

# Small Plant & Machinery

Ian Webb reviews models of interest to collectors.

## Scheuerle InterCombi trailer

Right: The Scheuerle InterCombi trailer.  
Below: Excellent detail on the trailer units.



Scheuerle is a German company with a history of making heavy transport vehicles and its InterCombi trailer units have now been modelled by WSI in 1:50 scale. This version of the model is in the colours of Dutch heavy haulage and lifting specialist, Mammoet.

It comes in a high quality box and



Above: It looks great carrying a big load.

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

although there are a large number of parts there are no instructions provided. Some are available for download and WSI have announced that it will provide instructions with all such complex models in future.

The tractor unit is an Actros 8x4 4165 SLT and it is highly detailed with an excellent chassis and cab. Behind the cab, the equipment tower is mainly plastic but it is detailed and looks good. A simple, but well decorated, removable metal ballast box is provided. The tractor unit has very limited steering ability on the front axles and the cab tilts forward.

The trailer consists of one six-line and two three-line units. They impress because they are almost entirely metal and are engineered really well. The details are great too, with intricate hydraulic and air lines underneath. Decoration of the units is excellent, with a fine yellow stripe and each one has a unique fleet number which is a great detail.

The trailer units have excellent suspension and proportional steering and the draw bar can be attached which steers the wheels with the movement of the tractor. In addition, the steering is fully configurable in that each linkage can be unscrewed and reattached in a different way, and plenty of spare linkages are provided with the model.

Overall it looks great in Mammoet colours and this highly engineered model is available for around £200 from the Mammoet web shop at [www.mammoetstore.com](http://www.mammoetstore.com).

**Overall rating: Highly recommended**



# Volvo EC700CHR demolition excavator

This is a 1:50 scale model of a high-reach demolition machine which has a scaled 30m boom and in real life has an operating weight in the 90-tonne class. The model appears to have been directly procured from a Chinese manufacturer and is unbranded as far as the maker is concerned. Included with it is a simple instruction sheet which describes some of the features of the model. It has metal tracks which roll smoothly

and the track frames are extendible so the model can be posed realistically in transport or working mode. The body is mostly metal with plastic hand rails. Details within the casting are good with textured walkways, grilles and panel handles but the hydraulic lines at the boom foot are less convincing.

The cab is entirely plastic with very good interior detail, and can be tilted. Two opening hatches allow some access to the engine compartment where there is a simply detailed engine.

The boom sections are metal and the hydraulic pipes and hoses are modelled



**Above:** Nice cab details.

well. They can be posed in a wide range of positions and the cylinders are reasonably stiff with the exception of the main lift cylinders which cannot hold the big boom's weight. However a small clip is provided which fits on to one of the boom cylinders to prop it up. The crusher has metal jaws which can be opened and closed.

This is a large model which stands around 60cm (2ft) high with the tool outstretched and is available for around £130 from the Volvo web shop: [www.volvomercandise.com](http://www.volvomercandise.com).

**Overall rating:** *Highly recommended*

**Left:** The imposing Volvo EC700CHR demolition excavator.



# Doll short log carrier

This is the second model made by Conrad of a Doll log carrier and this version is a truck and trailer for carrying short logs. It is made in 1:50 scale and comes in a smart box.

The truck is a Mercedes Actros 6x4 and it is fitted with an Epsilon grab. It is decorated in the colours of Hammann, a German haulier. The overall detail level is good with the chassis modelled well, and the steering is excellent with a very good

range of movement possible. The cab has colour-coded door mirrors and nice lights and roof aerials. It also tilts which allows the engine to be seen.

The log grab is nicely detailed and it has a full range of movement, including a telescopic arm, and outriggers can be pulled out and lowered to provide stability. The grab jaws can be opened and closed and are stiff enough to be able to grasp the model logs. Conrad has provided

real wooden pieces for the logs and these really add to the look of the model.

The trailer is fairly simple and matches the truck well. It can be hitched to the truck and the drawbar rotates and moves nicely. This is another very nice log carrier model in a limited edition and can be obtained for around £150.

