

Small, but perfectly formed

The Grove YB5515 is a pick and carry crane with a maximum capacity of 15 tons and it can carry around 10 tons on the deck. The maximum tip height is just over 20 metres when the jib is fitted. The Manitowoc Crane Group commissioned this 1:50 scale version from TWH specifying a high quality of detailing to match the rest of its range.

Although the model is small, it is packed full of detail. The front and rear of the carrier deck have excellent small lenses for the lights, and there are tiny graphics as well as a towing hitch at the front. The deck is textured in a subtle way to replicate the real machine's a non-slip diamond plate surface and there are tie down points for securing loads as well as two wing mirrors at the front corners of the carrier.



Superb detail

Detail in the driving cab is of an exceptional standard.

The controls include a bank of joysticks and foot pedals and tucked in behind the seat is a fire extinguisher. There is an excellent set of warning notices and charts within the cab, all in tiny detail. Outside, the cab has a windscreen wiper.

Excellent detail continues on the crane itself. The minute bolts on the slewing ring are painted silver and the boom lift cylinder is metal and has a hydraulic line detailed within the casting. More tiny warning notices are on the boom and the fly jib, and working boom angle indicators are attached. Perhaps the only negative point on the model is the thread used for the hoist rope which is a little too 'stiff' so the relatively light hook does not give it any tension. Fortunately it is easy to replace it with a finer gauge and this is recommended to make the model look better.

The carrier deck has two removable panels which reveal engine detail, and there is also a small hinged cover to a storage box. The main engine cover also opens and remarkably there is tiny prop which can be used to keep the cover open. The door to the driver's cab is another opening feature.

All the crane functions work well and the inclusion of a fly jib enables the model's reach to be extended.

The paintwork, graphics, and accuracy of the castings are all first rate. In terms of detail this Grove is top notch and is very good value for money at around €90.

To read the full review of this model visit www.cranesetc.co.uk



Ready to lift



Fly jib on board



Opening hatches

Cranes Etc Model Rating

Packaging (max 10)	7
Detail (max 30)	27
Features (max 20)	16
Quality (max 25)	21
Price (max 15)	10
Overall (max 100)	81%

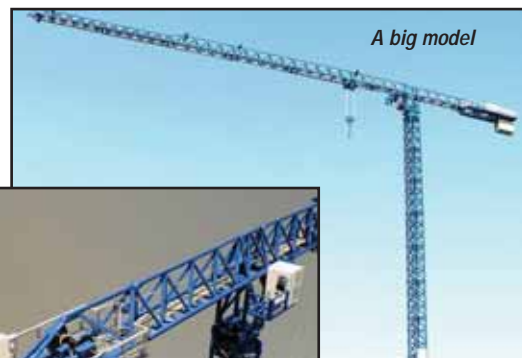
Comansa Tower Crane

This is a 1:87 scale model of the Linden Comansa 21 LC 290 flat top tower crane and is made by the Italian model maker Ros. In spite of the small scale it is a big model and arrives packed in a one metre long box. Assembly is easy and comprises fixing the crane to the mast with all the reeving already done.

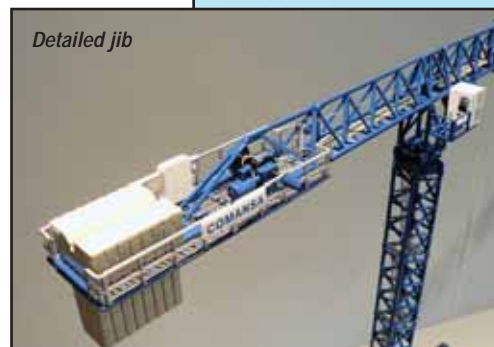
The level of detail is very good for a model in this scale with ladders in the mast and mesh walkways on the jib. Overall the geometry of the review model was very good with the jib being straight and true to a high degree which is a significant achievement. Strangely, white thread is used for the cable where a thinner black thread would look much better.

Unusually for a tower crane model like this, the Comansa features a working trolley which moves by turning the winch on the trolley motor and it actually works quite well. Overall this is a recommended model which is one of the best in this scale. It achieves a Cranes Etc model rating of 71 percent and is available for around €80.

To read the full review of this model visit www.cranesetc.co.uk



A big model



Detailed jib