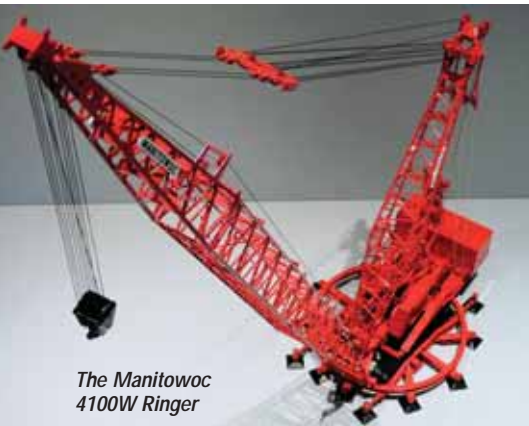


# Retro ringer



The Manitowoc 4100W Ringer

Most diecast models in the construction sector are commissioned as promotional items representing equipment currently for sale. Recently though there has been a trend towards producing models of famous machines of the past.

TWH Collectibles has now produced a series of four different versions of the historic American Manitowoc 4100W crawler crane modelled in 1:50 scale. This third version is a model of a heavy lift crane with its famous Ringer attachment that allowed the capacity of the basic crane to be increased significantly so that it could lift 100 tons at almost 100ft radius.

The model comes in a nice box and is complete with an instruction booklet and an interesting reprint of an original Manitowoc marketing brochure. It takes a couple of hours

to assemble the model using the screwdriver that is provided, while a couple of keys are included that are used to operate the model. Manitowoc has commissioned a high quality detailed model, the ring is well made with working levelling jacks complete with appropriate hydraulic hoses, and the metal

crawler tracks are excellent with realistic working chain drives. At the side and rear of the crane, a heavy structure supports the additional six large counterweight boxes which rest on the ring.

The crane body impresses because of the fine paintwork and graphics and the cab is fully detailed inside with seat and control levers. Both sides of the model feature very good sliding doors which can be easily opened. The roof of the crane superstructure has an exhaust with chrome muffler, and the gantry structure is very well detailed with step irons leading to a ladder which provides access to the top of the gantry. All sheaves are metal and the model engineering in this area is of a very high quality.

Turning to the booms, they are very well made with the main chord members cast to replicate the



Very detailed cab

inverted angled sections of the original, and the boom sections have internal bracing. The screwed connections between sections are good and positive, and the sheaves in the boom tip are metal and free rolling. A pair of hook blocks is provided which enable a variety of rigging options.

The model functions all work well. Rotation of the crane on the ring is very smooth, and the luffing and winch drums work fine, and do not slip under reasonable loads. The only compromise is that there is not sufficient thread/cable on the model to enable the boom to be laid out horizontally, but most collectors will be happy to pose the crane in a normal operating mode.

Overall this is a very good model of an historic crane, and anyone receiving it will be pleased with the excellent



With the extension kit it reaches for the sky

detail and high quality of manufacture. For those wanting an even more impressive model an expansion kit is available which enables the crane to be extended to around 2.3 metres/7ft high moving it into the 'super model' category where it will impress all who see it.

To read the full review of this model visit [www.cranesetc.co.uk](http://www.cranesetc.co.uk)



Heavy ring structure

#### Cranes Etc Model Rating

Packaging (max 10)	9
Detail (max 30)	27
Features (max 20)	15
Quality (max 25)	22
Price (max 15)	12
Overall (max 100)	85%

## New JLG models

At the New York Toy Fair in February TWH Collectibles presented prototypes of a new range of JLG models in 1:50 scale. There will be five models including three aerial work platforms and two telehandlers, and they promise to be the most detailed models of this type yet produced.

The first models in the series, an 860SJ straight boom and 3394RT Rough Terrain scissor lift, are expected to be released later this year, the pricing is not yet known. This model range will compliment the larger well established range of JLG models made in 1:32 scale and will please the many model collectors that follow the 1:50 scale.



JLG 3394RT

JLG 860SJ