

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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Being unloaded



Narrowed forks with a load



Sharp graphics on the boom



Detailed cab

GENIE GTH-1256

The Genie GTH-1256 North American style telehandler has a maximum lift height of 17 metres and a maximum lift capacity of 5,400kg. This model is made by NZG Models and is to the larger 1:32 scale.

It comes in a Genie branded box, and is contained in a pair of trays, and further protected by soft paper. There is no information about the model, however a QR code on the box links to information about the real machine.

The chassis is detailed with plastic driveshafts linking the axles. Both axles steer with a reasonable range of movement. Wheel nuts are highlighted, and nice Rough Terrain tyres are mounted on the wheels. The suspension cylinders are nicely modelled, but non-functional and the front outriggers can be lowered.

The cab is very good. On the outside, there are thin wipers and a good beacon light and a mirror. Inside the control panel and steering wheel are detailed and look realistic.

At the back, the lights are painted, and there is a Genie badge. The engine cover is a nice metal casting with the Genie name indented and painted. Grilles are represented by black paint and

at the front, the lights and mirrors are plastic.

The boom is four section metal with a large telescope cylinder on the top of the base section, which also has large, sharp graphics. The sheaves for the cable telescoping are modelled, but there are no ropes. The boom elevates to a realistic angle, and the sections telescope smoothly with a locking clip at each section's full extension.

The forks and frame are metal. The frame can be angled and is controlled by a smooth cylinder, and the forks can be narrowed.

This is a heavy model with a high metal content, and the graphics and paintwork are very good. It is another robust 1:32 scale model by NZG and functions well, and interesting poses are possible.

It costs €130 at dealers but may be better value when in stock at Genie Merchandise: <https://eushop.genielift.com/>.

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



Fully extended boom

CRANES ETC MODEL RATING

Packaging (max 10)	7
Detail (max 30)	22
Features (max 20)	15
Quality (max 25)	20
Price (max 15)	11
Overall (max 100)	75%

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