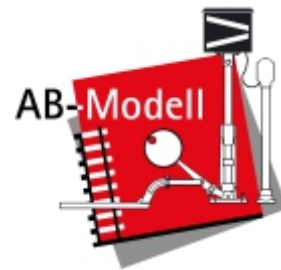


# Stuttgart fair 2018



Dear friends of N-scale narrow gauge,  
dear N-fans of the Rhaetian Railway,  
we are back from the N-Convention in Stuttgart and have all sorts of new  
information brought with us.

I wish you a lot of reading pleasure

yours

AB-Modell-team



## Pirata

Good news comes from the Italian small series manufacturer Pirata. The already announced second edition of the three different stakecars of the Rhaetian Railway is in production. Andrea Barelli and his team produce models with new roadnumbers for us. We anticipate delivery in the first quarter of 2019.



But also previously unannounced models are in the focus of the pirates: so appears a restaurant car based on the Kato EW I with modified car body, and the second class unit car in blue primer and motifs of the Arosa Express, whose base model also comes from the Japanese massproducts manufacturer.



One of the frequently sought-after accessories for Swiss model railways will be available at short notice: the station building of a RhB station on the Albula line as a lasercut model. For EUR 89,- only the ready-build station building of Surava is already expected in the first quarter of next year.



The models will be kept in scale 1: 150 and prepared for the N scale on 9mm tracks. A conversion into N-narrow gauge is possible.  
A detailed news info is in preparation.

## Noch

At the company Noch we find the Kato program with the model of the Ge4/4II in the Hakone advertising appearance, which is in the delivery since the beginning of the fair.  
New products for the coming year are planned, but not yet ready for the competition.



However, Stephan Bender, the product manager for the Kato line, has already revealed the secret that at least four new advertising variants based on the Ge4/4II are planned for the next year. At least minimum one model will be announced at the International Toy Fair. So let's surprise ourselves with what we have in our house on beautiful, new vehicles.

Also the Kato models are track N vehicles and held in the Japanese N scale of 1: 150. At the moment we are still testing the possibilities for regauging.  
We keep you up to date.



## Kato

At the Kato stand we met Yuriya Nakahara, who manages the distribution of Japanese products in Germany in cooperation with Noch. About the Hakone locomotive we have already reported under the company Noch. The frequently asked desire for luggage and cab-cars, as well as cement silo and covered freight wagons, we have expressed. Let's see, whether something will come of it in the medium term.



## MDS

The Swabian manufacturer MDS does not have its own stand, but the current program is advertised in one of the showcases. Other variants of the locomotive Ge4/4II and the sliding door wagon, as Gunnar Müller has revealed, are planned for 2019. All details will be announced at the upcoming Toy Fair.

MDS also manufactures its models according to Japanese standards.

We have been frequently asked about regauging locomotives of the type Ge4/4II. The visible progress, presented by a friendly technician at the show, makes us look ahead confidently. However, there will still be some time left until the operational and stable implementation of this ambitious project. Again, we keep our customers on our website and via newsletter up to date.



## RhB-Modellbahn

Under RhB-modellbahn trades a new manufacturer, who had also exhibited his creations in a showcase. The RhB and MGB (Matterhorn-Gotthard-Bahn) front-end products created using 3D printing are very simple (windows are gray and black, for example, or translucent only). The individual print layers are easy to see with the naked eye.

The models are offered - according to the manufacturer's website - as a kit. The vehicles also fit in terms of scale and gauge to the Kato rolling stock, but are unfortunately qualitatively not comparable.

Too bad, because some of the exotics shown will certainly not be produced from the larger manufacturers.



# Stuttgart fair 2018

## SmallParts

In addition, we would like to inform about the new program, as well in 3D printing, of SmallParts, which was presented at the fair in a showcase.

The vehicles are available in kit form at shapeways. The clever construction consists of a base component with side walls, end walls, sometimes roof and doors, etc., which are supplied as separate parts in a printing frame. These are arranged so that their surfaces are on top and therefore have only very small traces of the layered 3D production build-up and require little rework.

Since shapeways supplies the 3D-printed parts only, we offer matching wheelsets and couplers from our narrow gauge program, because fortunately, SmallParts has turned to the scale of 1: 160 and lets his models drive on Nm tracks.

Decals for the RhB models can also be obtained from us, but are only available on request and are not listed in our price list. We will have the labels printed especially for our customers. Please expect a slightly longer delivery time.



On display were 8 different vehicles, which can be assigned to the epoch around the formation of the Rhaetian Railway. Other models have come on shapeways since we looked at shapeways, among others a modern standard-unit wagon type III.



## AB-Modell

Finally, let's briefly talk about our models. We also exhibited at the showcase. Especially our novelties of this year, which so far were only to be seen for the specialist audience at the International Toy Fair.



From the MOB, the Golden Pass locomotive and the matching coaches are to be mentioned, which are continuously being produced (currently in the third tranche).

The RhB Sbk-v type wagons with Coop refrigerated containers (Minitrix model), whose first production-run is already sold out and will be produced next year again.

In addition, the sliding door wagons of the VOLG cooperative were shown, whose production will not take place until 2019 due to a lack of capacity.

And last but not least, the well-known Ge4/4II was also exhibited in nickel silver handcraft. Kits from the developer N-Track arrived for over a month. The model is in production and will be delivered on an ongoing basis in the coming year.

The presentation of our models in the showcase is just one of our concerns at the N-Convention. The second and probably most important reason is the demonstration of our models on the modular arrangement, which has been built up for several years. Once again this year, a stately complex with a length of more than 36 meters has been assembled on a surface area of approximately 10x11m.

The experience gained during the four-day continuous operation makes us confident that the regauging of the Ge4/4II by Kato has been achieved. Details will follow in a later newsletter.