

# New product launches

Steven Downes reports from the Intermat show in Paris on the latest scale models.



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1 and 1a: Hitachi launched a new range of Dash 5 machines and the ZX210-5 tracked excavator was available in exacting 1:50th scale, with a host of detailing seldom seen on a model. The engine cover can be raised to reveal the full power plant within while the cab door opens to give a better view of the fully replicated and decorated interior. Armoured hose connections and raised pipework on the boom are further details that really add to the level of realism.



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2: Liebherr launched a number of new excavator machines at the show and the R936C tracked excavator also appeared in 1:50th scale from NZG. The model captures the aesthetic looks of the newly designed body with fully functional boom, stick and bucket linkage, topped with a quick coupler and removable general-purpose bucket. The undercarriage has highly detailed track frames with individual rollers fitted both bottom and top, and individually linked tracks which are taut and rotate well.



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3: The new Bomag BF800C tracked paver is another exceptionally well-executed model, produced in China by Kaster in 1:50th scale. Rotating linked tracks, complete with pivoting guards, functional hopper sides that fold, cause the front flaps also to operate while the entire cabin can slide to each side of the chassis to give an unobstructed view for the operator. The rear screed can be extended and raised realistically.

4: Joining the paver is the Bomag BMP8500 remote control trench compactor, which is a tiny model in 1:50th scale but packs a real punch. Both body covers are hinged and open to reveal the engine and various tanks and cooling systems within. There is also an opening storage compartment where a mock-up of the remote is located. The chassis has working articulating steering and finely cast compactor wheels, complete with non-removable extensions



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5: Komatsu had the 1:50th-scale D155AX dozer available from their boutique and the model is highly detailed throughout, typical of a Universal Hobbies replica. The functional blade and ripper work well with rotating single grouser tracks and a fully furnished cabin interior all adding to the realism. The crisp printing of the Komatsu markings and grille covers and the small details found throughout the model make it very desirable.



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6: Wacker Neuson had a 1:50th-scale model of the 50Z midi tracked excavator available from their shop. The model has a working blade mounted to the undercarriage with rubber tracks and a tilting frame connected to the upper body, allowing about 10 degrees of tilt. The body and cab detailing is good with a pivoting king post and fully operable digging boom being great features of this mini replica.



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7: One interesting set of work tools from Wacker Neuson are the electric hammer and vibrating compactor plate. Available separately, they are 1:12th scale and highly detailed with a heavy weighted feel and crisp printing of the graphics and decoration. The hammer sits in the wheeled cradle and has four different heads, which can be inserted into the socket on the end of the hammer, or stored in the rack on the rear of the cradle. The vibrating plate models feature the simulated pull cord, fuel and oil caps and operator's handle, with tiny safety and operator labels applied to round off another interesting model from Universal Hobbies.