

Minneapolis-Moline Toy G1000 Vista

By Jay Groskreutz

The Minneapolis Moline toy G1000 Vista was made by the Ertl Company of Dyersville Iowa, from 1968 to 1972 according to the Ertl year books. There were two different versions of the G1000 Vista built, the first one had yellow rims, G1000 decals on the front radiator shield, and a smaller front spindle. If you find this toy new it would be in the open top box, you might also find one that is in a green box.



The second version has white rims which is very difficult to find. This one does not have any G1000 decal and it has a larger front spindle, this toy would usually be found in what is

called the green box, it is possible to find the white rim toy in an open top box. From my research the changes to the white rim toy was because Minneapolis Moline discontinued building the real Vista, this toy was to represent the 50 series tractor, which was more cost effective then building a new die for 50 series model. Both versions came with a rubber muffler and air cleaner stack that could be removed or replaced. They also had a weight bracket on the front of the tractor to install a black plastic weight assembly, I am not sure if these tractors came with the weights in the box from Ertl. Not to take anything away from the toy G1000 Vista, I just wanted to point out that the toy has a diesel fuel tank, the left hand side of the toy has a diesel engine and the right hand side of the toy is a LP engine.

Minneapolis Moline had a program for the “block man” or “territory managers” called the **Half Million Dollar Club**, which was in the late 50’s into the 60’s.

They would receive awards for selling a half million dollars worth of new equipment and parts in their territory, just an extra incentive to work a little harder with their dealer network. Keep in mind that in the 60’s equipment and parts were not that high priced compared to now days, so it was pretty difficult to sell a half a million dollars. The award that Minneapolis Moline Company gave out in 1967 was a toy tractor G1000 Vista on a walnut plaque, these were presented to the “block man” in the winter of 1968, when the toys were introduced. I don’t think too many of these were given

