

# BIG is best

**This month, Steven Downes takes a detailed look at the long-awaited 1:50th-scale Komatsu PC8000 hydraulic shovel from Bymo.**



First announced back at Bauma last year, the new Bymo model of the PC8000 is finally entering production and will be available shortly for collectors. The weight of the model is considerable, highlighting the amount of metal that has gone into producing this finely detailed replica.

The undercarriage frames have good surface detailing, including freely rotating rollers and tensioned idlers that keep the crisply cast metal track pads taut. The hydraulic drive motor housings have been replicated with accurately modelled toothed drive wheels and pipework for great realism.

This is continued on the upper deck, which is fully populated with numerous air cleaners, filters and exhaust stacks, fine mesh walkways and a fully replicated fire suppression system. The accurately scaled safety railings run around the upper deck where side access platforms and ladders are all fitted, accurately replicating the full-size machine.

The construction of the model's upper-structure has been implemented well. Mesh protective screens are fitted behind the open grilles of the side panels, revealing the inner structural detailing. Fine mesh-covered walkways are fitted on the side and front of the machine providing service access, and additional walkways are fitted to both sides of the large and fully replicated cab, which has side-fitted sunblinds covering the large glazed windows.

The wear plates and teeth fitted to the shovel give the model a rugged look, with a good range of movement of the boom, stick and shovel. The hydraulics are fairly stiff, allowing the shovel and arm to remain in position while the main lift cylinders are a little weak, so the boom cannot remain in a raised position for long.

Most models are produced in China these days, so it is interesting to see a model produced in Bosnia and Bymo have done a good job in bringing the Komatsu PC8000 to the masses.

**Left: Made in Bosnia, this finely detailed scale model by Bymo of a giant Komatsu PC8000 is finally available to collectors.**

**Above and Below: The upper-structure features mesh screens fitted behind the panels, revealing the inner structural detailing.**

**Right (Four Pictures): The level of detail on this model is incredible, with realistic safety rails and hydraulic hoses on the upper-structure.**

