

DIECAST ROUNDUP

New models from Conrad and Norscot have been announced, as Steven Downes reports

Conrad has been busy with more new truck releases, including the 1:50th scale Liebherr HTM904 4-axle concrete mixer based on the Mercedes Benz Actros chassis. The chassis has functional steering of the front two axles with highly detailed wheel hubs, accurate moulded tyres and a detailed, non tilting cab. The mixing drum is all metal and heavy giving the model a substantial feel with a pivoting discharge chute and platform to the rear.



Joining the mixer is the 3-axle MAN TGX prime mover with flat bed platform and Palfinger PK530002-SH knuckle boom crane which has been finished in the Schmidbauer company livery. The accurately replicated cabin tilts forward, the front axle has functional steering and the platform can be removed to reveal a fifth wheel coupling. The chassis houses extending stabilisers which can be deployed for the exceptionally crafted knuckle boom crane which is fully operational, from the extending boom sections, fixed and winch operated hook blocks and two-stage folding and extending main outriggers, not to mention the accurately replicated hydraulic cylinders and crisp printing of the warning and safety labels.



CAT CT660 Tractor with Trail King Trailer (Tracked loader sold separately)



Caterpillar unveiled the new CT660 vocational truck range at the ConExpo event back in March and Norscot have now released two 1:50th scale models of the CT660, one configured as a dump truck and the other as a prime mover with three axle low bed trailer.

The light material dump body tips to a reasonable height with simulated, non-functional canvas cover, side edge planks and pivoting tailgate while the opening bonnet reveals the replicated Cat C13 engine block. The cabin interior has been modelled with the chassis having two main axles with a steering lift axle and floatation tyres mounted to the steering front axle. Chromed fuel tanks are fitted to both sides of the chassis which have integrated platforms for easy cab access.



CT660 Dump Truck (Pictured with the Cat 374D Tracked Excavator)

The tractor version of the CT660 is finished in Caterpillar yellow with a black 3-axle Trail King low loader trailer. As with the dump truck, the large contoured bonnet tilts forward to reveal the C13 engine block and CX31 transmission with a fifth wheel coupling and chromed fenders covering the rear wheels. The front grill has the CAT logo centrally located with both cab and fender mounted rear view mirrors while the chromed sun visor and air horns top off another good release from Norscot.

