

# Top Notch



*A superb quality model*

The Liebherr LG1550 lattice boom mobile crane is an older design which has a maximum capacity of 550 tonnes and can lift to heights of up to 180 metres. It has a range of boom options available and is mounted on an eight axle carrier. This 1:50 scale model is made by the small Taiwanese company YCC which has built a reputation for highly detailed models. The model is licensed by Liebherr but is not sold by them directly.

It comes in some exceptionally high quality packaging, and is complete with good instructions, and technical information about the real machine. As a more complex model it takes a

good few hours to build but the effort is well rewarded.

The underside of the carrier is excellent with very good transmission and suspension components detailed, and they are all-metal too. The tyres even feature the 'Michelin' logo on the outside. This level of excellent detail continues throughout the

carrier, and the metal outrigger beams are beautifully made with hydraulic lines detailed within the castings. The spreader beams and pads contain magnets which allow them to stick together which is a first rate design detail.

The high quality continues into the crane body. The sheaves used are metal and are painted to match the crane colour so they look very good indeed, and the counterweight slabs are top notch, with each one having excellent lifting points and the Liebherr name and weight clearly visible within the casting detail.

Moving on to the boom sections, YCC's skill continues to be evident with fine metal mesh walkways and



*Lifting a smaller crane*

very nice rollers for allowing ropes to run smoothly. Two alternative boom head sections are provided with either 16 or four metal sheaves. Also included is a rooster head/auxiliary boom nose, this difficult section is superbly made with a folding line pulley and tiny rollers to enable it to roll on the ground if needed during erection. Three hook blocks are supplied with the model and this approach is to be particularly commended as it gives the collector flexibility in rigging the crane. Each one is excellent in its own right and would look great on any Liebherr crane model.

All the crane functions work well, the four winch drums in the superstructure body are accessed by using removable magnetic side panels. This excellent design feature allows the model to be operated without having unsightly access holes in the side of the structure. A strong feature of the model is that

it is made in the modular system which replicates the real machine and can therefore be configured in many different ways.

This model from YCC sets the highest of standards in mobile crane models, at a price of around €640. It is made in limited numbers and some versions are produced in various rental company liveries which suggests that it is likely to hold its value in the longer term. It fully deserves an 'Outstanding' rating.

To read the full review of these models visit [www.cranesetc.co.uk](http://www.cranesetc.co.uk)

## Cranes Etc Model Rating

Packaging (max 10)	9
Detail (max 30)	29
Features (max 20)	18
Quality (max 25)	22
Price (max 15)	13
Overall (max 100)	91%



*The LG1550 carrier*



*Excellent boom details*



*Rigged for the high lift*