



A KONSTRUKTOR Set in 2007 Edmundo Veiga kindly sent details of a No.2 set that he bought in a large Moscow toy store in June. As will be seen the parts in it are similar to those in many of the 10mm pitch Russian sets but in particular to K 115 & VOENNAYA TEKHNIKA (see 25/718). There are other links to those sets too including a number of the models in the new set's manual. It is said on the side of the box sleeve that the Set is made by ЧЭАЭ for a company called Russtyle of 14 Krasno-polyanskaya Street, Moscow. From its web site (www.russtyle.net) Russtyle sells a wide range of toys and was founded in 1992. ЧЭАЭ was the firm mentioned in connection with VOENNAYA TEKHNIKA, and the name was also in the top left corner of the K 115 manual cover, though that was not noted at the time. Its address is 5 I. Yakovleva Ave., Cheboksary (the capital of the part of Russia called Chuvashia, 650km east of Moscow). The inspection stamp on the back cover of the manual includes '0607', so probably a date.

The SETS The parts are packed in a black, sectioned plastic box, 24*17*2½cm, with a clear lid. The card sleeve already mentioned slides over it and its top is shown above. The main name on it transliterates as METALLICHESKII KONSTRUKTOR and the meaning according to Babel Fish is Metallic Designer. The 223 is the number of parts in the Set. There are 2 logos in the top right corner with ЧЭАЭ under them. The words in the top logo mean 'Super-Master' and those in the lower one, 'Russian Style'. The underside of the sleeve has details of the parts; photos of 3 of the models that can be made with the Set; and small pictures of the top of the sleeves on Sets 1 & 3 (as on the manual cover shown later). No.1 has 173 parts and No.3, 293. The contents of the No.2 and the K 115 outfit are broadly similar overall.

The PARTS Below the parts as shown on the box sleeve (but in B&W), with the quantities in the Set in the RH column. (A bar code label had been stuck over the lower right corner so the names there have been copied from the manual and the probable quantities added.) The circular parts are black plastic,

	Отвертка	1
	Ключ гаечный	1
	Пластина 20 x 20	3
	Пластина 40 x 20	4
	Пластина 50 x 20	7
	Косынка I	5
	Косынка II	4
	Косынка III	1
	Планка сегментная	2
	Планка с 2 отверстиями	4
	Планка с 3 отверстиями	4
	Планка с 5 отверстиями	6
	Планка с 10 отверстиями	6

the others, despite the purple & yellow shown on the sleeve, have a bright finish with iridescence showing on some of them. The range of parts and their design seem very similar to those of K 115, & VOENNAYA TEKHNIKA (as in the photo in 25/719) although the Road Wheel looks a little different. As would be expected the thread is M4. The circular parts run on, or are nipped to, the long Bolts or the (about 70mm long) Screwed Rods. The Ступица, a wide wheel with a shallow flange on one side is the part shown for K 115 in 25/719 - it replaced the Pulley in K'115 (with a dot, 19/530). It is used as a small wheel in some models, and (quite unsuitably) as a pulley in others.

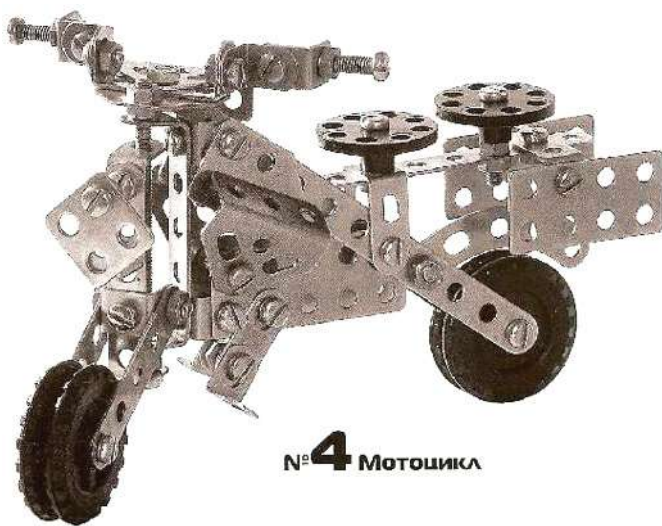
The MANUAL It fits flat inside the lid and has 14 pages plus covers. The front, shown below, has the name around one of the logos from the sleeve at the top, while the yellow words at the bottom speak of assembly instructions and 3 levels of skill. ЧЭАЭ is not mentioned anywhere in the manual and the brief Introduction on p1 has the Russtyle details under it. On the back cover are the illustrated parts and the number of each needed for each of the 24 models in the manual.



