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**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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*Impressive model in a small scale*



*Optional diesel pack on the side of the carrier*



*Tiny hand-rails are metal*



*Engine details inside*

# KONECRANES GOTTWALD ESP.8

**The Konecranes Gottwald ESP.8 is a mobile harbour crane built to serve Post-Panamax class vessels. It has a working radius of up to 54 metres and lifting capacities up to 150 tonnes. This model is made by NZG and is 1:87 scale. The box has some information about the real crane, and a poster is enclosed. An excellent instruction leaflet in English describes the assembly and operation.**

The undercarriage has tiny wheels which roll well, and each wheel group steers independently so crab steering is possible. Large metal spreader plates are hung off extendible metal outrigger beams. They can be lowered by unscrewing and easily hold the weight of the crane.

The real crane can have dual power modes and the carrier can have an electric cable reel fitted. Also, a diesel power container can be attached, secured by magnets which work well. The diesel container also features two opening doors, and these are also held shut by tiny magnets. With the doors open, excellent detail can be seen.

The ladders are modelled in metal and are very good for the scale. The crane superstructure and counterweight are in metal, and the graphics and paint have a good finish.

The tower and the upper cab and platform are modelled in metal and a seat is provided inside the crane cab. At the top of the tower the sheaves are modelled in metal, as are the platforms.

The large lattice boom is cast in two parts and connected with pins and clips which is an old fashioned system that is not as good as nut and bolt connections. The luffing cylinder works well to hold the boom with the extension being locked using an Allen key in a grub screw. A large range of boom movement is possible, although you cannot lower the boom fully. The hook is metal and provides good tension on the ropes.

This is a surprisingly large and impressive mobile harbour crane model and is very detailed for its 1:87 scale. It costs around €350 from model dealers.



*Very good boom profile*

## CRANES ETC MODEL RATING

Packaging (max 10)	8
Detail (max 30)	25
Features (max 20)	18
Quality (max 25)	22
Price (max 15)	9
Overall (max 100)	82%

To see the full review, including a full unpacking and set up video, visit [www.cranesetc.co.uk](http://www.cranesetc.co.uk)