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GOING UP IN THE WORLD

A history of Simon Engineering, the development of the powered access industry and a lifetime as an engineer, by Denis Ashworth

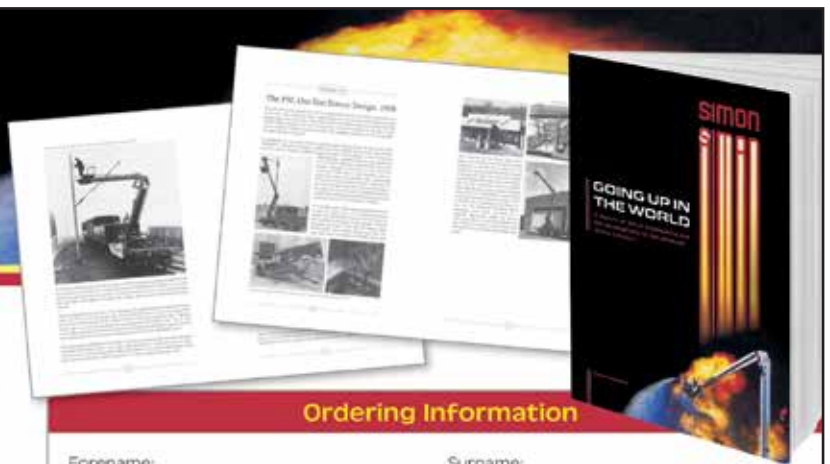
Ashworth was a keen engineer and from an early age found himself in at the very start of the modern powered access industry.

His book is an unusual combination of autobiography and history of Simon Engineering Dudley, a pioneer of the powered access industry and at one time, the world's largest manufacturer of aerial lifts.

The coffee table sized book, is highly readable and includes around 150 photographs and drawings from the very beginning of the industry. It is a 'must read' for anyone who is interested in powered access, the hydraulic equipment industry or in comparing modern day engineering challenges with those of an entirely different era.

The book is available direct from the publishers at £19.50, plus £4.50 postage and packing.

- Continental Europe €23 plus €6.50 postage & packing
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The Terex Superlift 3800

The full size Terex Superlift 3800 crawler crane was introduced at Bauma 2013, and has a maximum capacity of 650 tonnes, allowing it to erect wind turbines up to 170 metre hub height. This 1:50 scale model by Conrad is painted in the colours of Franz Bracht, the German heavy lifting and transport specialist.

It comes with a 24 page colour manual, and the assembly is described with a series of staged photographs. Full assembly takes several hours. The model parts fit together very well with just the occasional removal of excess paint from some connection holes required.

The track frames on this version of the model are improved and narrower than previously. They look very good and roll well. There are four outriggers with jacks for lifting the base crane - carbody and superstructure - off of a transport trailer.

The crane superstructure and cab are nicely decorated with Bracht graphics which are very sharp. The metal boom and jib sections are heavy, very strong and robust. Geometrically perfect, they fit together extremely well. Mesh walkways can be fitted as can a safety line system which has a realistic fine steel cable.

All of the sheaves are high quality metal, although the pendant bars are strong, robust plastic. However the colour match with the metal parts is a little variable and they do not represent the true detail of the real crane's pendants.

All three hoist drums are operated using keys which push through holes in the crane superstructure,

they also have a slotted end so that they can be driven using a powered screwdriver. The three hoist drums mounted in the boom and derrick sections are operated similarly so that all the functions of the real crane can be replicated. The boom hoists are pinned in position and are removable. The hook is modular and mainly metal.

The suspended ballast frame is attached to the crane horizontally with two working winch lines. The height is controlled by two hydraulic cylinders which are operated by rotating the jackets which unscrew the pistons and it works very well.

This is a very well made and strong model. It is a fully flexible with many configurations possible, including just using the major components as transport loads. Overall this is another impressive heavy crawler crane model from Conrad. It costs around £500 from dealers.

