TRUCKING IN MINIATURE

We review a range of truck models of interest to collectors and admirers



Brick Trailer

This 1:50 scale model by WSI is a Scania 140 6x2 tractor with brick trailer and loading crane.

Detailing of the Scania is excellent, with very good transmission and suspension elements detailed in metal. The rear axle is very detailed with the lift mechanism fully modelled and functioning, and the steering turns to a reasonable degree. The engine and gearbox are coloured and the exhaust system looks good. Rubber mud flaps are fitted behind the front wheels.

The cab has some nicely rendered graphics and a numberplate, and also tilts to reveal a detailed engine. Behind the cab, there are coiled lines and the fuel tanks are modelled well.

The trailer is excellent – very detailed underneath, including hoses. The surface of the trailer is high quality, with good representation of timber, and the side panels are painted really well - each side being modelled as one piece, rather than separate panels.

The trailer is also fully featured. All the axles have effective working suspension with good movement, and the rear axle steers by a mechanical linkage to the fifth wheel. The landing legs can be screwed down, revealing smooth pistons, and the sides of the trailer can be lowered. The rear panel can be removed and extension tracks for the crane folded out.

The Hulo crane is modelled very well in metal, being both detailed and functional. It can travel along the deck, the arm rotates and the trolley can be positioned. Amazingly, it includes a

ABOVE

Our reviewer

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

working winch. The look of the model can be enhanced by using a set of 'Hulo-stacked' bricks, which are available as a separate accessory.

A lot of care has been put into this model of a classic truck, and the result is creation of an outstanding piece with high functionality.

Price: £120 Rating:★★★★



Mercedes-Benz Arocs Truck Mixer

The Arocs was announced by Mercedes-Benz in 2013 and is its truck aimed at the construction sector. This model is a truck mixer mounted on a Mercedes-Benz Arocs 8x4 chassis and has been produced by NZG in 1:50 scale. It is in the colours of Holcim, the worldwide cement and concrete company.

This is a heavy model with a relatively low plastic content. Underneath, the chassis is fully detailed with only the steering linkages being modelled for functionality rather than detail, and the model can be posed with a hard lock.

The cab has horns and aerials on the roof and a plastic grab rail on the driver's side. Door mirrors have some texture, and the distinctive Arocs grille is modelled with a realistic appearance.

Inside the cab, the seats have arm rests. Behind the cab, the exhaust and intakes are modelled in plastic, with the snaking perforated exhaust looking good. The wheel arches are metal throughout and the light bar at the rear has nice plastic lenses. The mixer drum is metal, rotates smoothly and looks

BELOW Model sports a metal mixer drum



smart in Holcim colours. The water tank and engine are moderately detailed, and at the rear the access ladder and platform hand rails are a little on the fat side for the scale. The metal discharge chute has full side-to-side movement.

This is the first of no doubt many Arocs truck models. It captures the look of the real truck well and is an attractive model.

Price: £80 Rating:★★★



DAF XF 105 Tanker Swap Body

This 1:50 scale model by WSI is a DAF XF 105 Super Space Cab 4x2 tractor with three-axle Van Hool swap body trailer and tank container in the colours of KVG Trans, a Belgian company.

The DAF 4x2 chassis is of a high standard, with realistic suspension and transmission elements and full exhaust system. The steering is loose, but travels a reasonable distance.

The cab has authentic detailing, with numberplates, lights on the roof and colour-coded door mirrors with indicators. The interior is of a very good standard too, with DAF logos on the seats and steering wheel

The cab tilts and a detailed engine is modelled, bearing the PACCAR name.

Behind the cab there are coiled lines and diamond non-slip surfacing.

The trailer has working suspension and there are pipes and tanks detailed. There are also two landing legs which can be lowered by unscrewing. Along the sides are chromed and moveable tie-down loops. At the rear, the surface of the trailer is high quality and includes access stairs.

The tank container itself is a heavy part of the model and mostly made of metal. It is really solidly designed and painted, with great graphics.

This is a fine model of a commercial vehicle by WSI, with the tank container being modelled particularly well. It looks really impressive in the colours of KVG Trans.

Price: £120 Rating:★★★★



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