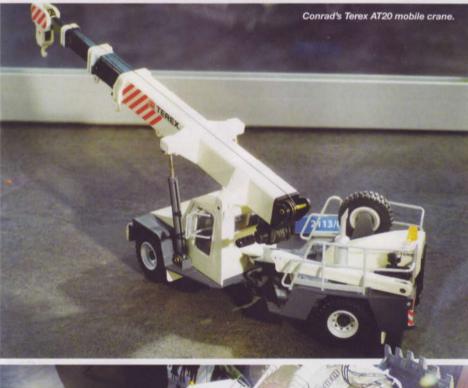
Nuremberg Toy

lan Webb reports from the world's largest toy fair.





Ros' Sennebogen 8130 EQ material handler.





Conrad's Liebherr R 9800 mining shovel.

he annual Toy Fair in Nuremberg marked a very big year for diecast construction model makers. Every three years the world's largest exhibition of real construction, mining and related machines (BAUMA) takes place in Munich and the next show will be held this coming April.

The makers of real machines have had the model makers busy preparing models to support the marketing effort at the BAUMA show.

Hall 7 in the Nuremberg Exhibition Centre is the home for the model exhibitors and most of the recognised makers were present. From the UK, Corgi was present but the Dutch truck model-maker, Tekno was absent again. Some model-makers had supply chain issues in China last year but they claim to have worked through these now. Time will tell.

Motorart had a very quiet 2012 but this year looks completely different with 11 new, or reworked, Volvo models announced, together with seven for New Holland and a couple of JCB models too, including an updated JS 220 excavator and a 467 WLS wheel loader. Unusually, a 1:40 scale model will be produced of a Turkish Hidromek excavator, with the scale dictated by Hidromek.

NZG introduced four new models for Liebherr including a huge model of the LR 1600-2 crawler crane which has been under development for around two years. At the other end of the scale is the Liebherr 81K mobile tower crane which is a welcome introduction. Also new is a Liebherr LH 80 material handler and 916 classic excavator.

Two new Wirtgen models are immediately available and these appear to continue the high detail of this line from NZG. A large number of new colour variants of existing models will be produced including a Leibherr HS 885 crawler crane in the colours of the UK company,

Norscot is no longer the exclusive maker of Caterpillar models for the mass market but even so it will introduce plenty this year including the PM200 cold planer and D5K2 dozer. The sample of the PM200 at the show looked like a good model. Also, the giant Caterpillar 795F AC mining truck will appear by mid-year, together with a couple of 980K wheel loader variants.

WSI had a new four-axle crane model for Tadano Faun, the ATF 70G-4, and it looked typically highly detailed. Heavy truck fans had plenty to appreciate with Fassi and Palfinger knuckleboom cranes just about ready for release. A surprise at the show from WSI was a prototype of an Australian 12-axle Drake trailer and this model should be released by the

