

Small Plant & Machinery

Ian Webb reviews models of interest to collectors.

REVIEWS

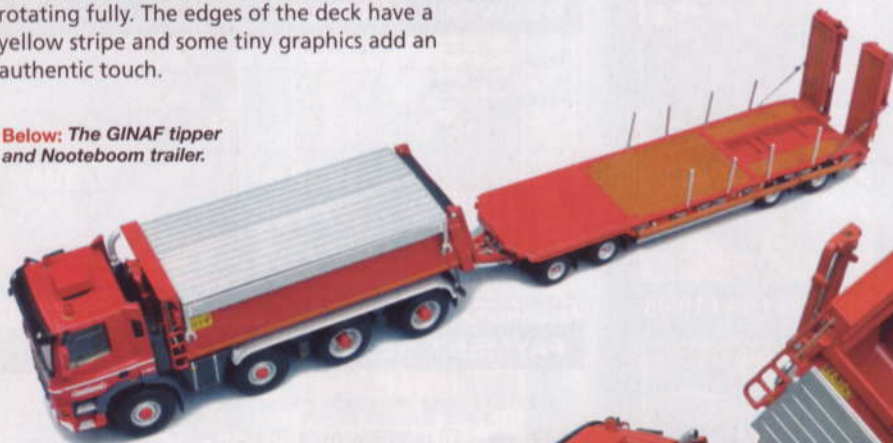
Nootboom ASD trailer + GINAF tipper

The Nootboom ASD-40-22 trailer is common in Europe for hauling plant loads and is often towed by a tipper truck. This 1:50 scale model by WSI features the trailer and a GINAF 8x6 tipper. There is little assembly required other than fitting optional deck width extenders and posts to the trailer.

The Nootboom trailer continues WSI's tradition of high-quality trailers and the detail underneath is very good with air and hydraulic lines and tanks replicated, and the suspension is modelled.

The trailer has working suspension and the steering of the front axle pair is very good, rotating fully. The edges of the deck have a yellow stripe and some tiny graphics add an authentic touch.

Below: The GINAF tipper and Nootboom trailer.



There are fold out supports for the deck width extensions, and tiny loops have been added to support the clip-in pieces.

WSI have done very well to model this in small scale to close tolerances. At the rear, the ramps are very good with plastic timber inlay and a textured surface. The locking chains look a realistic size and they can be unclipped to allow the ramps to lower.

The GINAF tipper is one of WSI's premium ranges. Underneath, the chassis detailing is high quality with excellent suspension and the transmission includes the gearbox and

transfer boxes for the 8x6 configuration. The front two axles and rear axle have linked steering and it works but with limited movement.

The cab looks impressive with excellent graphics, a number plate and the lights have lenses. It also tilts forward to reveal the engine.

The all metal tipper body has a multi-stage hydraulic lift cylinder. It is stiff enough to hold any pose, and the body can be raised to an angle of around 50 degrees or so.

The cover system is also metal and is engineered really well with each half able to open fully and fold flush with the body sides. It has real rubber flaps at the rear which is a nice touch.

The combination looks great and is an outstanding set. It can be obtained from the Nootboom Shop (www.Nootboom.com/shop) for around £110.

Overall rating: Outstanding

Below: The trailer detailing excellent.



Below: The tipping angle is good.



Liebherr R924 Eurovia

The Liebherr R924 is a compact excavator design with a reduced tail swing and has an operating weight of over 25 tonnes. Conrad first modelled it in 1:50 scale a few years ago but versions in company liveries have been recently released and this one is in the colours of Eurovia, a subsidiary of Vinci.

The undercarriage has the basic structure modelled well and the track frames are reasonable castings but without moving rollers. The metal tracks are individually linked and roll very smoothly.

The cab is pleasantly detailed with a metal grab rail and good casting details such as hinges and door handles. However the mirrors are not

silvered so could look better. The rest of the body is cast very well with many openings within the casting.

The boom has hydraulic piping detail within the casting, and there are some plastic hydraulic lines too. The rivets used are mainly brass, with a couple being painted.



Below: The Liebherr lifting a pipe.

At the end of the stick, the bucket is well cast with teeth and wear plate detail. The boom and stick have a wide range of movement with enough stiffness to be able to hold any pose. The bucket can also be posed in a range of positions.

The R924 is very well made and strong, and it has very good paintwork and graphics. It is a little pricey at around £70 which partly reflects the limited edition nature of the Eurovia paint scheme. It is available from the Vinci webshop (www.webshop-vinci.com).

Overall rating: *Recommended*



Above: The Liebherr R924 looks smart in Eurovia colours.

Caterpillar Twenty Two

The real Caterpillar Twenty-Two was in production between 1934 and 1939 and although it was first modelled by Norscot a few years ago, it is available again. It is in the larger 1:16 scale and it is good that the box sleeve includes some printed information about the original machine.

Detailing of the track frames is reasonable and the tracks are metal with

good detail and they are independent and very smooth rolling.

The operator's area is good with hard plastic seating and plastic levers which can flex and give the impression of moving. Below the operator's seat at the rear is a

towing hitch with pin, and there is a good small graphic behind the seat.

The engine has a convincing radiator at the front with a starting handle secured with a strap. At the front of the engine block is a plastic fan which actually rotates.

This is an interesting historic model which is a solidly made model with little plastic, and as it is quite large it is reasonable value at around £70.

Overall rating: *Recommended*

Below: The Caterpillar Twenty Two.



Above: The Caterpillar Twenty Two has metal tracks.



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