

The first Mobile self erector scale model?

The mobile self erecting tower crane has become an important part of the mobile crane scene, thanks largely to Dutch company Spierings, whose beautifully crafted cranes are still individually checked over by Leo Spierings himself before each one ships.

A company in Holland, WSI models has developed a 1/50th scale model of the five axle Spierings SK599 AT5N, the crane that some say is the most attractive model in the company's range. You might have seen the prototype of this model on display in the Spierings hospitality area on its stand at Bauma. The company has now incorporated a number of improvements into the final production run.



The five axle is possibly the best looking Spierings crane?

The scale model is fantastically detailed and fully operational, it even comes with its own set of outrigger mats. Given the complexity of the structure, not to mention its price, it is certainly not a model for children.

The manufacturer has priced the model at €269 including VAT - roughly £185.

WSI Collectibles is a new brand that the company has adopted for the development and production of its top end 1/50th scale models.



A view from the top



The model can be fully extended

It claims that it uses the latest techniques in the field of model building, aiming for constant perfection, in which detailing and brand based features play a critical role.

The company also produces larger scale less costly models under the Thematoys (1:64) and Promotoys (1:87) brand names.

*The models are available in the UK and Ireland through WSI's local dealers
In Ireland: Diecastheaven Models, Meneval Place 11, Farnleigh Waterford, Tel. 0386 191 6613*

In the UK: DMB Models, Maple Row 7, Brierley Hill, DY5 2RG. Tel: 0138 474 744

A big big scissor

JLG launched the scale model of its 26 metre Liftlux 260-25 late last year, we have now had a chance to review it in detail. This is one of JLG's 1/32nd scale models, making what would have been a large model in 1/50th scale into a very large model indeed. It is very substantial, weighing 1.5 kg and standing 840mm (33 inches) high when fully extended. A built in

spring loaded pawl and ratchet type device prevents the platform from dropping except at the lowest heights.

With extending deck and four opening equipment chests it is accurately detailed, while the screw down stabilisers provide similar levelling characteristics to the real thing. Priced at £65.79 including VAT or just under \$90 in North America, the model can be ordered through the JLG website, there is a link from www.vertikal.net.



The model stands 840mm high



The Liftlux 260-25



Outrigger leveling is possible



Know your wire rope

If you use wire rope or are responsible for cranes or other equipment that uses wire ropes, then the books published by Casar special wire ropes will be of interest. The books are written by renowned rope expert Roland Verreet of Wire Rope Technology of Aachen, Germany with some of them co-authored by Dr Isabel Ridge, a principal research fellow at the University of Reading.

The five books that we have looked at are: Steel wire rope for cranes, Wire rope forensics, The inspection of steel wire ropes, Handling, installation and maintenance of steel wire ropes and Are you safe?

The books are full of very practical information and yet they are written in a very readable style even for the non engineer. Verreet uses interesting real life case studies along with plenty of photographs, drawings and cartoons to illustrate the points and make them an interesting as well as informative read. We plan to review the individual books in future issues of Cranes&Access.

For information on obtaining copies of the books contact Casar on +49 6841 8091-0 or email: sales.export@casar.de



The detailing is good and includes hinged compartments

The steel wire rope books written by Roland Verreet are first class

The detail is first class