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Soilmec SC-100

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The Soilmec SC-100 is a crawler crane with a 100 tonne maximum capacity. It is optimised for foundation construction and has a maximum 42 metre main boom length. This 1:50 scale model is from an unnamed Chinese maker and includes a SH-30 Hydromill. It comes partially assembled in a large box, but does not include any instructions, which is a pity for such a complex model.

The tracks are metal and roll easily enough by hand. The track frames extend and retract so the model can be posed in crane or transport mode. Between the tracks are four swing out jacks for supporting unloading and supporting the unit while installing or removing the tracks, and these rotate and can be screwed down.

The standard of detailing is good, and there are fine mesh walkways mounted on the sides of the superstructure. At the rear the counterweight has the Soilmec name and logo nicely embossed and painted, and it is removable for transport. There are a couple of winches in the superstructure frame, and these are accessed through holes in the bodywork, but they are not too obtrusive.

The boom is metal with internal cross bracing on the sections and they are joined by brass nuts and bolts. The pendant lines are nicely made, but most of the connections are riveted which reduces the flexibility for rigging the crane with different boom lengths. The boom backstops are plastic, and restrict the angle at which the boom can be luffed compared to the real machine.

Two hooks are included and they are both metal parts. The three sheave block has a solid bank of sheaves, and it seems rather large. The three winches on the model work, with friction used as a brake.

For the hydro mill configuration a different boom tip is used, with additional sections added to the boom, and a cable guide is attached at the boom foot.

The large guide wheels for the hose and hydraulics are plastic and detailed. The SH-30 hydro mill is very good. It is mainly metal with very good internal detailing including hydraulic lines and cutter heads which are plastic and look realistic. The hoses and hydraulics are not quite supple enough to hang realistically, but with some work an acceptable look can be achieved.

Overall, this is another interesting, complex, and good-looking foundation equipment model. Most of the model engineering is good, but some of the modelling choices made means it is not as flexible as it might have been. It can be purchased from Soilmec exhibition shops for €349.

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

Cranes Ect Model Rating

Packaging (max 10)	6
Detail (max 30)	26
Features (max 20)	15
Quality (max 25)	20
Price (max 15)	11
Overall (max 100)	78%



Good looking model



Discrete holes in the body for accessing the winches



Detachable counterweight



The SC-100 in crane mode



Configured with the SH-30 Hydro mill