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Autor: Marriott, Peter
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MODELLING NEWS

Peter Marriott looks at the Mehano model of BLS Vossloh G1700 locomotives in HO scale



The BLS now has three Am 843 Bo Bo diesel locomotives in their distinctive silver, blue and green livery. The Vossloh G1700 is a development of the Vossloh G1206 locomotive. The BLS uses these mainly for AlpTransit Lötschberg rescue services - they are frequently seen at the Frutigen depot. Other railways use them for main line and heavy shunting duties. For useful information about the prototype locomotives go to; http://www.vossloh-locomotives.com/cms/media/downloads/pdfs/prospekte/G1700_us.pdf

A model of the locomotive has been

superbly produced by Mehano. The handrails are well fitted and painted. The livery is excellently applied – not only in colour but also the crispness of the colour changes. There is a fitted driver in the cab. The BLS logos and lettering need a magnifying glass to see them at their best. The locomotive ran smoothly and quietly straight from the box. Couplings are not fitted to the locomotive but are supplied. There is one plastic sprue of detailing parts such as windscreen wipers and air pipes – the clear instructions show where these are to fit. In my experience all Mehano models come well packaged – this one is no exception.

Mehano produce the G1700 in HO scale a variety of liveries including BLS, CFL, SBB Cargo, HGK, and OBB. The model is sold in DC, AC and DCC sound versions. The retail price of this locomotive in DC form is around £123. It is obtainable from Winco or other Mehano dealers (see www.bachmann.co.uk for these).

