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In transport mode, but A-frame cannot be fully lowered



Walkways fitted and tracks extended

Stacked counterweights for crane mode



Rigged as a crane

BAUER MC 96

The MC 96 is a duty cycle crane optimised for repetitive foundation activities. Depending on configuration the real crane weighs around 120 tonnes. When used as a crane it has a maximum capacity of up to 130 tonnes at a four metre radius.

This model is made by BYMO Models in the scale of 1:50 and it is in the colours of Malcolm, a US foundation engineering company. It is configured with the DHG V Grab System. An instruction book is included but it does not cover the MC 96 in crane mode or the grab system modelled here, which is a pity.

It has good quality metal crawler tracks with detailed pads but there are no working rollers on the track frames. They roll well and are mounted on extendible frames.

The cab is detailed and the crane superstructure is metal including the removable side panel which allows access to the winches. Small graphics add to the look. The model features the optional walkways of the real crane and these are metal and so are the handrails on top.

The counterweight is a single large block with six smaller blocks which are used in crane mode. The

metal boom sections are nicely cast with riveted walkway mesh and tiny black bolts to make the connections. The wire rope pendants are good with interlocking connectors and nut and bolt connections. A large metal hook is supplied with two sheaves.

The boom can be luffed but the range is restricted, however, the crane is stable within the range of allowable boom movement. The three winches are operated by plastic keys which are stored behind the removable panel. They do not have positive brakes but there is enough friction to hold moderate loads.

The DHG V grab is an impressively large part which is mainly metal, and the cable drums and hoses make for an impressive and complex model. It is functional with the grab opening and the swivel mechanism working.

A high point of the model is the Malcolm decoration and graphics which are excellent. However, it cannot be properly posed in a transport configuration. It is good value given the complexity and flexibility of the model and costs around €349 from model dealers.

Rigged with the grab



CRANES ETC MODEL RATING

Packaging (max 10)	6
Detail (max 30)	27
Features (max 20)	17
Quality (max 25)	21
Price (max 15)	11
Overall (max 100)	82%

To see the full review, including a full unpacking and set up video, visit www.cranesetc.co.uk