

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.

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Nice branded box



On the road



Heavy hook block rigged



Autovictor container

AUTOVICTOR LTM 1750-9.1

Scale models have often been used by equipment manufacturers as a branding and marketing tool, and rental companies such as Mammoet and Sarens also have significant merchandising operations. Autovictor is an Italian heavy lifting and transport specialist running a fleet of 300 vehicles.

The Italian scale model dealer and retailer ModelMarris has launched a scale model of the 750 tonne Liebherr LTM 1750-9.1 All Terrain crane as the first of a range of new models in Autovictor colours. Also announced is a branded shipping container.

The model comes in an Autovictor branded box with an impressive photo of the real crane, an excellent instruction manual is also included with a parts list.

The model is very detailed. This includes the chassis which has working steering and suspension and Michelin branding moulded into the sidewalls of the tyres. The carrier cab has a realistic number plate, and a fleet number on the doors. Behind the cab the engine area has tanks, and the mesh grille is excellent.

The outrigger beams are removeable to reduce axle loads. Large yellow metal spreader plates with useable lifting points are also included with the model.

The high level of detail continues with the superstructure cab which tilts and rotates from the transport position and includes tiny warning decals. The superstructure is equipped with metal handrails and ladders, and the Autovictor decoration is applied very well. The power pack has useable lifting jacks to enable the counterweight to be connected and disconnected from the superstructure. The counterweight blocks are separate and include weight decals.

The boom sections have realistically thin side walls and, with the Autovictor livery, it gives a convincing overall appearance. The TY Guying system for the telescopic boom is of a heavy construction and looks and performs well. Two metal hooks are supplied and they are of an excellent quality with metal sheaves and working safety latches. Another nice touch is that a lifting beam is also included.

The shipping container also looks great in Autovictor colours. It is metal with very detailed graphics and paint highlighting the locks.

These are great looking models in Autovictor colours, and they will match up well with support trucks promised for the future. Both models are available from the ModelMarris webshop www.modelmarris.com. The LTM 1750 costs €579 and the shipping container is €40.



Ready to lift

CRANES ETC MODEL RATING

Packaging (max 10)	8
Detail (max 30)	28
Features (max 20)	19
Quality (max 25)	23
Price (max 15)	13
Overall (max 100)	91%

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