

# TRUCKING IN MINIATURE

The latest commercial vehicle models of interest to collectors and enthusiasts

By Ian Webb

PHOTOGRAPHY IAN WEBB

## Mercedes-Benz Actros with Nootboom PX Euro low loader trailer, £135

This 1:50 scale model is made by WSI and comprises a Mercedes-Benz Actros 8x4 with Nootboom four-axle EURO-PX + two-axle ICP trailer in red (Nootboom's house colour). An instruction sheet includes information about the real trailer and basics of



Very detailed trailer parts

assembling the model. The Mercedes-Benz tractor has a very good chassis, with 8x4 transmission fully modelled, including the gearbox. The steering works, but movement is limited.

The Actros cab is fully detailed on the outside, including colour-coded door mirrors. Cab interior detail is very good and includes the MB logo on the steering wheel. The cab tilts to reveal a detailed engine bearing the Mercedes-Benz name. The equipment tower is entirely plastic, but it is very detailed and there are coiled air lines.

The trailer is made up of the gooseneck, a two-axle interdolly, flatbed and a four-axle Pendel X module. There is a wide variety of configurations possible, including leaving out the interdolly and extending the deck. It is also possible to fit posts to the deck and

extend its width with tiny replica timber planks.

The gooseneck is a metal part with a detailed control console on the left side, with tiny graphics and yellow reflective stripes running the length of the model. Both the axle units are precision parts. The detailed wheels are supported on metal parts, with the suspension neatly modelled with the spring inside the rim, and they steer effectively.

Very small graphics are used throughout to enhance detail and the result is a very authentic looking model, which looks particularly good when it carries a model load. Fully extended, the model is around 29 inches long and looks impressive.

OUR RATING

☆☆☆☆



Nootboom trailer carrying a heavy load

## Volvo FH tractor unit with refrigerated trailer, £85

This is another 1:50 scale model from the Corgi *Hauliers of Renown* series. It's a Volvo FH tractor and refrigerated trailer in the colours of Iggy Madden, which is a family-run company operating from the West of Ireland and operating internationally.

The packaging is the usual Corgi high quality and included with the model is a Collector Card, which gives some background to the livery. It also has the unique serial number for the model within the production run of 1000 models.

The Volvo FH 4x2 tractor unit is almost all metal and therefore quite heavy. Although the chassis is fairly basic, the cab looks beautiful in the Iggy Madden livery. The detailing is good, with aerials and a light bar on the roof and colour-coded door mirrors. There is no working steering on the model, so the posing

possibilities are a little more limited than we would perhaps have liked.

The trailer has a simple chassis with sturdy wheels, and the support legs have plastic cams. At the rear, the lights are nicely painted and there are thin plastic mudflaps on the rear axle. The refrigeration unit at the front is plastic with reasonable grille detailing, and the sides of the trailer are plastic

with excellent sharp graphics. At the rear, the door detailing and graphics are also very good.

This solid model is typical of those made by Corgi. It has few working features, but the livery is beautifully applied. It certainly looks the part and is a fine display piece.

**OUR RATING**

☆☆☆☆☆



Model has striking Iggy Madden livery

## MAN TGX tractor unit with curtainsider trailer, £85

This version of the MAN TGX and curtainsider trailer is in the colours of Johann Dettendorfer, a Bavarian transport company founded in 1825. It is made by NZG in 1:50 scale.

The 4x2 MAN TGX tractor is solidly made and on the chassis, both the

transmission and rear axle are fully detailed. The front axle is modelled for functionality and can be posed with a very hard lock.

Detailing around the cab is good, with twin roof aerials and colour-coded door mirrors, and the MAN vehicle type number (TGX 18.680) is printed on the doors. A nice aspect is the high-

windowed roof, which provides a clear view inside the cab. Behind the cab are coiled air lines and a non-slip walking surface, and the exhaust box has a Euro 5 designation.

The trailer is simply modelled, being of metal construction with plastic sides and roof. The curtainside moulding has some subtle shape and texture, with the tie-downs highlighted in silver. The best aspect of this model is the graphics printing, which is very sharp.

At the rear, the door handles are clearly highlighted and the detailed lights have been given plastic lenses.

This is a quality model with a high metal content in the tractor. Although the feature count is low, the model is a convincing replica of a truck from the Dettendorfer fleet.

**OUR RATING**

☆☆☆☆☆



Detail on MAN TGX is convincing