

New Cats on the block

This month Steven Downes reviews some of the latest 1:50th Caterpillar scale model releases from Norscot.



The Norscot scale model of the 993K wheel loader captures the detail and realism of the full-sized machine very well. The metal safety rails all around the model are accurately scaled and sturdy with functional articulating steering, complete with driveshaft and axle detailing. The high-lift loader arms and bucket, complete with tooth and wear plate detailing, can be fully positioned and the cab interior has been accurately replicated.



The 613G elevating scraper features articulating steering allowing a reasonable degree of movement. The bowl lowers and the elevating scraper frame pivots, with a flexible rubber belt and top guard all replicated. The tyres have an authentic tread design with highly detailed hubs highlighting the bolt heads. Attention to detail is good with flexible rubber mudflaps and detailed cab interior, along with accurately scaled plastic grab rails and the Accu-Grade levelling system.



The 140M grader has a nicely replicated interior showing the new joystick controls, which are visible through the large cab windows. The front wheels have a limited degree of steering with replicated tilt linkage while the rear frame has articulating steering with pivoting suspension of the rear wheel assemblies. The ripper can be adjusted and the mouldboard can be positioned both in height and angle with the blade sliding along the frame. The engine panels have cast detailing with printed grilles and grab rails along with accurate placement of the Caterpillar logos and 'Power Edge' decoration.



The D7E electric drive dozer model captures all the details of the full-size machine. The blade, complete with simulated Accu-Grade levelling system, can be positioned and tilted along with a rear three-shank ripper that can be lowered. The individually linked metal tracks rotate smoothly and the detailed track frames and drive wheels highlight the detail of the real machine. The cab interior has been modelled and is visible through the large windows of the new shaped cab, complete with air conditioning unit at the rear. Accurately scaled grab rails and fine cast details on the body panels give the model a very realistic appearance.



The 854K wheeled dozer has a new U-shaped coal blade, accurately scaled safety rails, new-look cab and body along with updated Power Edge graphics and decoration. The blade raises and tilts, and features include pivoting articulated steering and freely rotating wheels plus an accurately replicated cab interior. The 854K is a big improvement on the looks and realism of the original 854G model and the addition of the coal blade is a very welcome touch.