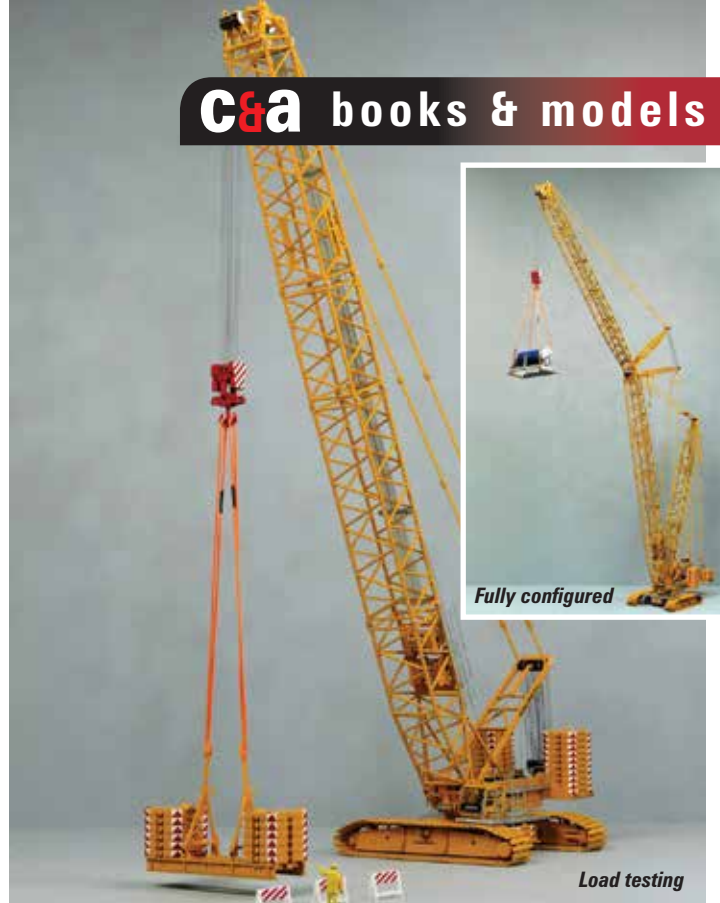
To read the full review of this model visit www.cranesetc.co.uk

Cranes Ect Model Rating

Packaging (max 10)	9
Detail (max 30)	27
Features (max 20)	17
Quality (max 25)	22
Price (max 15)	10
Overall (max 100)	85%



The crane on the road

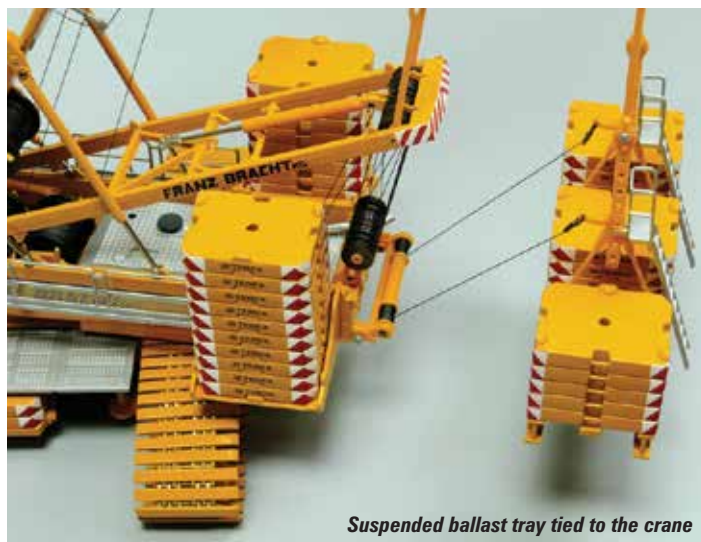


Fully configured

Load testing



Walkway and safety line on the boom



Suspended ballast tray tied to the crane