

Small Plant & Machinery

Ian Webb reviews models of interest to collectors.

REVIEWS

MAN TGA + Goldhofer semi-trailer

The Goldhofer STZ-H6 semi-trailer is a flexible, extendible, heavy haulage vehicle often used by plant and crane hire companies. This 1:50 scale model has been commissioned by Heavy Transport Models (HTM) from Conrad, and it is in the colours of H.N. Krane, a German company.

The tractor is an 8x4 MAN TGA and it is relatively heavy reflecting the metal content. The chassis is reasonably detailed and the steering axles have a limited range of steering movement.

The cab detailing is very good with the door mirrors colour coded and the overall decoration in H.N. Krane livery looks really nice, although it misses out on number

plates. The cab can be tilted forward to display the plastic engine block. Behind the cab the equipment tower has tanks and boxes, and the exhaust stack is convincing.

The trailer is almost all metal and the detail underneath is fairly simple with the structure modelled well. The front axle steers independently, and the rear four have linked steering which acts proportionally. All axles have a degree of vertical movement as suspension, and the first two axles can be clipped out of service.

At the front and rear there are two pairs of retractable stabiliser legs, with the rear ones used in conjunction with a pair of loading ramps which are stored inside a

holder forward of the first axle. There is also a pair of pull-out width markers under the gooseneck.

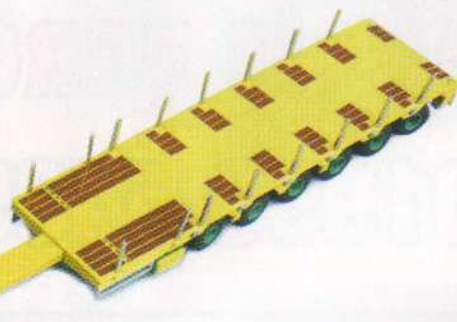
The trailer is extendible, and there is a travelling transverse beam which can be positioned to support a load. Deck width extenders are provided along each side, and deck posts can be fitted if desired. The main trailer deck is all metal with the wood insert panels painted on.

Overall, this model has good functionality and looks great in H.N. Krane colours and it is rare as the edition is very limited. It costs around £150 from the HTM web shop (www.heavy-transport-models.de).

Overall rating: Highly recommended



Above: The Goldhofer looks great carrying a load such as the Volvo A40D.



Below: Loading ramps are stored under the deck.



Above: The Goldhofer semi-trailer extended out.



Hamm HW 90 roller

The Hamm HW 90 is a three-drum roller in a traditional design with an operating weight of up to 12.5 tonnes. It has been modelled by WSI in 1:50 scale and comes in a small Hamm-branded box.

The roller drums are metal with a fine steel-coloured finish, and the detailing of the bearings on the rear drums is intricate. They roll smoothly and the steering of the front drum turns to a good angle.

The quality of the casting of the body is very good with some precise detailing including non-slip steps, and panel bolt heads. Mesh grilles and fine gauge handrails add to the realistic look and some very tiny warning notices give an authentic feel. The front work lights look great with fine protective grilles.

The metal cab has black seals around the

windows, and includes mirrors inside the cab as well as outside. The rear access door to the work platform opens, and there are dual operator's seats. There is a minutely-detailed computer console inside.

This is a very nicely-detailed model which is up to the standards of other Hamm replicas. It is very good value at around £50.



Left: The opening rear access door on the Hamm.

Right: The Hamm HW 90 three-drum roller.



Overall rating: *Highly recommended*

Liebherr R313 tracked excavator

The Liebherr R 313 is Liebherr's smallest tracked hydraulic excavator with an operating weight up to 17.2 tonnes. This 1:50 scale Model is made by NZG and is in the colours of Eurovia, a company within the Vinci Group. The Model comes in a Eurovia-branded box and is fully assembled.

The metal tracks look good and they are mounted on track frames that have no moving rollers. However they were too stiff to roll freely but they are removable from the track frames by pressing in the idler.

A simple dozing blade is on the front and it is connected to hydraulic cylinders so it

can be raised and lowered. The cylinder jackets throughout the model are plastic and there is a slight colour difference to the metal parts.

The cab has fine interior detailing including control levers, and there are tinted windows and realistic looking window seals. The body is cast well with the Liebherr name in relief at the rear. The Eurovia livery is applied well with many small graphics that add realism.

Detailing on the boom and stick is also

good with hydraulic lines to the cylinders and the range of movement is very good. A quick coupler has been modelled at the end of the stick so the bucket can be easily removed.

This is a good quality model with little plastic used but the price is relatively high at around £70 as it is a limited edition Model. It can be obtained from the Vinci web shop.

Overall rating: *Recommended*

Below: The Liebherr R 313 tracked excavator.



Below: Fine details and graphics on the rear end of the Liebherr.



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