

Liebherr HS 8100 HD

This 1:50 scale model by NZG of the Liebherr HS 8100 HD duty cycle crawler crane was launched at this year's Bauma. It is an update of the previous HS 855 model and includes a slurry wall grab and a dragline bucket. It comes with instructions and also spares of some of the smaller parts, which is a nice touch.

The detail level is very good and includes metal tracks, and the cab has pedals and joysticks replicated inside. The crane superstructure is very good, with grilles and handles contained within the panels. At the rear the counterweight blocks are separate and the counterweight self-installation system is provided with two lift cylinders and chains.

The metal boom sections are well made and are joined by tiny brass nuts and bolts and the pendants consist of metal wire with crimped loops on each end. A working equaliser balances out the tension in both lines so that the model looks right.

The slurry wall grab is all metal and a very high quality accessory. The structure is modelled well and the grab looks convincing. Connections of the moving parts are discrete. Two wire cables run to the crane hoist ropes and by operating the winches the grab can open and close.

For dragline use, a bucket is provided. This is a great part, with high detailing such as the perforations within the bucket, and the chains are nicely painted. A dragline fairlead is provided and this is a very nicely engineered part, all in metal.

A separate auxiliary jib can be attached for crane operation and this is another high quality component. Two hook blocks are

provided for crane operation. One is a simple single line headache ball, while the second is a single sheave block that allows the crane to be set up with three falls of cable.

A feature of the model is that it can be displayed in transport mode and the track frames can be narrowed, or removed for transport. Four jacks are provided to support the crane while the tracks are removed or installed, and these screw down.

Other features include opening doors which provide access to the winches, and the drums have positive brakes. The operator's cab also tilts to a good angle.

This is a very high quality model with precision engineering, and overall it is first class. It can be obtained from the Liebherr web shop for €279.

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

Cranes Ect Model Rating

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|--------------------|-----|
| Packaging (max 10) | 9 |
| Detail (max 30) | 27 |
| Features (max 20) | 17 |
| Quality (max 25) | 23 |
| Price (max 15) | 10 |
| Overall (max 100) | 86% |



Self assembling the crawler tracks



Highly detailed



Lifting a steelwork fabrication



Dragline at work



Configured with a slurry wall grab