

# GOING UP IN THE WORLD

**A history of Simon Engineering, the development of the powered access industry and a lifetime as an engineer, by Denis Ashworth**

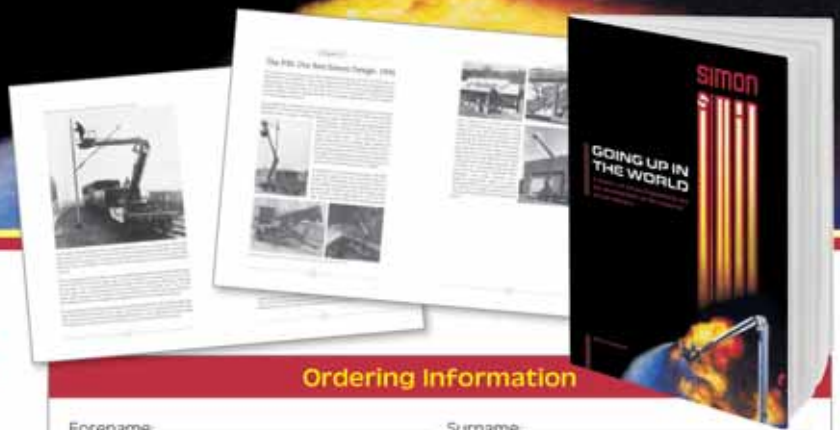
Ashworth was a keen engineer and from an early age found himself in at the very start of the modern powered access industry.

His book is an unusual combination of autobiography and history of Simon Engineering Dudley, a pioneer of the powered access industry and at one time, the world's largest manufacturer of aerial lifts.

The coffee table sized book, is highly readable and includes around 150 photographs and drawings from the very beginning of the industry. It is a 'must read' for anyone who is interested in powered access, the hydraulic equipment industry or in comparing modern day engineering challenges with those of an entirely different era.

The book is available direct from the publishers at £19.50, plus £4.50 postage and packing.

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# 40 Years a Salesman

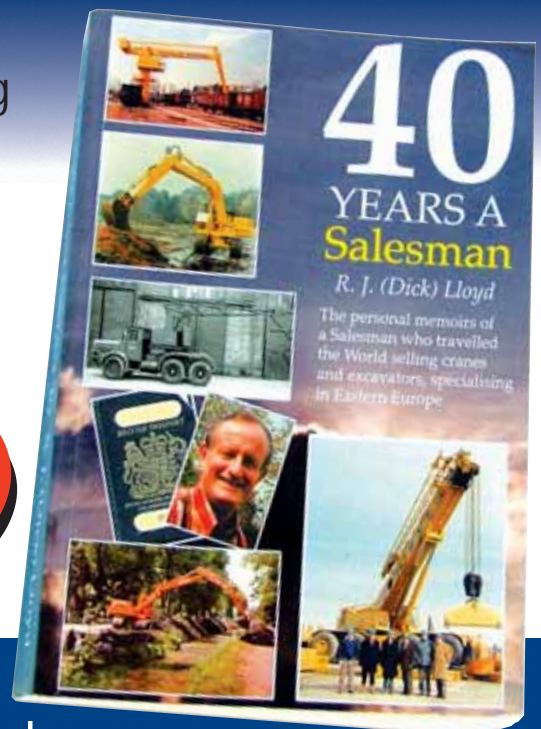
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# Liebherr 112 EC-H

The Liebherr EC-H tower crane scale model by Conrad first appeared some 20 years ago and has been updated several times since then. It has recently been re-released in the colours of the Vinci Group. The model is 1:87 scale to keep the overall size reasonable at some 600mm high and 620mm end-to-end.

A printed sheet of instructions is supplied and assembly is straightforward with the fit of some parts being necessarily tight in order to maintain a good geometry. An interesting inclusion is sticker sheets which allow any of 40 different company names from the Vinci Group to be displayed on the counter-jib signboard.

The base section is a free standing cruciform with heavy ballast blocks providing the stability. The tower sections are joined together with tiny pins which rely on friction and three different tower heights can be constructed. The tower's lattice is realistic but there are no internal ladders. A climbing frame is permanently attached to the slewing platform, although the scaling seems a little off. A capacity/load chart board clips on to the bottom of the tower to provide detail.

The cab is good with a fully modelled internal structure, including an

operator's seat and controls, and the A-frame above looks the part.

The counter-jib has some basic detail with an electrical equipment cabinet and hoist motor and underneath there is a good lattice frame with holes for attaching a plastic signboard. The main jib comes in two sections which join well to produce a good straight geometry. A nice aspect is the metal interlocking jib guy rods and they look good.

The trolley is plastic with tiny plastic sheaves, but it looks fine, however the hook block is a very old style with the rope going through an eyelet rather than the block so it does not appear very realistic. However it does have chevron graphics.

The crane slews well and the trolley can be positioned manually along the main jib. Turning a knob on the counter-jib raises and lowers the hook.

The casting, paintwork and graphics are good and the Vinci colour scheme certainly makes for an attractive looking model. It has been produced as a limited edition of 250 models and is available from the Vinci webshop for €99. Another version in the colours of the Vinci Belgian subsidiary Van Wellen is €120 with only 100 models made.

To read the full review of this model visit [www.cranesetc.co.uk](http://www.cranesetc.co.uk)

## Cranes Etc Model Rating

Packaging (max 10)	8
Detail (max 30)	16
Features (max 20)	12
Quality (max 25)	15
Price (max 15)	8
Overall (max 100)	61



Cruciform base



Realistic profile on the skyline



Parts in the box



Excellent straight main jib



Vinci signboard fitted