**Overall rating:** *Highly recommended*



**Above:** The Doll log carrier.



**Above:** Very nice paintwork on the truck.



# Caterpillar 320D L excavator

Models in 1:87 scale allow collectors to obtain something smaller and less expensive and Norscot has introduced the Caterpillar 320D L hydraulic excavator in this size. The real machine is in the 20-tonne class, and as such is a general utility machine for use on a wide variety of construction applications. The model comes in a typical Caterpillar branded box and it is complete with no parts to add.

The tracks are rubber and not of the best quality and they are not really functional, but the track frames are fine for the scale. The body is metal and is good, with nice detail on the cab including lights and mirrors, and the top of the body has textured walkway surfaces. There is a plastic handrail on the access steps but it is overlarge in gauge for this scale. Interior detail inside the cab is good.

The castings on the boom and stick are fine with hydraulic pipes present, and the bucket teeth are well defined. The model rotates well and the boom, stick and bucket have a good range of movement and can be posed nicely although with the boom and stick fully outstretched the model becomes a little unstable. It can be obtained for around £25.

**Overall rating:** *Recommended*



**Above:** The Caterpillar 320D L excavator.



**Above:** Both Cats working together.

# Caterpillar 772 off-highway truck

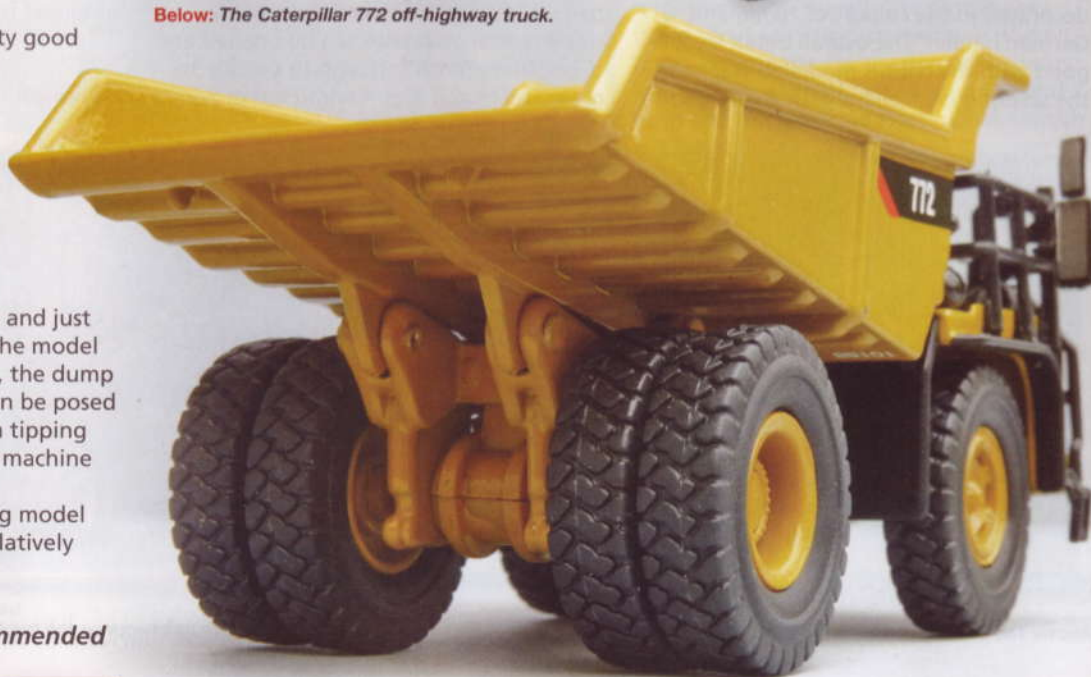
A second new release by Norscot in 1:87 scale is the Caterpillar 772 Off-Highway Truck. The real truck has an operating weight of 82 tonnes and can carry payloads of 45 tonnes.

The detail underneath is pretty good with the transmission modelled in metal, and there are some plastic hydraulic lines which is a nice detail for a small model like this. The wheel hubs are metal and even the wheel nuts are visible, and the rubber tyres are nice. The steering is non-functional though.

The cab area is modelled well and just about the only plastic used on the model is for the handrails. At the back, the dump bed is robustly formed and it can be posed tipping, although the maximum tipping angle is much less than the real machine achieves.

This is a small and nice looking model and for the quality offered is relatively good value at around £35.

**Overall Rating:** *Recommended*



**Below:** The Caterpillar 772 off-highway truck.