

Dear Ladies and Gentleman!

Pinsdorf, 24.03.2008

I want to represent you the model of an Australian Road train with five Tefco trailers that I built.

My name is Christian Ambichler, I'm 40 years old and I'm living in a small village called Pinsdorf, in the middle of Austria. Austria is a state in the heart of Europe next to Germany, Switzerland and Italy. I am a great fan of big truck's and trailers and so once I decided to construct some of these in a scale of 1:14.

Five years ago, I saw a report of the gigantic road train's of Australia on TV and I was so fascinated that I said to me: "That's the next project I will realise."

In the year 2003 I started the project but I didn't know what trailers I should construct. So I've done a research for interesting trailers in the www. A lot of trailer manufacturer are located in Australia but the rolling bin lead trailer from Tefco was my favourite.

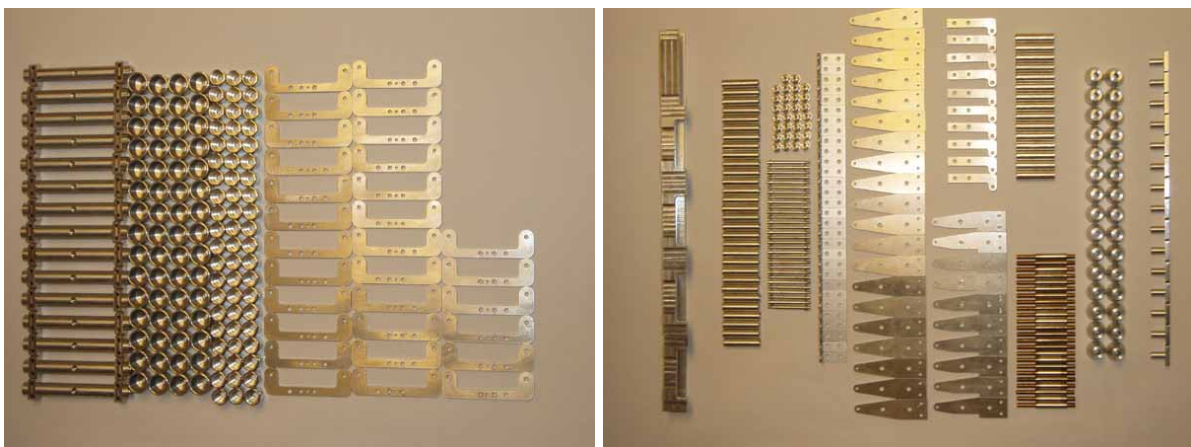


On 25th of January 2003 I started to construct, draw and produce the first parts for the prototype of a rolling bin A-trailer. It was an enormous challenge to realise every function like it is in real. After one year of hard work the A-trailer was done and all functions like

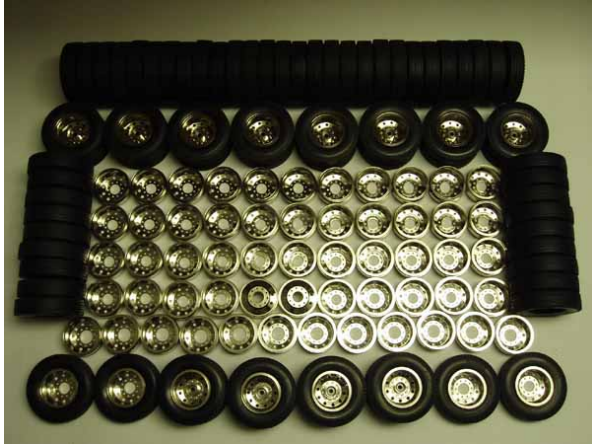
- roll back the tipper
- lift up and down the tipper
- lift up and down the support legs
- open and close the coupler
- every light function like winker left and right, hazard light, aux light, tail light, back light and the lights on every side of the trailer

were working.

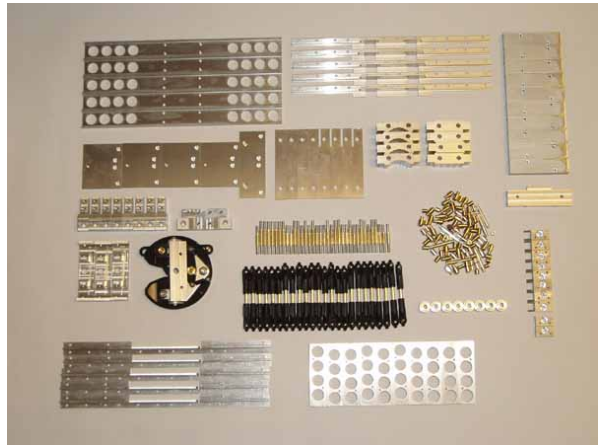
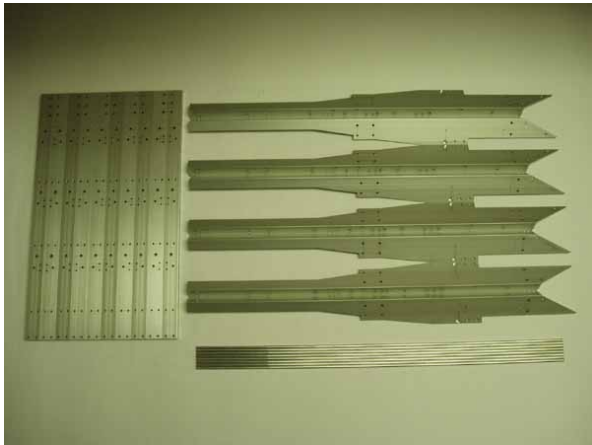
The next time was the time for a lot of tests and corrections. Some few parts where corrected or made new. After all these tests, the production of all parts for the whole five trailers started (about 2.500 parts had to be made). Here are a few pictures of these parts.



