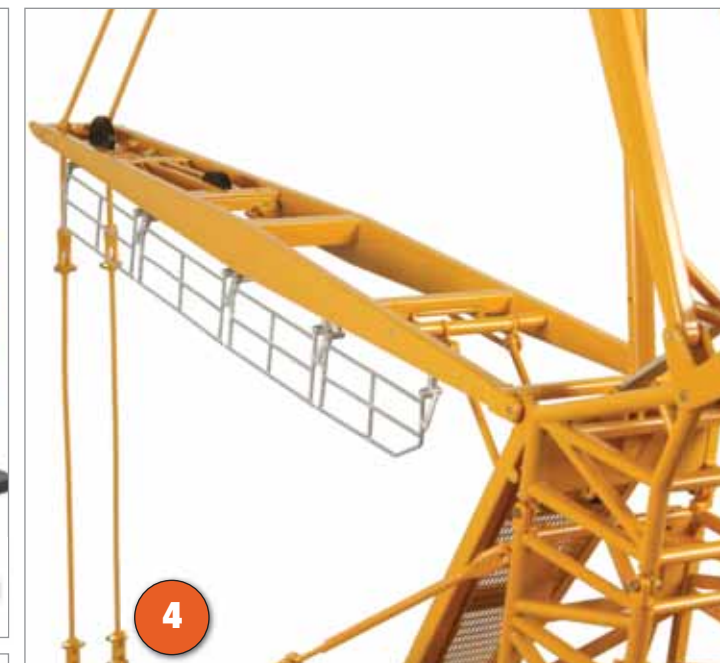


HEAVY LIFT BOOM

Liebherr's giant LTM11200-9.1 crane was featured in a recent issue. This month Steven Downes reviews a miniature version.



1: The LTM11200-9.1 is the ideal platform for windmill erection work due to its high reach, excellent lifting capacity and its quick erection and dismantling. The 1:50th-scale model from NZG, complete with a luffing jib and extension, admirably demonstrates the functionality of the full-size machine. Over 8ft high when fully rigged, the crane makes an impressive sight in any collection, although finding the space to display it fully could be a problem. The moveable cab can be accurately positioned and tilted and has a replicated interior with safety platform and railings all fitted.



3 and 3a: Just like the full-size model, the fully functional telescopic boom assembly can be separated from the carrier on integrated support legs to demonstrate the ease of transport. The individual counterweight segments lock into place to keep the model balanced, as the weight of the jib with the extension on this model is not insignificant.

4, 4a and 4b: The latest accessory for the LTM11200-9.1 is a 54m luffing jib and 36m extension set, which really give an impressive set-up. For this configuration, three sections of the telescopic boom are removed and a cover is supplied for the end of the boom. The lattice mast sections are crisply cast and plenty of detail can be found on the main frame, including photo-etched walkways and metal safety railings, all accurately captured from the original. All pennant lines are metal and a number of small nuts and bolts are supplied to construct the jib sections. The pulleys are metal and have a deep groove to keep the rope in place. Operation of the jib is via a winch assembly that bolts on to the counterweight platform.



2 and 2a: Out of the box, the sheer weight of the model is impressive and is a lot of metal for the money. The chassis has X-pattern outriggers that allow the model to be levelled and provide a sturdy platform when erected at full height. Base plates are supplied in the box and the stabiliser pads pin on to the ball joints on each corner. All nine axles have working steering and sprung suspension, plus access ladders leading up to the upper decking. The cab of the carrier has a replicated interior and crisp engine panel detailing.

