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Liliput SBB Am 842 locomotive in HO scale

The German company Krupp MaK (now known by the name of Vossloh), the largest producer of diesel locomotives in Europe, manufactured the prototype SBB Am 842 locos in the early 1990s. These 60 tonne diesel electric locomotives were sold both to national railway companies and to private firms for operating in industrial premises and dockyard networks. There are just two locomotives in the Swiss Federal Railways Am 842 class. The Am classification has A for maximum speed between 85 and 110 km/h and m signifies diesel power. These were purchased by SBB from the permanent way contractor Sersa AG and are usually used on ballast and permanent way trains

Liliput have produced models of this locomotive in various liveries as well as that of the SBB - Netherlands Railways (NS); Austrian private line Graz Köflacher Bahn; DB's Railion; and that of the Port of Cologne. The main features of the model are:

It has a die cast chassis and measures 149 mm over the buffers.

A minimum recommended radius of 360 mm is suggested.

The headlights are bi-directional and the buffers are sprung.

NEM coupling sockets are fitted which can be used with Liliput hook couplings or replicas of the original screw couplings (which are supplied).

The locomotive can be fitted with a decoder.

The sample needed to be run for some time in both directions before the motor was "bedded in" and smoother acceleration was possible.

A large packet of detailing parts was supplied for the addition of handrails, pipes etc. The model does look rather "bare" straight out of the box and does benefit from the addition of these parts.

It certainly makes a change from the more familiar Swiss electric locomotives!