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Nürnberg 30. Jan – 3. Feb 2019

The 2019 Nürnberg Toy Fair - Part Two

We continue Tim Mulhall's review of the new arrivals introduced at this iconic event last winter

All photos: copyright manufacturer concerned

Lima - www.hornby.com/uk-en/shop/brands/lima-h0-1-87/new-for-2019.html

Lima were a surprise return with the competitively priced Expert range, with all new tooling. The ETR610 4 car set is offered at £174, the 3 coach add on £120, four liveries are offered.

- HL1671 SBB RABe 503 – Swiss Cities branding.



- HL1672 Cisalpino ETR610.

Rivarossi - <https://www.hornby.com/uk-en/shop/brands/rivarossi-h0-1-87/new-for-2019.html>

Returning to the market after a long absence is the BLS Re4/4, with retooled roof detail. In diecast metal, and already available, it led a range of ten new items including:



- HR2734/5/6 BLS Re4/4 Three different body variants, DC, DCC Sound and AC options.
- HR6459 Wascosa Silver tank wagon.

Tillig - www.tillig.com

Another closed booth, but with plentiful leaflets on offer. They produce a few items in HO in addition to their larger TT system.

In HO this year we have three new liveries on the Zürich S Bahn coaches plus an SBB Eanos open wagon.

- 70038 Zürich S Bahn coach set.



Unique Scenery Products www.sceneryproducts.de

The fair also had mini booths for small companies – sometimes a firm appears on a regular basis, whilst some are new each year. I discovered right at the bottom of this quiet area a company with a nice range of Swiss buildings. All laser cut kits, these are really something different. My pick being:



- 01-02-004 Zernez Freight Shed.

Piko - www.piko.de

Piko operated a closed booth, so opportunities to obtain brochures and inspect items were limited. Strangely the new items were also not on their website at the time of writing and images could not be saved!

- G scale – some new liveries and industrial locos but nothing specifically for Switzerland.
- In HO scale, comes a new starter set, 5 liveries on cross border locos and one Die Post wagon.
- 59110 Sersa Construction Freight set.
- 59456 BR101 Swiss Travel Graubünden.

Arnold - www.hornby.com/uk-en/shop/brands/arnold-n-1-160/new-for-2019.html

Thanks to representing thirteen brands, the N scale brand within the Hornby portfolio offered one of the three largest stands. There were six wagon items and four diecast food trailers including:

- HN6435 Wascosa gas tank wagons.
- HN7002 Bratwurst Food Trailer.

Editor's Note: This is a slightly edited version of the article on our website. The website article contains further pictures, including Tim's own, which I have unfortunately had to omit for reasons of space.

The Charstelenbach Bridge - Part Two.

By Martin Engel



Following on from the September 2011 article, Amsteg the model railway has finally been started, with the first of two modules built and track ready to be laid. The first module is from the Windgallen tunnel portal to a small culvert under the main line prior to the signal gantry. If you take the path behind the transformer yard and head toward the power station water pipes you will see this little interesting feature under the main line.

Each module measures 1.4 metres x 4.5 metres with a spiral at each end to allow for a two-level storage section at the rear keeping the layout compact. The frame is made from 20 mm x 90 mm pine, interlocked for strength and the scenery structure is 12 mm MDF. I chose MDF as it is most importantly very flat, ideal for laying track! Strong, easy to work with, cheap and has very good water resistance qualities.

The spiral was relatively easy to construct with minimal tools, to help achieve a suitable grade in the space available. I found a free spiral calculator online at: <http://www.modelbuildings.org/free-helix-design-calculator.html>. You just enter the relevant measurements and it provides the detail. From this information I created a quarter circle pattern from 10 mm plywood, used that to mark out all the required pieces, cut them out with a jigsaw leaving about 3 mm around each piece. Then I used a router with a pattern cutter to tidy them up. Threaded rod is great for accurate support levels for the deck and you can add camber very easily if you like with this method. The quarter pieces are screwed and glued to the supports. With some good planning it all lines up nicely.

To cut the track beds before and after the bridge accurately I used cardboard templates to ensure a good fit to the contour frames already in place. This was also helpful when getting the shape of the road next to the river to look right. The slope of the contour spacings is a best guess from many pictures I have taken and generally being happy with the overall look.

I am using Peco code 75 track mainly for the appearance and electrofrog points for reliability. I will glue the track to

the road bed using clear liquid nails to see my markings, manoeuvred into the desired position and weighed down with 400g bean tins. Operation of the layout is to be as simple as possible - DCC with block sections, sidings and train routing, run automatically by Train Controller.

All the specifications are to NEM standards which are helpful if you are making your own tunnel portals and for clearance measurements, so you don't waste space and time.

The house kits used are Kibri and Busch. The little "Wartehaus" next to the line was scratch built from pictures and made by HR Modelbau in Switzerland. So far it is the only accurate building on the layout. I may change this later, but I do like the Kibri alpine houses.

The plan is to complete the second module from the culvert to the Bristen tunnel, which carries above it the power station water pipes and then start adding all the line side detail seen on this section of the Gotthard.

It is an interesting section of line to explore and watch the trains pass from many vantage points along the walking tracks, the best view and camera opportunity though is from the two log benches above the Windgallen portal while having lunch. The path starts between two buildings before the bus stop. See if you can find it! 

