

Liebherr big lifter

Liebherr has a long history of commissioning scale models of their products and this has included a number of tower cranes in 1:87 scale. At Bauma 2007 Liebherr showed a prototype model of its giant 630 EC-H 40 tower crane in the larger 1:50 scale and it has now come to market, made by the German model maker Conrad.

The 630 EC-H 40 is one of the largest tower cranes offered by Liebherr. It is capable of lifting 40 tonnes at 15 metres and can free stand to 80 metres, with an 80 metre jib. With the real machine being so huge, the model does not disappoint and it stands over 6ft (almost 2m) high, and is 7ft (over 2m) end to end.



Rock steady mast



Cab detail

The model comes in a number of parts which replicate the sections of the real crane and so it has to be 'erected' although this is straight forward, and takes around two hours. It comes on a massive cruciform base and has twelve mast sections complete with ladders, which are pinned together to form a rock-solid, dead-straight mast that is a credit to Conrad's model engineering skills. A climbing frame is also included although its design does not allow the model to actually be posed climbing. The cab is instantly recognisable as Liebherr and has an operator's seat and controls. The counter jib is made up of four heavy sections complete with walkways and hand rails, and has a working winch at the end. The main jib is made up of eight separate sections and each is a single fully triangulated casting which is very strong. They are accurately made and join perfectly to produce a jib which is commendably straight given it is length, and with adjustment it can be made straighter still.



A huge model standing almost two metres high



Trolleys and hooks



As a heavy lifter the crane comes with double trolleys and hooks, and the model is perfectly capable of lifting a decent load such as a small mobile crane model. One feature missing on the model is a working trolley mechanism although the

different configurations both in terms of height, and jib lengths. It can also be posed being erected by a suitable mobile crane model, and makes some great transport loads on trucks.

Overall this is a hugely impressive model because of its size and the model engineering achievement that it represents. It is the kind of model that makes people stop and look, and will satisfy collectors or provide an outstanding display in a corporate office. It is available from the Liebherr webshop at €435.

To read the full review of this model visit www.cranesetc.co.uk



Mast detail

trolley motor and winch is replicated on the jib. The detail level is not as high as found on some of the top end models made in China, but this does not impair the overall look of the crane.

The big plus of this model is its modular nature and this means it can be erected in a number of

Cranes Etc Model Rating

Packaging (max 10)	8
Detail (max 30)	25
Features (max 20)	18
Quality (max 25)	22
Price (max 15)	12
Overall (max 100)	85%

MEWP book for tree people

The Arboricultural Association recently published its guide to the use of MEWPs in Arboriculture, with the help of a number of experts, including the HSE and IPAF, it addresses every aspect of using powered access when working with trees.

The guide covers everything from legal considerations to selecting the right machine, to setting it up properly, to the use of MEWPs in tree work, to safety equipment and rescue work.

The book also includes plenty of colour photographs and suggested layouts for risk assessment and

method statement forms and other planning tools. The authors clearly understand that when a guide such as this contains so much information many readers will skim through it, so they have highlighted critical items on each page, helping ensure that those who do at least gain the essentials. Association guides are often poorly written and miss a good deal of useful information, this one has clearly been very well researched, its content is first class and extensive. In fact although it is strongly tilted towards tree work, it is still a very good informative read for anyone using

MEWPs no matter what their work may be, especially when considering their use for the first time.

The guide is available from the Arboriculture Association, priced at £10 and can be ordered on www.trees.or.uk