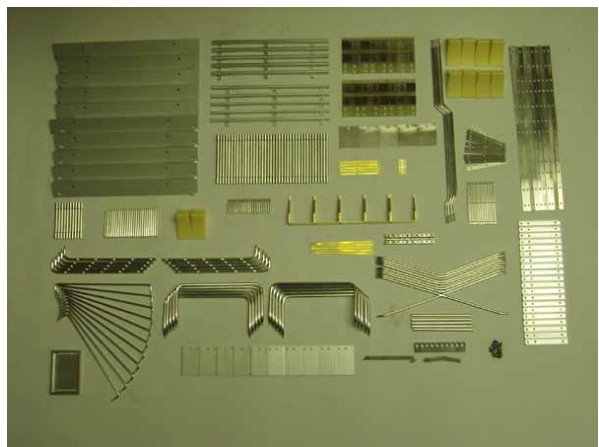
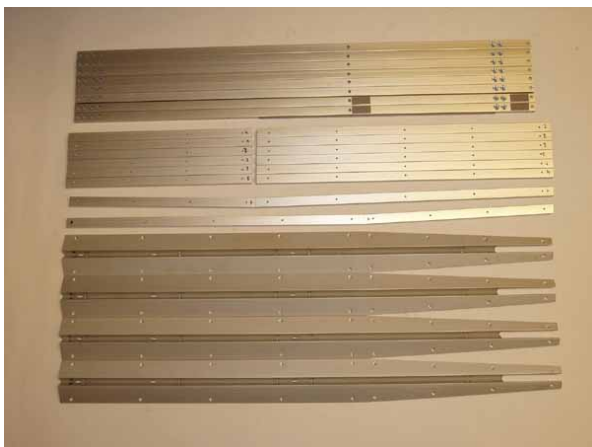
Axles, suspensions, parts from the frame, holders for the stabilizers and more



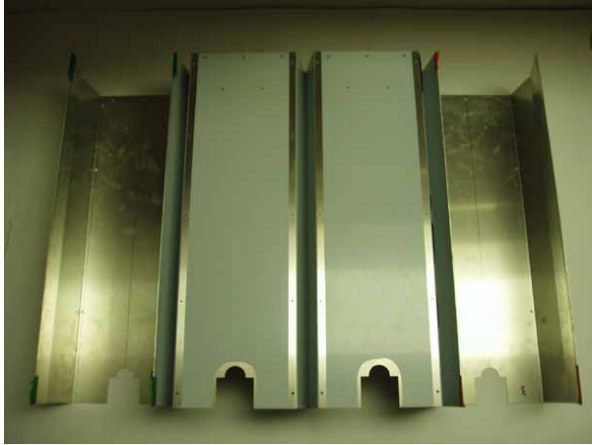
Tires, rims (made of aluminium and than plated with nickel), holders for the mudguards and the mudguards (everything is handmade)



Frames, bumpers, stabilizers and a lot of small parts



Helpframes, frames for the rolling bin, spare wheel holders, ladders and a few parts more



Parts from the tippers

When all parts of the trailers were done, they had to be cleaned and painted. The parts from the tippers are made of aluminium and had to be polished like a mirror. After that I started to put all parts together, mounting the electrical units and the parts for the radio control. Everything is fitted with about 4.900 screws, nuts and washers. I've used about 100 meters of cable for the electrical units.

Here are a few pictures from one of the finished trailers. The following four pictures show an A-trailer in the normal position.



And now four pictures from an A-trailer with rolled back and lifted tipper.



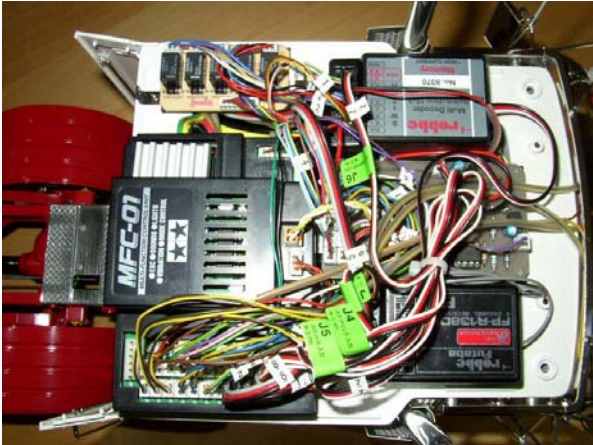
After all trailers were done, I started to design and construct the truck. It wanted to have an original Australian truck with four axles, the typical Australian air filter, four fuel tanks and a big bulbar.

And now a few pictures of the rough truck.



The next step was to take apart the truck for cleaning, polishing and painting the whole parts and then even put them together. The truck is fitted with about 1.200 screws, nuts and washers. For the electrical units I've used about 80 meters of cable.

Here is a look onto the electrical units placed in the sleeper of the truck.



On 6th of September 2007, after the work of 4.954 hours (nearly five years), the project has been finished.



All tippers are independent of each others radio controlled and can be controlled with one radio control. To realise all the light functions on the trailers, which are generated by the truck, I developed an infra-red system to send the signals from one trailer to another.



The next work was to build some boxes to transport this road train.



The length of this road train model is about 4 meters. And now there are a few pictures from the whole train at his first trip outside and in action at a big model show in Germany.



At least I want to say thank you for creating so much interesting trailers as yours, they are a great inspiration for us model makers.

Yours faithfully,

Christian Ambichler

