Concrete pump from Conrad in 1:50

Liebherr 36 XXT

by Daniel Wietlisbach

Concrete pumps make it possible to pump concrete easily into sometimes difficult-to-reach sites. This is very convincingly demonstrated with Conrad's new 1:50 model ...

The truck-mounted concrete pump 36 XXT is being promoted by Liebherr as especially 'compact and versatile'. Two features make this statement possible: the XXT support systems can be quickly deployed very close to the vehicle on one side, or even on both sides in extreme conditions; also, the five-segment distribution boom is very compact in transportation mode which means that it can fit on a three-axle chassis. Because of its superb manoeuverability, it can reach high work sites and pour in halls or even interior rooms on upper floors. The maximum working height is a remarkable 35.8 m. Built 'in house', the hydraulic 'Powerbloc' pump motor allows it to move 144 m^3/h (THP 140) or alternatively 167 m^3/h (THP 170) of liquid concrete.

The heavy, metal model from Conrad comes delivered in the familiar package, protected very well with foam material. Separate parts, included in a small plastic bag, are the rear-view mirror, antenna and a beam with the back-up lights, all for the collector to attach at the rear. Made true to scale, the concrete pump has been mounted on a three-axle Mercedes-Benz Arocs chassis with an M driver's cabin. The renowned Conrad functionality means that the model is exactly to scale in transport mode and can reach the maximum working heights, which is really impressive! The maximum working height is only under-reached by 10 mm and the maximum horizontal reach by 5 mm; the lowest working reach is actually fully achieved.

The four supports keep the model stable; the feet have visible threads. No support mats come with the model.

The feed hopper at the rear is nicely done; free-standing handhold and steps with anti-skid surface are details observed there. The lid opens and, prototypically, the funnel is covered, here with a fine mesh made from plastic. Because the rear area around the pump

is accessible, it is secured with a metal safety railing. In front of the platform is a simulation of the Powerbloc and between the power unit and the hopper is the housing for the pump cylinder.

Let us follow the path of the concrete: the concrete goes from the hopper through a grey pipe up to the foot of the distribution boom (which swivels 360°) and then continues through the yellow pipes over all the five moveable boom segments. All the metal segments have been correctly replicated, according to the original. The hydraulic cylinder keeps them secure in any desired position. At the joints, the moveable parts of the kinematic are made from stress-resistant plastic and so guarantee continuous enjoyment of the boom. Correctly, the end of the pipe has a flexible hose, made here from black rubber material. The many hollow rivets at the moveable joints are all bronzed so do not distract from the overall impression.

The paint applied has no enclosed dust particles and is faultless, as is the printed-on lettering. Paint separation lines were avoided by the clever selection of single parts. The model of the Liebherr 36 XXT concrete pump lorry complies with all the preferences of the Conrad-Fans.

Here an interior courtyard is being concreted in, which is no problem for the flexible applicator mast.

Left page: Like the original, the Conrad model looks convincing with its compactness during transport.

The distribution boom is very stable and the bronzed hollow rivets are almost invisible.

At a glance

+ Metal content
+ True to scale
+ Functionality