

Link-Belt 80100 Series II

Link-Belt is based in Kentucky in the USA and the company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Sumitomo Heavy Industries of Japan. The company has a couple of scale models that it offers for sale from its web shop. The latest model is this updated version of the RTC 80100 Series II Rough Terrain crane which has a revised cab design and new decals. The real crane is a three axle 100 ton (91 tonne) capacity machine. A particular feature are the removable outrigger boxes which reduce both the weight and the width of the crane for transport purposes.



The swingaway extension adds plenty of extra height

The model is made by NZG of Germany and comes nicely packaged with the smaller pieces individually wrapped in tissue although there are no instructions included. The crane has a number of parts and is straightforward to assemble, while the removable components do allow the model to be accurately posed in typical transport mode.

The chassis has great tyres, with a deep tread and metal wheels, while the deck has some very fine details including access steps and grab rails, and small mirrors at each corner. All axles steer with the rear pair being linked together and both

normal and crab steering are possible.

The metal outriggers are contained within a pair of separate boxes which can be attached to the chassis and clipped firmly into place. There are excellent metal pads, and access steps which clip onto each outrigger box.

The crane has a high level of detail with very thin metal grab rails throughout, while the casting of superstructure panels includes hinges and latches. There is a really nice fuel tank, together with an exhaust pipe and air intake, and an excellent radiator grille.

The counterweight comes as two separate slabs and it is possible to display the crane with no slabs attached, or one or two as desired.

The boom is a five section telescopic with metal sheaves in the boom nose, which roll very nicely. A single heavy headache-ball type hook is provided and it keeps a good tension in the supplied rope.

It is a pity that a separate hook block is not provided, as the model has a second winch available for it.

The bi-fold swingaway boom extension is a very nice casting, again with metal sheaves throughout. It consists of two pieces, the main lattice section and a folding section which can be detached if required. They are nice metal parts although the jib cannot be posed with an offset angle.

This model is high quality with some fine detailing, and it has lots of flexibility in how it can be displayed. It is available from the Link-Belt web shop for \$145 and it is very good value at this price.



Counterweight slabs are removable



Fine detailing on the cab



Travelling on site



Rigged and ready to lift

Cranes Etc Model Rating

Packaging (max 10)	8
Detail (max 30)	23
Features (max 20)	16
Quality (max 25)	20
Price (max 15)	12
Overall (max 100)	79%

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