

Small Plant & Machinery

Ian Webb reviews models of interest to collectors.

REVIEWS

Kleemann Mobirex MR 110 EVO impact crusher

At the Intermat Exhibition in April 2012, Conrad presented this 1:50 scale model of the Kleemann MR 110 EVO Impact Crusher. It is a mobile machine suitable for processing blasted natural stone, asphalt and demolition waste and can process up to 350 tonnes of material per hour.

This is a heavy model in three elements and a good colour instruction sheet describes the assembly into a site configuration. It also makes a very good transport load for a haulage vehicle.

The plastic tracks look good and roll well on a rough surface. There are some nice details around the crusher including mounting springs on the feed hopper, rubber strips to prevent fly-out, and the access areas have diamond plated non-slip surfacing with metal handrails.

A good load for a truck.

The body sides have very sharp Kleemann graphics with various panel details contained within the casting. The two access ladders have fold down sections and the larger one also tilts out to provide an inclined angle.

The conveyors have rubber belts and these can be turned by hand which is a nice touch. An optional side conveyor can be fitted on either side under the main screen and the fixed side conveyor opens up and can be positioned anywhere along a wide arc. The optional screen has a working belt and it can be fitted to the crusher or displayed separately on fold-down legs.

This is a fairly large, very solid and robust model with a high metal content which, combined with likely lower production numbers, results in the price of around £200.

Overall rating: *Highly recommended*



Liebherr A 918 compact hydraulic excavator

The Liebherr A 918 is a smaller excavator with a weight of under 20 tonnes and its compact dimensions make it ideal for work in confined spaces. It has now been released by NZG as a 1:50 scale model.

The undercarriage is very nice with excellent rubber tyres on detailed wheels and the full transmission is modelled. One axle steers and also has plenty of floating movement to cope with rough terrain, and there is a tilting blade.

The cab is high quality with tinted windows and smart frames, and there is a nicely detailed interior with controls. The rest of the body casting is very good with exhaust and other details and a careful use of paint highlights details such as panel hinges. Excellent small graphics add to the realism.

The boom and stick have very detailed hydraulic pipes and there is a full range of movement possible. At the end of the stick is a quick coupler arrangement which allows the

bucket to be removed. The supplied bucket has a cutting edge and is mounted on a tilting mechanism.

This is a really nice new excavator model and costs around £50.

Overall rating:
Highly recommended



The Liebherr A 918 excavator.



Loading a tipper truck.



Vögele Super 2100-2 paver

This 1:50 scale model by NZG has been released in the colours of Eurovia. It is configured with a scale 13m long screed and the real machine can lay up to 1,100 tonnes per hour. The model comes in a large Eurovia branded box and includes a reprint of a brochure for the machine and this has excellent photos and information.

The model is heavy and surprising large because of the huge screed. It has rubber tracks which roll quite well, and the hopper sides can close up to force material on the belt.

The screed is adjustable for height but cannot be dismantled so this paver

cannot be made into a viable transport load. However the screed detail is very good with material screws, metal handrails and detailed control consoles.

The operator's area has adjustable seats and extendible canopy, and the console moves on a rail from side to side. The canopy also folds down to lower the transport headroom.

This is an impressive paver model which goes well with other models in Eurovia colours. It can be obtained from the Vinci web shop (www.webshop-vinci.com) for around £100.



The Vögele Super 2100-2 paver at work.

Overall rating:
Highly recommended



A 300-tonne capacity hook rigged on the main boom.



The suspended ballast tray is massive.

Liebherr LR 1750 crawler crane - Wagenborg

The Liebherr 1750 crawler crane is a giant machine which has a lifting capacity of 750 tonnes. It has a maximum height of lift of 191m and can be configured in a variety of ways including adding special boom sections for wind turbine work.

Conrad first introduced this 1:50 scale model for Liebherr in 2005, but it has been re-released in crane company liveries. The version reviewed here is in the

colours of Royal Wagenborg, the Netherlands heavy lifting and transport specialist.

This model is big and so it comes in a very heavy box with three trays of parts. A black and white manual is provided and this identifies the parts and has step-by-step photos describing the main assembly although it is less clear on reeving the hooks. With that said, although it takes several hours the assembly

of the model is fun because Conrad's model engineering is top notch and the parts fit together well.

Each track frame is a large single piece consisting of the main structural frame and the drive sprockets are detailed and bear the Liebherr name. The pinned track pads roll really well aided by the working rollers on the top and bottom of the frames.

The crane body is permanently attached to the centre section and there are four outriggers with jacks for lifting the crane body off a transport vehicle and the model can be posed erecting its own crawler tracks using a hydraulic hook. The crawler chassis is completed with ballast plates and weights, and silver textured walkway plates with ladders and handrails provide a platform for operator access.

The crane body has detail within the casting representing panels and handles, there are a couple of ladders, and the

The parts make good transport loads.



Wagenborg colour scheme looks really good. The cab tilts and can be swung in for transport, and inside, it has a controls and screens.

At the rear the engine enclosure includes textured surfaces and a metal exhaust pipe. Heavy ballast trays hang off each side at the rear and each of the counterweight slabs are heavy with lifting lugs detailed. A suspended ballast tray can also be fitted and it is impressive with good detail.

The boom and jib sections are fine examples of Conrad's model engineering ability and they fit together really well and are joined together by plastic pins. On top of the crane body, spring-loaded back-stops prevent the boom and back mast from over luffing and these parts are all metal. All of the pulleys are plastic, and are free rolling, and the pendant bars are also plastic but strong.

Two hooks are provided and these are impressive. Consisting of the same modular components, they strip down to separate pulley block and hook assemblies with only the pulleys and pins being plastic. The larger hook also has clip on ballast weights to keep the tension in the ropes. As usual, the reeving can try the patience and this model is no exception.

All the winch drums are spring-loaded and resistant to slipping under load. They are operated using detachable winch handles which push through holes in the crane body and they have a slotted end so they can be driven using a powered screwdriver. All the functions of the real crane can be replicated.

A major strength of the model is the ability to build it any



The giant crawler track frames.



The huge 600-tonne capacity hook.

configuration. Booms and jibs can be any length desired. A luffing jib can be mounted, or not, and the back mast is also an optional fixture. Similarly, a variety of ballast weight configurations is available.

This model is very good quality and it represents the best of Conrad in terms

of model engineering and robustness. It is almost all metal and although the detail level may not be the highest, it looks very striking in Wagenborg's colours.

It is a very large model which fully erected is an imposing 2m high and is good value at around £500.



The machine self-erecting its own tracks.

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