

Fast & Furious - Ripsaw (Mattel) **RRP £7.99, in this case though £1.99**

Review by Jonathan Aird

Some may recall that in earlier reviews of vehicles from the HALO series I confessed that all I knew of the source material was that it was a computer game played regularly on The Big Bang Theory. Well, this vehicle is from the world of the Fast & Furious movie franchise ó and I can



confidently state that I know even less of this than I do of HALO. I believe that it is an action-adventure series mostly built around car chases, and í well that's it. However, when I see a quite reasonable looking small diecast tank model at what is also a quite reasonable price I'm not going to let a little thing like complete ignorance of what it is meant to be get in the way!

So ó what is Ripsaw? Well: it's a tracked vehicle some 75mm long, 35mm wide and 25mm high (not including the weapon mount). For 25-28mm figures it has the feel of being able to carry only one or two people, but in 15mm it could represent a substantial APC ó with maybe a couple of drivers and 8-10 passengers. In 6mm it would be a vast landship!

The main part of the vehicle is a nicely angular armoured body, with a glass-front for the driver (quite unusual, and presumably very toughened glass!). On top of the cabin is a small remotely operated turret gun (it does turn freely). This is all carried on tracks that stand away from the main body of the vehicle, and as the photographs demonstrate this is the weakest part of the model. Although quite detailed with running gear, the plastic is solid and looks, well, very plastic-y! However this should be much improved with just a little paint. There are also little wheels under the tracks for the toy to run on ó but these can be easily hidden by basing the model and using a little flock.

I was pretty impressed ó enough to go back and clear out the shop after initially just getting one to have a look at, and so now have a half-dozen or so of these. I like the idea of using them with 25mm figures as a sort of futuristic Universal Carrier, but the 15mm APC idea is also a possibility for a paramilitary type force. At a knock-down price, they are certainly worth buying!

