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Demag AC 55-3

As part of the rebranding of Terex Cranes, the Terex Challenger 3160 has become the Demag AC 55-3, and this is reflected in this 1:50 scale model from Conrad. The real crane is a 55 tonne capacity Terrain with a main boom length of 50 metres.

There is some minor assembly to do with the attachment of wing mirrors, and an instruction sheet details the counterweight attachment mechanism

There is little detail on the underside of the chassis with the steering mechanism for the axles being purely functional, and there is no drive train detail modelled whatsoever. The wheels have good all terrain tyres. The steering works very well and each axle steers independently, allowing any mode to be posed.

The distinctive carrier cab looks good with the lights nicely detailed. Behind the cab, the carrier decking has very nice diamond plated anti-slip surfaces. The outrigger beams are made of tough plastic and the outrigger jack cylinder rods are standard screw threads, with plastic pads. They can hold the weight of the crane perfectly well.

At work



The crane cab has plastic grab rails and inside there is an operator's seat and controls. It tilts smoothly to a reasonable angle. The main counterweight comes as a fixed part on the crane and a separate slab which can be carried on the deck. A good feature is the counterweight attachment mechanism which can be used realistically on the model. Two spring loaded pins can be pushed down to engage the counterweight and lift it into the working position, just like the real crane.

The boom sections are die-cast metal and fairly simple. It can be extended to full length of almost a metre, and each section has the usual locking mechanism to prevent the boom sections retracting when elevated.

A twin sheave hook block is provided, and the sheaves are metal, although configuration of the hook block limits the reeving options to four falls of rope. The winch is operated by turning the winch drum directly and it has enough friction to hold a reasonable load.

This is a typically robust model from Conrad, with nice functionality in the counterweight attachment. In terms of detailing the model is reasonably good, and the Demag colour scheme makes for an attractive model. It costs €158 from the Terex webshop.

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

Cranes Etc Model Rating

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Packaging (max 10) | 8 |
| Detail (max 30) | 23 |
| Features (max 20) | 16 |
| Quality (max 25) | 20 |
| Price (max 15) | 9 |
| Overall (max 100) | 76% |

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books & models



The crane on the road



Attractive Demag colour scheme

Diamond plated surfaces



Alongside the Terex Challenger 3160

