane which is a welcome introduction. Also new is a Liebherr LH 80 material handler and 916 classic excavator.

Two new Wirtgen models are immediately available and these appear to continue the high detail of this line from NZG. A large number of new colour variants of existing models will be produced including a Liebherr HS 885 crawler crane in the colours of the UK company, Weldex.

Norscot is no longer the exclusive maker of Caterpillar models for the mass market but even so it will introduce plenty this year including the PM200 cold planer and D5K2 dozer. The sample of the PM200 at the show looked like a good model. Also, the giant Caterpillar 795F AC mining truck will appear by mid-year, together with a couple of 980K wheel loader variants.

WSI had a new four-axle crane model for Tadano Faun, the ATF 70G-4, and it looked typically highly detailed. Heavy truck fans had plenty to appreciate with Fassi and Palfinger knuckleboom cranes just about ready for release. A surprise at the show from WSI was a prototype of an Australian 12-axle Drake trailer and this model should be released by the year end.

# Fair 2013

Norscot's Caterpillar PM200 cold planer.



WSI's Tadano Faun ATF70G-4 mobile crane.



CIRCLE: NZG's Liebherr LR 1600-2 crawler crane.  
BELOW: WSI's prototype Drake trailer.



From the smaller makers a long-awaited model of the Clark Michigan 475B wheel loader by BYMO should finally go on sale in the first half of this year. Another surprise model was the giant Sennebogen 8130 EQ material handler from the Italian model-maker, Ros.

Conrad has been busy and it introduced the massive Liebherr R 9800 mining shovel. This looks like a huge and detailed model, and it weighs some 7kg.

Two vintage trucks will please fans of historic models, and another model with a background from Down Under is the Terex AT20 mobile crane. Material handlers seem to be in fashion this year with a new model of the Atlas 350 MH machine also appearing from Conrad.

This year's Toy Fair had plenty of interest to model collectors and yet even so it represented something of a lull before the storm. Many new models are expected to appear at the BAUMA show and some of these are expected to be spectacular or long-awaited.

After many years of recession there seems to be a catch-up in model-making this year. You only need to make sure your wallet keeps up too.

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