Dear friends of the Swiss narrow gauge railways, we have had a look at various new releases from model railway manufacturers and have compiled the most interesting information from a narrow-gauge point of view here.

We hope you enjoy reading Yours AB-Modell-Team

## **Swiss Models**

In addition to our new products, more on that on the back of this flyer, **Kato** is coming back with further Swiss narrow gauge models. Unfortunately, there are no new models or variants, only the re-release of well-known models. For example, the Glacier Express reappears.

- 1. as Glacier On Tour in a large starter set with track oval and transformer/control, with locomotive 650 and two GEX panorama cars (KT-006.2N/Nm). The set is procured on customer request.
- 2. as Glacier Express basic unit with loco 644 and two GEX panorama cars (KT-001.1N/Nm). We take this set in stock. As well as
- 3. as a Glacier Express supplementary set with four GEX panorama cars, including the typical restaurant car. We will only store a small hand stock of these.

Fortunately, the locomotive is to be fitted with a new, quieter, slower and more powerful engine. Provided the gearbox design remains unchanged, we will also offer the models and sets as narrow-gauge variants for Nm.

It is annoying that Kato once again neglects to provide a new vehicle number for the new edition of the locomotive. Exchange decals for self-decoration can be ordered from us on request. We do not offer ready-made models. The release date is May 2023.

The Bernina Express is also being relaunched. The following will appear, probably for the 2023 Christmas season

- 1. Allegra ABe8/12 with two BEX panorama coaches (KT-008.1N/Nm),
- 2. the three-piece BEX panorama car set (KT-009.4N/Nm),
- 3. the four-part BEX set with 3 Panos and the open observation car (KT-009.5N/Nm), and
- 4. the latter also appears again as a single vehicle (KT-012.1N/Nm).

The vehicle numbers also seem to be unchanged for the Bernina Express. The novelty catalogue is only partially informative in this regard.

Finally, some good news about the Kato report: inflation seems to be proceeding normally in Japan, the sets are priced unchanged as far as we can see.

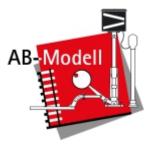
MDS has no new products to announce. Still open are a large number of locomotives and sliding wall cars from previous years, the realisation of which will hopefully succeed this year.

Pirata informs us that they are working on flyers and catalogues for 2023. New products for Swiss narrow-gauge fans are not yet ready to be announced.

Pirata has also announced extensive new products in recent years. Let's hope that these can be realised in 2023.

**N-Tram** already pointed out in the last newsletter that they were not planning any new products due to delivery problems. Parts of the old programme will be reissued.

**N-Track** has some new products in the pipeline, but they are not yet ready to be reported on. As usual, subscribers to our newsletter will be well informed as soon as we get the "green light" from Holland to write a few lines about them.



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Everything is new in May? Unfortunately not at Kato! The "new" vehicles are a reissue of well-known models, at least with an engine upgrade.

From the short WhatsApp chat with Massimo Icardi from ICH-**Models** it can be said that no new products are planned in the short term. Work is continuing on the Bernina railcar of the 50 series, which is now being optimised for digital drivers and allows easier decoder installation.

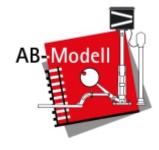
The **te-miniatur** website features a beautiful laser-cut building kit. Thomas Ermels will be adding an Engadin keeper's house to the range from the 2nd quarter.



A beautiful kit, which was already offered for zero gauge by teminiatur and now finds its way into the N-gauge assortment.

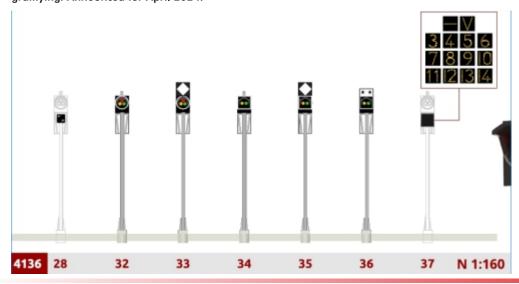
We publish current prices and delivery dates on our website. In order to always be up to date, we recommend that you subscribe to our newsletter.

# **Novelties Report** Spielwarenmesse 2023



#### **Swiss Models**

The commitment of the Spanish manufacturer **Mafen** to include further Swiss light signals in its programme is gratifying. Announced for April 2024:



The modern light signals are rarely found on narrowgauge railway lines. Nevertheless, the brake test and departure signal BPAS (4136.28) and the supplementary speed indicator (4136.37) are quite interesting for Nm fans.

The novelties are scheduled for release in 2024.

## AB-Modell - on our own account

We reported in detail about our 2023 novelties in the last newsletter.

The demand for the models of the Furka Oberalp-Bahn (FO) is very pleasing. After only a few days, the kits we had procured in advance were completely reserved by customer orders. Our note in the price list that the models are now "sold out" has caused quite a number of enquiries, so that we would like to comment on this in detail at this point.

As a matter of principle, we will mark such models as "sold out" after booking the last kit available to us, if they are no longer in demand or only in very small quantities, and will not produce them again thereafter. This currently applies in particular to the sliding wall, the covered four-axle goods wagon and the Vereina trough wagon. The same "fate" will sooner or later befall the two-axle K-car types, the old-building Bernina-type passenger coaches and the baggage cars. The very low demand no longer justifies procuring new stocks of kits. We ask for your understanding.

The situation is different for models that are sold out because the demand is so high that we cannot keep up with production on the one hand, but on the other hand our kit stocks are already completely used up. These models will also be marked as "sold out" and will receive the addition that we are checking or planning a "new edition". A new edition will only take place after we have received sufficient kit material again. We are still accepting orders for such models, currently the FO vehicles mentioned above, but also EW II and EW IV, as well as the four-axle baggage car. However, we cannot promise you that we will be able to fulfil your order. There are many reasons for this, which we do not want to go into in detail. If we receive sufficient kits and can procure the necessary accessories, the models will be produced again.

If you are unsure, please ask us by email for the model you want. We can then let you know what the chances are that a model will be reissued.

Thank you for your understanding.

### **German Models**

German narrow-gauge vehicles are not the focus of our reporting. Nevertheless, a few lines on this subject.

What caught our eye was the new information on the MaGo= finescale website, where new Nm models in laser-cut technology based on German models are announced in very small editions.

Also from the point of view of the Swiss narrow gauge fan, our contact with Lorenz Kästner of **Lemiso** is a very pleasant one. Although no new products are announced at the moment, they are working hard on Ne models based on German prototype. In addition, he has already told us, an attractive track programme is being planned that should also appeal to friends of our Schynige Platte railway.



Also of interest to Swiss narrow gauge fans: Ne tracks from Lemiso. The Nm track programme is available.

We publish current prices and delivery dates on our website. In order to always be up to date, we recommend that you subscribe to our newsletter.