



# HOT TIPS

WSI Collectibles has recently launched several Ginaf branded tipper trucks in 1:50 scale; Steven Downes takes a closer look.

In 1948, the Ginaf brand was formed, starting out with the rebuilding of ex-US army trucks and in 1967 the company gained a licence to begin constructing their own vehicles. One of the unique features of the Ginaf chassis is the hydraulically operated steering rear axle which gives the truck greater manoeuvring capabilities, coupled with the use of DAF components and the trademark hydro-pneumatic suspension, utilising nitrogen and hydraulics so that the rear axles compensate each other, giving good roll stability. WSI are well known for their exceptional range of 1:50 scale truck replicas so it is no surprise to see them release several models from the Ginaf range, featuring all the details of the full sized trucks perfectly.

The smallest of the pair is the Ginaf X 4345 TSV four axle tipper, which has been authentically captured, from the cab casting which highlights the ridges and contours of the front grille and body panels with a fully replicated interior, rear view and safety mirrors, sunvisor and roof mounted air conditioning unit.

The chassis is adorned with details including the full drivetrain from the transfer box to the front and rear axles, with the rearmost axle demonstrating the unique hydraulic steering which is linked to the front steering axle. All the suspension arms have been replicated for total realism with the silencer, air and fuel tanks fixed to the chassis, topped with a full length protective fender. The hydraulic tank and exhaust stack are fixed behind the cab, which can be tilted forward

to reveal the replicated engine block and cooling systems beneath which really adds to the model. The wheels are a mixture of wide floatation tyres with an intricate tread pattern for the front axles and more standard double tyres for the rear with detailed silver and gray wheel hubs.

The Ginaf X5250 TS is the bigger brother, featuring a five axle chassis with the back three axles driven. Once again, the underside of the model is accurately modelled with all the suspension and drivetrain detail present, including the steering rear axle with curved guards fitted above each wheel. Attention to detail is what makes these models so lifelike and WSI has done a great job in capturing the essence of each truck, with clear and tinted lenses for the lights, amber beacons on the roof and the little details here and there, like the shovel fixed to the dump body and the integrated access ladder. Both models feature tipping bodies which have very nicely engineered and fully functional hinged doors which offer the ability to open and close them as required. The linkages are perfectly aligned to allow the doors to rest against the side of the body during loading while the rear tailgate pivots as the body is raised to the tipping position. The multi-stage hydraulic piston is stiff, allowing the full range of movement to be demonstrated.

Both models are exceptionally well engineered with crisp detailing on the castings and a quality paint finish. As well as the "Premium Line" versions presented here, they have also appeared in several company decorations.

Author: Steven Downes

