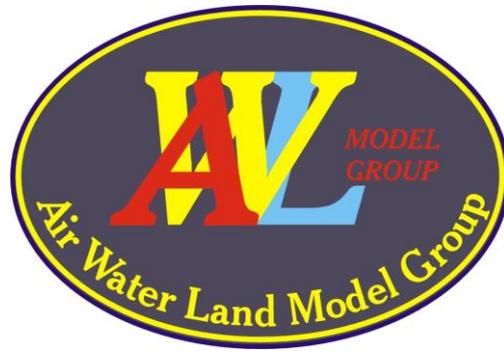


Pershing M26

U.S Medium Tank

Built by Pete Dickinson



The Tank

This tank was produced by the U.S. in late 1944, renamed from the pre-production T25E1 & T26E3 and entered service in the Second World War during May 1945 as the Pershing M26 (After the name of the U.S. General John Pershing). The tank was to replace the ageing Sherman tank which had suffered badly at the hands of the German Panther and later the Tiger tanks. The success of its design carried it on right through the Pacific War and ultimately the Korean War where it stood up well to the Russian built T34/85 tanks used by the enemy. It has been suggested that the success of the Pershing's design laid the foundation for nearly all the subsequent tanks built for the U.S. Army up to and including the dominant M1 Abrams tank.

The Model

The model on display is built from a 16th scale kit manufactured by Tamiya, which produces a very faithful representation of the real tank right down to the engine sound which is a digital recording of an actual Pershing tank's 8cylinder 500hp water-cooled petrol engine.

The model, weighing in at just over 4kg, is powered by twin electric motors driving the tracks via two all metal-gearbed gearboxes. The speed and direction of each motor is controlled via an electronic speed controller which utilises an on board microprocessor to control the braking, reversing, turning, armament and the lighting and sounds.

The tracks run over rubber tyres fitted to the wheels and each wheel has individual suspension springs and dampers which give the model a very realistic appearance when negotiating over rough ground.

The Armament

The turret has three separate motors and gearboxes which individually control the elevation, recoil action of the gun and the rotation of the turret.

The gun is capable of being fired and although no projectile is involved there is a xenon flash tube built into the muzzle which delivers an intense orange/red light to coincide with the digitally recorded sound of an actual M3 90mm 50 calibre gun. To augment the main armament there is a front mounted machine gun which can also be fired in 3second bursts accompanied by orange flashes from its muzzle and a non functional turret mounted anti-aircraft machine gun.

The model is controlled by a 6 channel 2.4Ghz transmitter and receiver which allows full control over all the models many functions including operating the driving lights.

The power to run the model is derived from a rechargeable 7.4 volt 3,300mAh NiMH battery.

Although built from a kit, this model still required between 30 to 35 hours of construction, painting and finishing.

If you would like a demonstration of this model or wish to ask any questions of the builder please speak to one of us and we will do our best to answer your query.