The models, with my names, are: Set 1: 1. Chair on p1, to 12. Twin-engined Monoplane on p6; Set 2: 13. Racing Car on p7, to 18. Lorry Mounted Crane on p10; Set 3: 19. 3-Wheel Delivery Cart on p11, to 24. Mechanical Navvy on p14. There is a good variety of small, simple but generally attractive models with just one photo for each (but plus the list of parts on the back cover of course). 9 of the models are identical or very similar to those in the K 115 or VOENNAYA TEKHNIKA manuals. The models on the Set 1 & 3 sleeves are shown on the next page, at rather less than half scale.

QUALITY Edmundo wrote that on the whole he was impressed by the quality of the parts and packaging, especially because the Set cost only 179 roubles, less than £3.50.

	Уголок	13
	Уголок 2	4
	Скоба малая	4
	Скоба большая	3
	Скоба I	2
	Скоба II	3
	Панель	4
	Крюк	1
	Колесо	6
	Диск (планшайба)	2
	Ступица	4
	Ось	4
	Винт М 4 x 35	1
	Винт М 4 x 20	2
	Винт М 4 x 16	9
	Винт М 4 x 8	8
	Винт М 4 x 6	37
	Тяжка М 4	70



№4 МОТОЦИКЛ



№23 ВЕРТОЛЕТ

KONSTRUKTOR [20]: S2

OSN 37/1114

Snippet: GECO The name was mentioned in 17/477 and it was also said that it was later called CONRAD. Baukästen just gives the maker, Geco-Bauspiele-Fabrik G. Conrad GmbH of Berlin, a date of 1923, and that there were at least 4 sets. This piece is based on two items seen on Ebay, both incomplete; one a No.4 set, and the other a No.3 & a No.4 with the contents mixed together. GECO structures are made from wooden Beams which appear to push into a variety of metal Connectors, a method comparable perhaps to KLIPIT, another system being sold in the early 1920s, though their Clips look less robust than the GECO Connectors.

First the No.4, said to be from 1922. There is a picture of a No.4 set on the front of the leaflet in the box below and it has

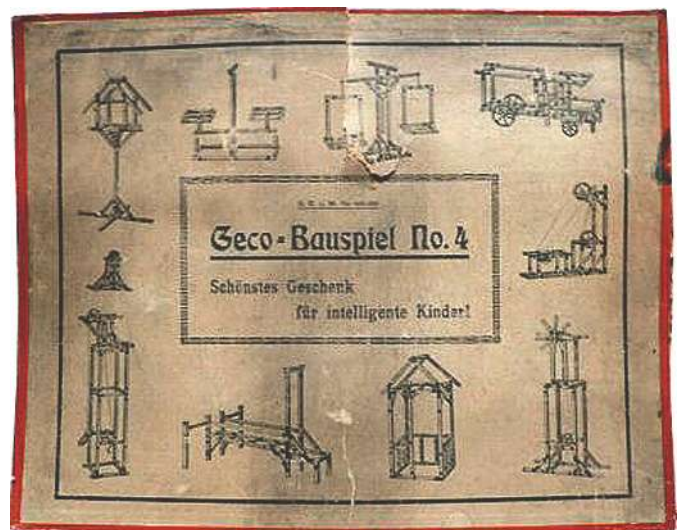


a card of parts which is missing from the Ebay set. It can be seen to contain Wheels and the Ebay ad also mentioned Gears. The 4-Way Connectors top left in the box look to have a centre bush. The Set's lid is identical to that of the other No.4, shown top right, except for the centre panel, left (in B&W for clarity). The logo is also on the Leaflet but what it represents is not clear. Some words in Danish had been written along the top of the lid but it wasn't said if the Set came from Denmark.



Now, the No.3/4 lot. The No.3 lid is in the same style as the #4 but has 12 rather simpler models around the central panel. The slogan below the name in the panel means 'The Finest Present for Intelligent Children'. The #3 box right has the 2 sizes of Spoked (Pulley?) Wheel, and the small bossed Pulley, all of which were shown in the Leaflet in the No.4 above.

The second No.4 box has the same partitions as the first



and the parts in it are mainly the Connectors from the two Sets. They look black in the photos. The other main parts, which may or may not be original, are a small Hammer, and a black Plate with a hole in each corner. Its width is about the diameter of the large Spoked Wheel and it's twice as long. It has a slight curvature across its width and could be used as a cab roof, but it can't be seen in any of the models.

The top of a model sheet can be seen under the leaflet in the first No.4 and there were 10 of these in the No.3/4 lot: 2 had No.1 models, and 1, 3, & 4 had models for Sets 2, 3, & 4 respectively. One sheet had the Geco logo on it. Each of the 10 Sheets shows from 6 large to 18 small models, with one



drawing for each, similar in style to the models on the lids. None are named or have any instructions with them. Most of the larger models are on the No.4 lid. No Gears can be seen in any of the models.

GECO: S1

OSN 37/1114