

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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Terex RT 100US

The Terex RT 100US is a Rough Terrain crane with a rated capacity of 100 US tons/90 tonnes. In Europe the crane becomes the 90 tonne RT 90. This model is by Conrad of Germany and is in 1:50 scale. It comes with a pictorial instruction sheet.

The chassis has the drive transmission modelled in plastic. The plastic wheels look good with large rough terrain tyres, and there is good steering on both axles. The exhaust arrangement looks very good with an etched box, and there is an attachment point for the hook blocks during transport. Access stair handrails at the front can be raised or lowered to accommodate the counterweight being placed on the deck during self installation of the counterweight.

The two stage outrigger beams are modelled in tough plastic with an excellent colour match. The outrigger jacks are smooth when extended and are strong enough to support the crane with wheels clear of the ground.

The tilting crane cab has plastic grab rails, a mirror and reasonably detailed interior. The one piece counterweight

block has sharp graphics and is detachable.

The large main boom lift cylinder has a plastic barrel with a locking mechanism which is tightened using a supplied key. The boom has a small spooling drum detailed, and there are metal sheaves in the boom nose. The telescopic sections extend smoothly and lock into place when full extension is reached. A rooster sheave extension can be added or left off.

The winch drums can only be turned by finger on the drum. There is enough friction on the drums to hold most loads, and there is also a positive brake mechanism. The hook block has five sheaves and a single line hook/'headache block' is also included.

The bi-fold swingaway extension is a very nice metal lattice casting with a solid plastic top section which has an excellent colour match. It can be installed and run at half or full length and can be pinned at two offset angles.

Overall, this is a strong model with nicely engineered functionality. The RT 90 version costs €185 from the Terex Merchandise Shop.

If any organisation would like some advice on getting a model made for promotional or merchandising purposes, please contact CranesEtc@gmail.com.

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

Lifting steel



Cranes Etc Model Rating

Packaging (max 10)	8
Detail (max 30)	23
Features (max 20)	18
Quality (max 25)	21
Price (max 15)	10
Overall (max 100)	80%



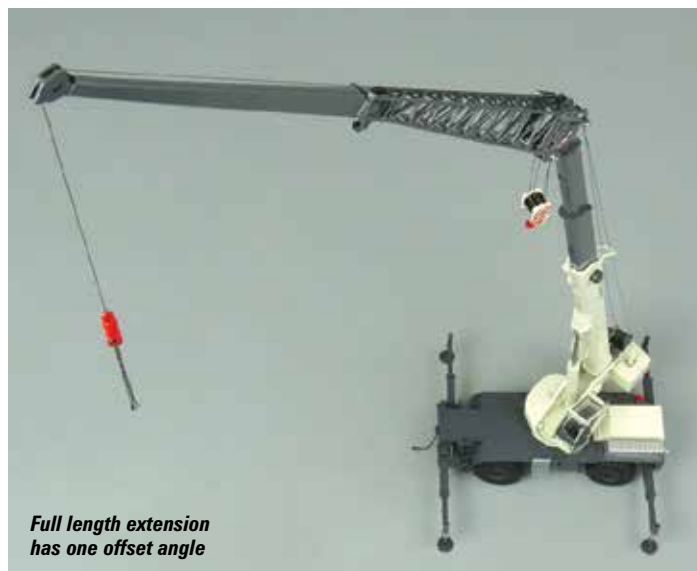
Looks good as a load on a truck



Travelling on site



Tilting cab



Full length extension has one offset angle