

REXQUOTE KOMATSU PW160ES-7K RAILRIDER Mk1 99709 940082-9

Komatsu wheeled excavators, in the PW160-7 series, were designed and built expressly for European markets. They were planned to deliver outstanding lifting power with excellent productivity, reliability and operator comfort in a robust, environmentally-friendly package as well as being both stable and safe during operations.

Komatsu PW160ES-7K Megarailer 10 Road Rail Vehicles (RRV's) continue to be highly adaptable and flexible which Network Rail have authorised for working next to rail lines open to traffic. The cab was designed to carry two people (Driver and Banksman) to and from work sites.

There are a wide range of attachments, associated with this type of RRV, including various hydraulic grabs, ballast brushes, fast clipping machines and (up to) four towed braked trailers, along with a wide range of specialist attachments for thimbling rail, ballast profiling, welding, lineside flailing and more.

Established in 2001 the Rexquote Megarailer and Megarailer 10 models became popular medium weight multi-purpose machines. They evolved from the original Suparailer concept with 10-15% additional weight and larger (26¾ ins/680mm) rail wheels coupled with densely filled chassis and counterweight to give superb stability in service. The advanced touchscreen graphic display unit gives the driver the confidence to carry out big lifts knowing the machine would retain sure footedness. Megarailers were made with hydraulically driven rail axles featuring four wheel drive and benefiting from multi-disc fail safe parking brakes in each drive unit.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION			
Weight	23,600 kg	Number of axles	2
Maximum plain line travelling speed	12½ mph (20.1 Kph)	Minimum curve radius	80 m
Maximum gradient	1 in 25	Wheel profile	PI
Overall length	7460 mm	Overall width	2512 mm
Height (road)	3160 mm	Height (rail)	3316 mm
Maximum travelling cant	200 mm	Maximum working cant	150 mm
Engine: SAA4D107E-I Tier 3a	97 kW/130 hp (at 2200 rpm)	Hydrostatic drive	All 4 rail wheels
Hydraulic pressure	350 bar/5,075 psi	Hydraulic system flow	320 Ltr/Min
Fuel Tank	300 Litres	Constructed	2005
Maximum No. of hauled trailers	4	Maximum hauled load	46,000 kg
Bucket Pin SWL	10,000 kg	Quick Hitch ALP SWL	13,000 kg
Air Service (and Parking) Brake Pressures	8 bar		

The Swanage Railway's Komatsu PW160ES-7K was manufactured in 2005 being issued with serial number K40300. The makers full registered number is KMTPW013V55K40300. On acceptance by Network Rail it was allocated identification number: 99709 940082-9 and the Engineering Acceptance Certificate expires on 8th April 2023. Rexquote converted the basic road-going excavator into a Road Rail Vehicle and gave it conversion number 2071. On entering L&W Contracting service it was allocated fleet number R119.

940082-9 was first spotted in service at Wadhurst, on the Hastings Line in East Sussex, in April 2006 after which it was used mainly in the South Central area visiting work site areas such as Battersea, Croydon and London Victoria on many occasions. Other locations visited multiple times included Ashford, Horsham, Lancing and Streatham.

Visits further westwards were not unknown such as, for example, Woking in June 2012, Templecombe in November 2012, Clapham Junction in March 2014 and Honiton during October 2019. 940082-9 was also no stranger to heritage railways as it was seen at Bishops Lydeard (West Somerset) in June 2015 and May 2016 as well as at Horsted Keynes on the Bluebell Railway during March 2017.

940082-9 was noted back at L&W Contractors depot at Five Oaks, Billingshurst, West Sussex in February 2020. After working at permanent way works near Woking and Basingstoke and again at the Bluebell during 2021 it appears it may have finished its main line career at Lingfield being spotted on site on 22nd January 2022.

This Komatsu PW160ES-7K was purchased from L&H Contracting and arrived at Norden by road haulier on Wednesday 16th February 2022 to take the place of Rexquote Case 988P Megarailer 940262 – known on the Swanage Railway as 'Big Daddy'.

Incidentally, 'Big Daddy' Rexquote Case 988P Megarailer 940262 has now been sold to the Gloucester & Warwickshire Steam Railway's Permanent Way Department.

940082-9 has been in regular PW Dept. use on the Swanage Railway since its arrival.

Information collated by Peter Sykes and updated by Barry Light

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