



Bachmann Europe Plc

PRESS INFORMATION

Bachmann Europe Plc Launch 2019 Catalogues

The 2019 Bachmann Branchline and Graham Farish Catalogues were launched today at a trade event held in London. Alongside the announcement of several new-tooling projects, a host of new models utilising existing tooling were unveiled and Bachmann were able to provide updates on several highly anticipated models that are currently in development, many of which are expected to come to fruition during 2019.

With a changing retail climate and increased competition across multiple sectors, 2018 proved to be a challenging, but ultimately successful year for Bachmann Europe, culminating in the release of several key products during the final quarter. Alongside our in-house brands, such as Bachmann Branchline and Graham Farish, Bachmann Europe are trusted by many established partners, from Woodland Scenics to Trumpeter and Proses to HK Models, to distribute and support their products in the UK and Europe. Together, we continue to bring exciting, new products to the market – such as the Woodland Scenics Field System (static grass) and the HK Models 1:32 scale Avro Lancaster (plastic construction kit). 2018 saw the addition of the ModelMaker range of tools and hobby aids to our ever-growing portfolio, whilst Bachmann Europe was also appointed as the UK distributor for a new brand of plastic military kits – Gecko Models.

Despite the closure of one of the production facilities operated by our parent company, Kader, we are pleased to report that the new facilities in China (Gaobu) that were in the process of being commissioned during 2018, are now fully operational with staffing levels continuing to rise. In addition, we have been encouraged by the number of staff who were previously employed at the now-closed factory, transferring to the new Gaobu site – bringing with them their valuable experience in the manufacture of model railway products.

Nevertheless, 2018 saw the release of several highly anticipated new models including the first Bachmann Narrow Gauge OO9 scale Baldwin 10-12-D Steam Locomotives and associated wagons. The Branchline OO scale H1 and H2 Atlantic Steam Locomotives were released, along with the Class 70/8 Diesel Locomotive, BR MK1 POT Stowage Vans, BR FFA/FGA Freightliner Flat Wagons, BR MK1 Carflat Wagons and the 22T Plate & Bolster Wagons – produced exclusively for The Model Centre. No less than five different types of BR MK2F Coach were released, with 'DCC FITTED' versions incorporating the latest digital technology giving DCC controlled lighting – including working tail lights and, where applicable, central door locking lights. Other models, such as the GNR C1 Class Atlantic Steam Locomotive and the BR MK1 Horsebox, were made available to our retail network for the first time. The Graham Farish N scale BR MK1 Carflat wagon was produced

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exclusively for the N Gauge Society whilst new livery variants of several popular models were released. In all, more than 250 new items were released across our Bachmann Branchline, Graham Farish and Scenecraft ranges in 2018.

During 2018 Bachmann received numerous accolades for our models and we would like to thank those consumers who voted for our products, resulting in the following achievements:

2017 British Model Railway Awards (RMweb/BRM):

N Scale Locomotive – Graham Farish Class 40 Diesel Locomotive

N Scale Rolling Stock – Graham Farish Hawksworth Autocoach

N Scale Manufacturer – Graham Farish

OO Scale Rolling Stock – Bachmann Branchline Birdcage Coaches

Overall Manufacturer – Bachmann Europe

Model of the Year 2017 (Model Rail):

N Scale Locomotive – Graham Farish Class 40 Diesel Locomotive

N Scale Rolling Stock – Graham Farish Hawksworth Autocoach

N Scale Manufacturer – Graham Farish

OO Scale Multiple Units – Bachmann Branchline 4TC (Kernow)

Electronic Accessory – Woodland Scenics Just Plug Streetlights

Hornby Magazine Model Railway Awards 2018:

N Scale Locomotive – Graham Farish Class 40 Diesel Locomotive

Overall Manufacturer – Bachmann Europe

The OO9 Society's P. D. Hancock Award:

Bachmann Narrow Gauge OO9 Scale Baldwin 10-12-D Steam Locomotive

Diecast Collector Awards 2017:

Bus & Coaches – Exclusive First Editions Harrington Grenadier in Maidstone & District NBC livery

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Voting in the 2018 British Model Railway Awards was recently announced and Bachmann products will once again compete in numerous categories.

Today's announcements see 475 new items added to our UK model railway ranges and during the next two weeks the Bachmann team will be travelling the length of the UK to host trade events where our 2019 programme will be presented to our trade customers. Bachmann Europe remain committed to supporting our network of retail customers across the UK, our European customers via our German office (Liliput) and the international distributors who make our products accessible to consumers further afield. Following these trade events, representatives from Bachmann will be attending the Nuremberg Toy Fair to meet with our European retailers and International distributors.

Members of the Bachmann Collectors Club will be among the first to see the latest developments 'in the flesh' when the Members Lounge returns to the London Festival of Railway Modelling at Alexandra Palace, London on the 23rd and 24th March 2019.

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WORDS: 804

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