

# Small Plant & Machinery

Ian Webb reviews models of interest to collectors.



**C**orgi will be introducing a range of plant models in 2011 in 1:76 scale. In addition to the Ruston Bucyrus RB-19 excavator previously announced there will be a Coles mobile crane, a couple of tipplers and some heavy haulage also. These models form part of the 'Trackside' collection and will be suitable for use with Hornby railway layouts.

## REVIEWS

### Caterpillar Twenty

The Caterpillar Twenty was introduced in 1927, soon after the formation of the Caterpillar Company, and was the new company's first product. It was finished in grey with red trim as 'Caterpillar yellow' was not used until 1931. This model of the Caterpillar Twenty by Norscot has been out for a couple of years but it will interest *Classic Plant & Machinery* readers.

It is in the unusual scale of 1:16 which means it is relatively large, and as it is mostly made of metal, it is heavy too. A nice feature is that it comes in a Perspex display case so it is easy to display and keep dust free.

The detail underneath is very good with the structure represented well, and bolt head details are clearly visible. The track links look great in this scale, and they roll extremely smoothly.

At the rear, machine notices are printed in exceptionally fine print which is high quality, and there is a towing hitch with



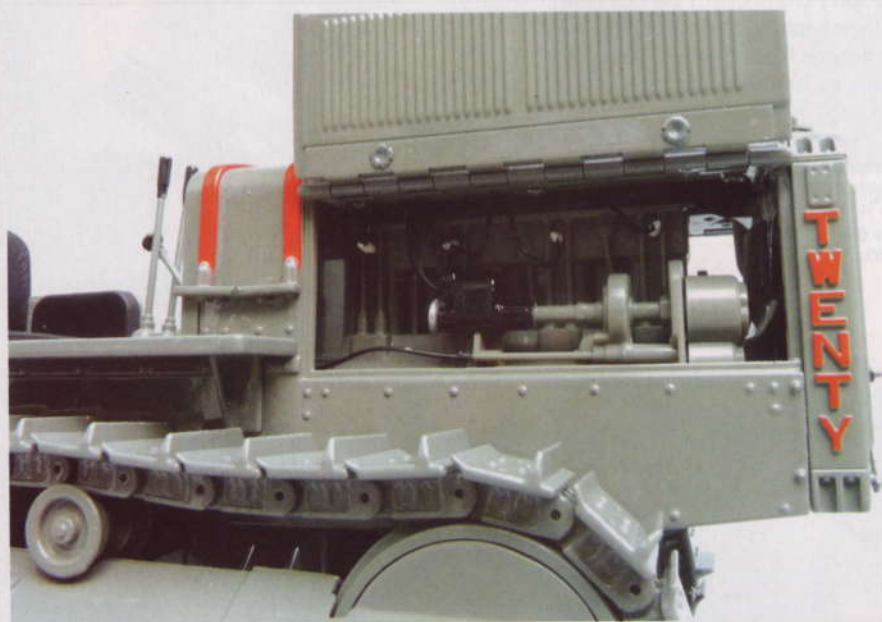
Above: The Caterpillar Twenty is a large model in 1:16 scale.

pin. The operator's area has a padded seat which flexes like a real seat when you press it and this is a very nice detail.

The engine cover has the 'Caterpillar' and 'Twenty' names beautifully rendered in the casting. The radiator looks authentic and there is a starting handle and strap. Both the side covers to the engine can be opened to reveal a detailed engine.

This is a very nice model which looks like a fine display piece. It is available for around £80 and is very good value.

**Overall Rating: Highly Recommended**



Above: There are excellent controls and a padded seat. Left: The opening engine cover gives access to a detailed engine.

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



# MAN TGX and Goldhofer ten axle trailer

Conrad has recently released this large heavy haulage model in the colours of the German haulier and heavy lifting specialist, Schmidbauer. It is 1:50 scale.

The tractor is a heavy duty MAN TGX XXL SLT 8x4, and it is a nice piece of modelling. As usual for Conrad, there is a limited plastic content so the model has a very strong feel. The detail level is also pretty good with colour-coded mirrors and



**Above:** The Goldhofer trailer can be configured to be both wide and long.



**Above:** The MAN Tractor pulls a heavy girder.

roof aerials. Behind the cab, the equipment stack is very impressive with a detailed cooling fan at the top. The front two axles can be steered a reasonable amount.

The Goldhofer consists of flatbed girders, a gooseneck, and a four-line and a six-line bogie set. Each line has eight tyres. The model engineering is very good, with linked steering and working levelling cylinders on the axle lines.

The bed can be configured at a standard width and length, and it

is also extendible in both dimensions. It is also possible to replace the bed with just the longitudinal beams in close formation, or couple the two bogie units together to get a continuous ten-axle trailer.

The model looks very smart in Schmidbauer livery and when fully extended it is around 75cm long so it becomes really impressive. It is available for around £200.

**Overall Rating:** *Highly Recommended*

# Volvo EC460CLD demolition excavator



**Above:** The track frames and body are well detailed.

The Volvo EC460CLD is one of the larger demolition machines in the Volvo range and it has an operating weight of just under 50 tonnes. It is specially strengthened and protected to work in a demolition environment.

NZG have produced this model in 1:50 scale as part of a new range for Volvo. It is almost all metal and feels satisfyingly heavy. The metal tracks are mounted on detailed frames and they roll well. Thoughtfully, spare track links are supplied should any get broken.

The detail level around the body is very



**Above:** The Volvo EC460CLD at work.

good and the engine cover opens so that the Volvo engine can be seen.

The modelling of the hydraulics sets the model apart. There is a detailed hydraulic unit at the boom foot and the hydraulic lines are modelled in rubber and run up to the jaws. There are protection plates to the main cylinders and the cylinder on the stick and overall this creates the impression of a tough machine.

The model rotates well, and the boom

and stick movement is good with the cylinders being stiff enough to hold any pose set even though the parts are metal and heavy. The jaws are also metal and can fully rotate as well as open and close.

Heavy demolition machines make interesting models and this Volvo model looks great posed in a model diorama. It costs around £100.

**Overall Rating:** *Highly Recommended*