

Crane heavy haulage

One type of scale model always popular with collectors is heavy haulage, and a number have been produced of the vehicles that usually accompany large mobile cranes from site to site – the STGO counterweight trailers. There is a large range of models from the Dutch trailer manufacturer Nootboom and a number of versions are available in various crane hire company liveries as well in the manufacturer's house colours.

This year two models have appeared in the colours of UK crane hire companies. One is a truck from the fleet of William Whyte, the Scottish cargo handling and crane hire company, and the second is from Ainscough, the UK's biggest crane rental company. Both models are made by WSI Collectibles and can be obtained from the Nootboom web shop.

The William Whyte model is a Scania Tractor and six axle ballast trailer and it looks beautiful in the yellow and green colour scheme. The Scania has excellent detail

including the chassis and there is a very detailed engine under the tilting cab. It is the quality of the paintwork and graphics which make it look really attractive though.

The trailer is also highly detailed with many very small graphics and it even includes tiny tie-down points for chains and straps. It is also well engineered with accurate steering on the axles which also have independent sprung suspension. The lead axle can also be raised out of service. The tractor and trailer combination looks great with some crane parts loaded. It is a limited edition and costs €139.

Tilting cab reveals a detailed engine



It is very realistic



William Whyte livery is very attractive



Loaded with some ballast



Ainscough Truck loaded with a crane section



The Ainscough model also looks attractive in the distinctive yellow and blue colours. It is a MAN tractor unit with a four axle extendible trailer. The tractor is accurately decorated in Ainscough's livery and it has many small details which look realistic, and the cab also tilts on this model.

The trailer has some excellent features including steering axles with full suspension. It is extendible for longer loads and the deck can also be widened by pulling out

small cantilever supports and laying replica timbers between them.

Detailing on the trailer is very high with airlines underneath and tiny graphics along the deck edges, and the replica timber deck also has bolt positions for the individual planks. Metal deck posts can be fitted too. The Ainscough model is available for €129, and it is also a limited edition.

To read the full reviews of these models visit www.cranesetc.co.uk

Cranes Etc Model Rating

William Whyte	
Packaging (max 10)	6
Detail (max 30)	25
Features (max 20)	15
Quality (max 25)	20
Price (max 15)	11
Overall (max 100)	77

Cranes Etc Model Rating

Ainscough	
Packaging (max 10)	6
Detail (max 30)	26
Features (max 20)	15
Quality (max 25)	21
Price (max 15)	11
Overall (max 100)	79