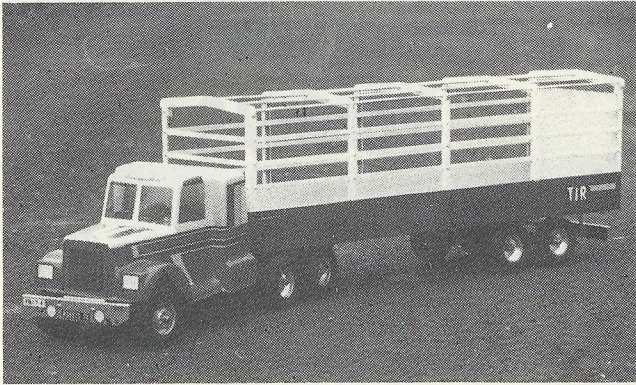


Kyosho Truck Review



Smart and attractive

THE Kyosho 10 wheel truck and wagon trailer (14 wheels in all) is certainly different and large – over 1,020mm. That's over 40 inches to all you non-metric enthusiasts.

The somewhat drab box belies the high quality of the contents of this kit which includes such necessary items as speed controller, motor and, of course, a great many wheels.

In true Kyosho fashion this kit is excellently presented (once the box has been opened), with high quality ply, superbly die cut, components for the wooded trailer sections and accurately pre-drilled alloy chassis members.

Assembly instructions are brief and to the point and made very simple by the excellent exploded

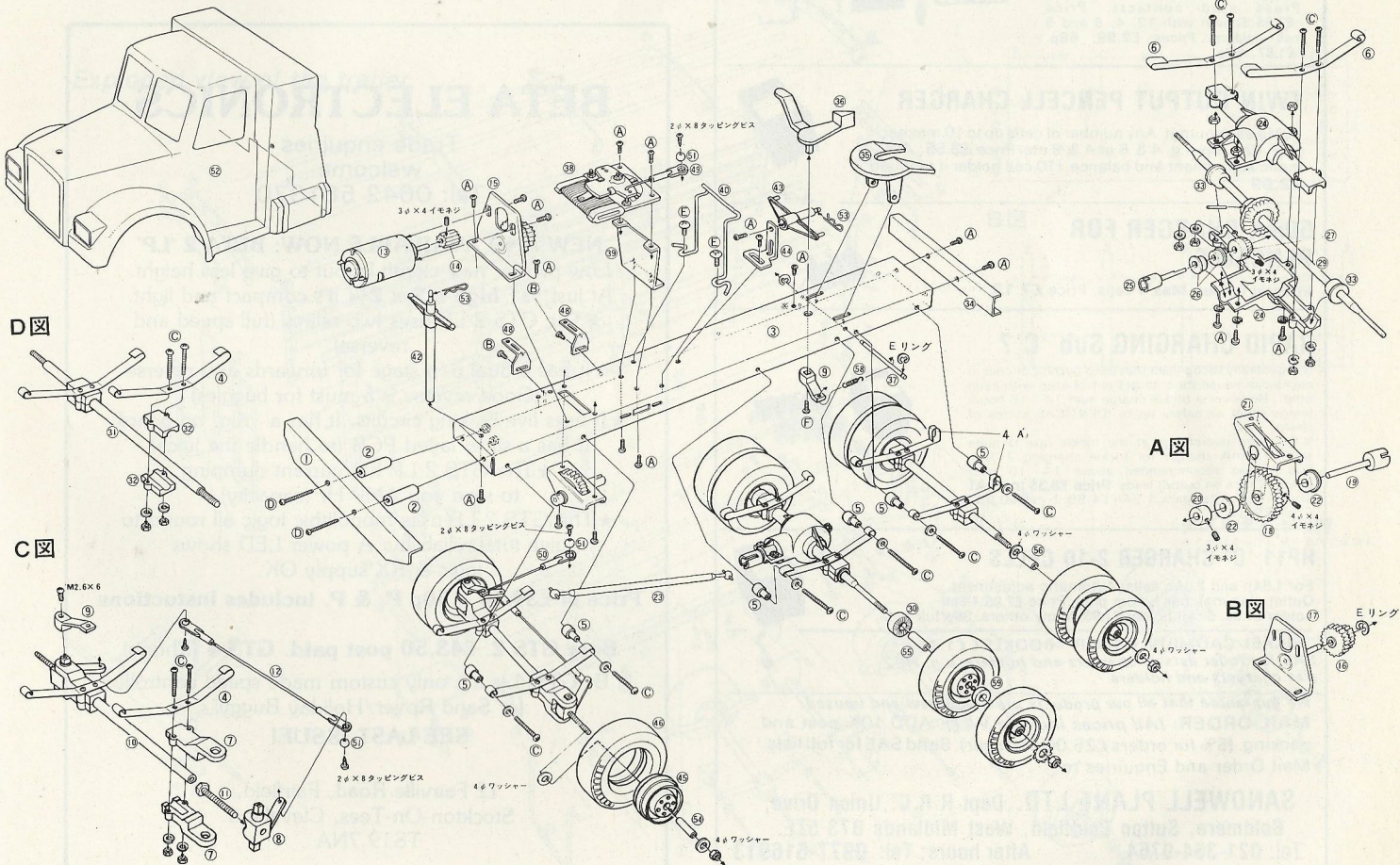
views showing every single component in assembly position. This type of instruction is, I think, excellent as it completely avoids any problems during translation from one language to another; let alone any misunderstandings by the modeller who is building it.

