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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**

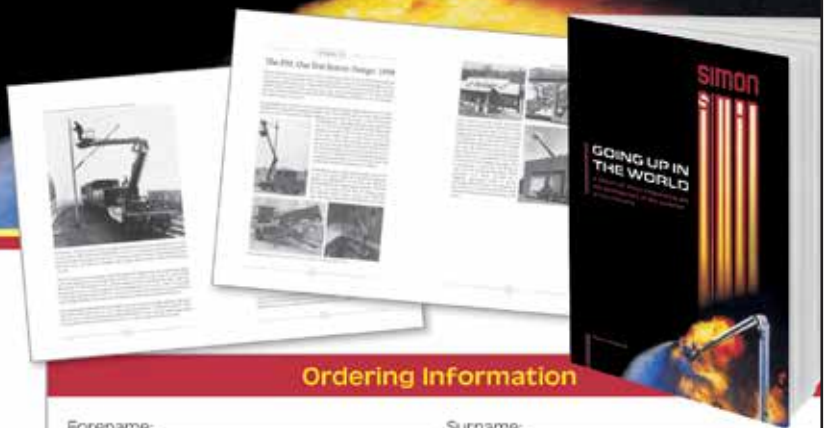
Ashworth was a keen engineer and from an early age found himself in at the very start of the modern powered access industry.

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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Ruston Bucyrus 22-RB

The Bucyrus Erie company had a long history of making mining and construction machines, dating back to the 1880s. In 1930 Bucyrus joined with the British company Ruston & Hornsby Ltd of Lincoln, to form Ruston-Bucyrus Ltd to build machines in the UK under the Ruston Bucyrus brand name.

This 1:50 scale model of the historic 22-RB is the latest in a range by EMD and it is configurable as a crane, dragline, or clamshell grab. It includes a small twelve page reprint of an original Ruston Bucyrus brochure which has interesting details and photos of the real machine.

The model is very detailed and as a consequence it should be handled with some care. The metal crawler track pads are very thin and nicely made and inside the track frames a set of drive chains are modelled and these look good although they are inevitably a little large for the scale.

The superstructure includes a very high quality of modelling, with thin but delicate grab rails at the cab and at to the rear. At the back, the Ruston Bucyrus name is superbly

rendered in the counterweight. Internal details are excellent. The cab has operating levers and an uncomfortable-looking pedestal seat. Through the various opening doors a detailed diesel engine can be seen.

The boom is metal and the sections are made of pressed plate which is very thin, although from all normal perspectives it produces an accurate looking boom.

Three configurations are possible. As a crane, the metal hook is small and consequently light, so it does not put much tension on the thread. The dragline bucket is a metal part and is well made and detailed, and it poses realistically in various positions. The metal grab is also of a high quality and it opens and closes, and a tagline can be controlled with a winch on the boom.

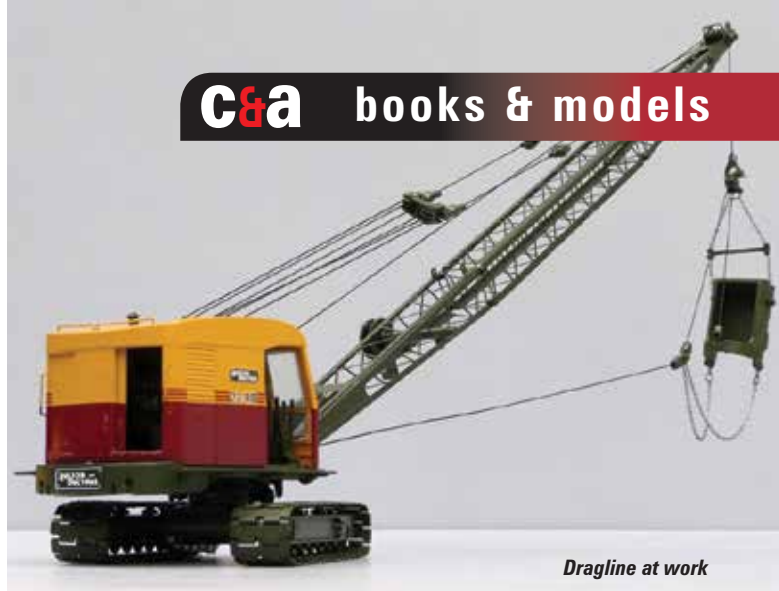
All the main functions of the machine are replicated. It slews well, and, using a supplied key, the boom can be raised and lowered, and two winches can be operated.

The quality and detail of this model are excellent, and the functionality is very good too. It is a convincing looking replica which will bring back memories for many. It sells for around £250.

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

Cranes Ect Model Rating	
Packaging (max 10)	9
Detail (max 30)	26
Features (max 20)	18
Quality (max 25)	22
Price (max 15)	11
Overall (max 100)	86%

The 22-RB rigged as a crane



Dragline at work



Very realistic cab



Excellent detail underneath

Detailed grab

