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MODELLING NEWS

Peter Marriot

During the past few months Liliput has released some rather good models of BLS carriages and wagons. *Swiss Express* readers may not be aware that Liliput was acquired by Bachmann Industries (Europe) in 1992, whilst Bachmann Industries themselves were purchased by the Chinese manufacturer Kader in 1984. Kader is, by volume, the largest manufacturer of model railways in the world employing up to 7,600 workers. Liliput products are manufactured at the Kader factory in China.

BLS pair of "Autoverlad" wagons

This is a pair of the wagons that are used by the BLS on their Autoverlad service on the Lötschberg route between Kandersteg and Goppenstein. In the summer months these are also used between Switzerland

and Italy. The body and roof details, running characteristics and the very fine markings are all very good. The couplings have to be added in addition to the panels that link the wagons as the road vehicles drive through. (Stock No. L240076).



couplings there are no add-on parts to be fixed to this model.

Liliput retail two versions of the BLS "Fans-u" side tipping wagons which are used extensively in AlpTransit construction work. One features the "classic" BLS logo - the other has the latest BLS Cargo insignia. (Stock No. L235576).

PHOTOS:
Peter Marriot



BLS "Fans-u" side tipping wagon

This wagon is a side tipper as used by the BLS. The prototype wagons are 12.74m in length over the buffers and can carry 40 sq metres of material. The two separate dump bodies have hydraulic arms to push the contents outside of the wagons. This version carries the latest BLS style logo. The two bodies can be raised independently in the tipping position. Apart from the





BLS "EW III" carriages

These ex-SBB standard "EW III" carriages in the current BLS livery are certainly eye-catching. This stock was originally built for the SBB "Swiss Express" services of the 1970s and early 1980s and featured aluminium construction, angled carriage sides for the possible introduction of a tilting facility (that was never installed) and air conditioning. The majority of these SBB carriages passed to the BLS at the end of 2004 and have been repainted and renovated for use on BLS Regional Express (RX) services. The models include roof-mounted details, new windows and the modern BLS colour scheme. Various carriages are available including 1st-class, 2nd class and driving-trailer.

BLS "Neuschotterwagen"

These Epoch V gravel wagons are sold in pairs. Each wagon carries a different



number and come complete with a load. The handrails and various wheels on the body are nicely modelled and painted. (Stock No. L240086)

SBB FLIRT

One exciting future Liliput development that modellers await is the Liliput SBB Flirt modern EMU that was announced by the company last year. The Flirt (Fast Light Innovative Regional Train) is a standard gauge articulated train, manufactured by Stadler Rail. It is a modern multiple unit featuring low floors for ease of access to passengers and rapid acceleration for busy suburban lines. One of the Liliput models is to be based on the Swiss RABe 521-523 units working around Basle.

Conclusion

I found that the level of detail on the models, the quality and crispness of the printing and the packaging of these Liliput products was good. For more information about these models (and recommended retail prices) see either www.liliput.de or www.bachmann.co.uk.

These models are available from *Swiss Express* advertiser, Winco, 149 Alresford Road, Winchester SO23 0JZ (www.winco.com.uk). Telephone: 01962 869301. Other UK model shops and suppliers also stock Liliput products.