

Small Plant & Machinery

Ian Webb reviews models of interest to collectors.

REVIEWS

Putzmeister 42-5 concrete pump

It has been a few years since a new concrete pump model has been produced and Conrad has released this 1:50 scale model of a Putzmeister pump with a 42m boom mounted on a MAN chassis. It comes in a smart box which has good information about the real machine and the only assembly is to fit door mirrors and a roof aerial.

The chassis is modelled with prop shafts and differentials, and the rear axle has suspension movement. The front pair of axles has linked steering with very good movement. At the front the MAN cab looks smart enough although, unusually, the cab does not tilt.

The front outrigger beams are two-stage and are a mix of metal and plastic whereas the large rear beams are metal. They fold out to form a star formation and the pads can be pulled down to support the model. Plastic spreader plates are also supplied which is a nice touch.

The rest of the body is very good with deck surfaces textured to represent a non-slip walkway, and there are fine metal handrails. At the rear there is a large pump and the concrete hopper has an opening lid.

The boom is impressive as it is all metal with a rubber hose at the end. It opens and rotates and the range of articulation present in the original machine can be replicated on the model, and it is stable with the outriggers out.

Overall this is a good quality model with the paintwork and graphics adding to a striking look. It can be posed many ways, either being transported or set up. It is good value at around £110.

The Putzmeister 42-5 is an impressive model.



Overall rating: *Highly recommended*

The Putzmeister's placing boom opened out.

Liebherr L 510 Stereo wheel loader

The Liebherr L 510 Stereo is a six-tonne wheel loader and the 'Stereo' name refers to the unusual combination of centre pivot and rear-wheel steering. It has been modelled by NZG in 1:50 scale and has now been released in two new liveries, Frauenrath and Richard Schulz.

The models are relatively heavy for their small size reflecting the high metal content.

The metal wheels are excellent with treaded tyres and the combination steering works really well with the rear axle linked to the centre pivot so that the models can turn through a tight circle.

The body castings are very good with various details such as grilles included. The cabs are metal and look convincing with realistic mirrors and lights. A particular feature is that both cab doors can be opened. The loader mechanism works quite

well although the tipping angle of the bucket is shallow. Many hydraulic hoses add to the authentic look and these models are high quality and good value at around £45 each.



The Liebherr L 510 in Frauenrath colours.

Overall rating: **Highly recommended**

Mercedes Benz LAK 2624 tipper

Overall rating: **Highly recommended**

This 1:50 scale model by Conrad is of a historic truck, the Mercedes Benz LAK 2624, which was popular around 40 years ago. The model is a 6x6 chassis fitted with a tipper body and the only assembly required is to fit width indicators and mirrors, which is easy to do.

Underneath, the chassis has the transmission and suspension modelled in detail and the wheels look good. The front axle steers and has a very good range of movement, and the rear axles have a degree of movement to represent suspension.

The cab is all metal and the lights within the front bumper have plastic lenses. An excellent mesh radiator grille looks great and there is a tiny Mercedes logo on the front of the bonnet. The bonnet lifts up to reveal a metal engine.

Behind the cab the chassis is metal with good looking leaf springs on the rear axles. The rear light clusters are painted and there is a towing hitch.

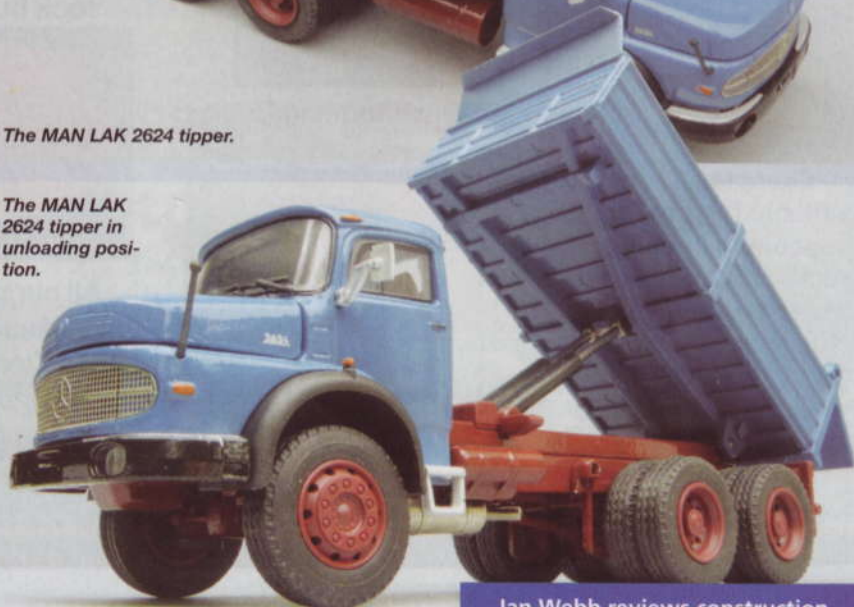
The tipper body is all metal with the structure modelled well. The body tips to a very good angle with the rams being very stiff, and the tailgate opens and shuts.

This is a typically well-made and strong Conrad model with a high metal content and it has been made in a variety of different colours. It can be obtained for around £65.



The MAN LAK 2624 tipper.

The MAN LAK 2624 tipper in unloading position.



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