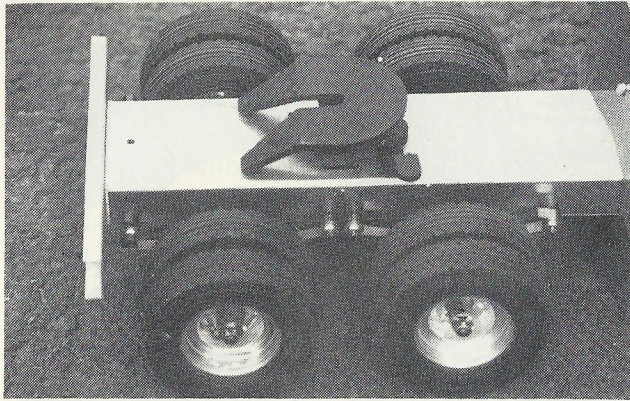
Assembly of the tractor unit is very straightforward and is only a matter of component familiarisation (these are all bagged into small sections) and using the pre-drilled alloy chassis as a starting point no difficulties should be encountered. A tube of Loctite on hand is useful as a drop on the threads of many of the nuts and bolts at this point will prevent them coming loose at a later date.

Although a great many parts are metal, a number are plastic items and care should be taken not to overtighten the self tapping screws securing these parts. In keeping with the rest of the kit these are nicely made and should be more than adequate for the job.

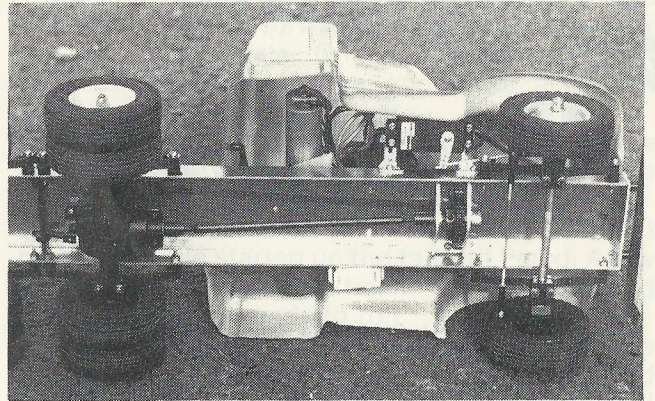
The wagon trailer is also straightforward with a metal chassis made from channel alloy, onto which the leaf spring axles are mounted and the wooden superstructure is built. Should anyone have any ideas about building a different structure onto the trailer chassis it could, I am sure, lend itself to all sorts of ideas.

With the outfit built and body painted it was only a matter of fitting batteries and radio (not





Trailer coupling and detailed rear tractor suspension.



Underside of the tractor unit showing prop shaft and rear axle assembly.

supplied).

The radio fits without any difficulties and even the alloy servo brackets are supplied in the kit. I used a standard three channel Futaba radio as the third channel can be used to activate the trailer release for even a bit more realism, but most 2 channel plus radios could be used. Six 1.2 nicads (a standard 1/12 battery pack) for power, and I fitted an electronic speed controller mainly because I had been looking for an opportunity to try it in a non racing capacity. The speed controller supplied in the kit is fine and more than adequate for the job.

In action the truck drives well and looks very realistic especially with its working leaf springs

and axle detail.

To summarise: *I didn't like*: the lexan bodyshell, although the kit included a smart decal sheet. I felt that a really detailed cab would have set off the outfit nicely especially when weight is not too important. But then, who knows what could possibly be made to fit!

I did like: the tempered metal leaf springs and the realistic axle assembly (it's even got a prop shaft from the gearbox to the rear axle!); the detailed tyres and the general high quality of this kit. Available from Ripmax stockists.

Don't forget it's ideal for those club competitions – you could put drivers through a full HGV test!

Exploded view of the trailer

