

Kobelco CKE2500G Crawler Crane

The Kobelco CKE2500G is a 250 tonne hydraulic lattice boomed crawler crane and this 1:50 scale model is in the colours of Sarens, the Belgian international lifting specialist. It is made by Tonkin Replicas.

The model consists of many parts which are supplied in a multi-layered box. However the supplied assembly manual sets a very high standard with detailed step-by-step photographs and written instructions in English and Japanese. A nice touch is that nearly all of the smaller parts are supplied in their own labelled bags for easy identification. Assembly is straightforward and a number of hours are needed for the full configuration.

The model is very detailed. The metal crawler tracks roll reasonably well, and the separate crawler assemblies can be used as transport loads. It also has working translifters.



Tall at full height

The cab can be posed in either the fixed or tilted configuration of the real crane, and there are tiny graphics/decals which really add to an authentic look. The body casting is detailed and there are many small parts used to provide detail.

The counterweight assembly is very good. Each block is secured to its neighbours with joining pieces and nuts and bolts, so there is no danger of dislodging the blocks.

The boom and jib sections are metal and they are detailed with mesh walkways and tiny decals. All combinations of boom and jib can be configured so the model is very flexible in this regard. A very big model can be assembled (182 cm / 6ft tall) but it is not stable if the boom is set at any significant angle.

The winches on the model work well enough, although they rely on friction as a brake, and they do not have enough thread to lower the boom and jib fully.

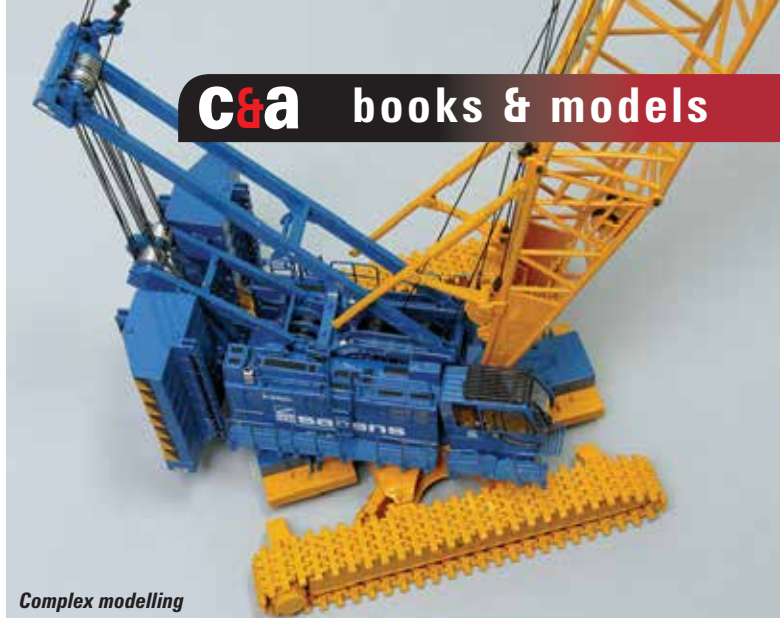
The key plus point of this model is the high standard of detailing achieved, with many small parts and tiny graphics/decals used. Whilst the quality of manufacture is not always top quality, any issues were minor on the review model. Overall this is an impressive looking crane model.

It costs €399 from the Sarens web shop (www.sarensshop.com).

To read the full review of this model visit www.cranesetc.co.uk

Cranes Ect Model Rating

Packaging (max 10)	9
Detail (max 30)	29
Features (max 20)	16
Quality (max 25)	19
Price (max 15)	11
Overall (max 100)	84%



Complex modelling



Tiny decals add to the realism



Good as a transport load



Intricate detailing