

there being more than one set.

No list of parts or set contents are given - the parts that can be seen in the models are: 8x 3h, 4x 4h, 2x 6h, 2x 4x 8h, 2x 9h Strips; 12 Angle & 2 Flat Brackets; 2 each of 4*4 & 4*6h Plates; 2 Flat Trunnions; 2 Pulleys; 2 Bush Wheels; 5 Collars; 3 lengths of Rod (with probably 1 of each); a Crank Handle; 22 N&B. All the parts are in the TECHNOKID range. Many of them

can be seen in the Lathe including the Plates with shallowly crenellated edges. Noticed that a Flat Bracket with an open end is used to provide a (notional?) bearing for the end of the Crank Handle. In fact though all the Brackets shown in the models have open ends, all those in the TECHNOKID parts seen have closed ends with a round hole in one arm a slot in the other.

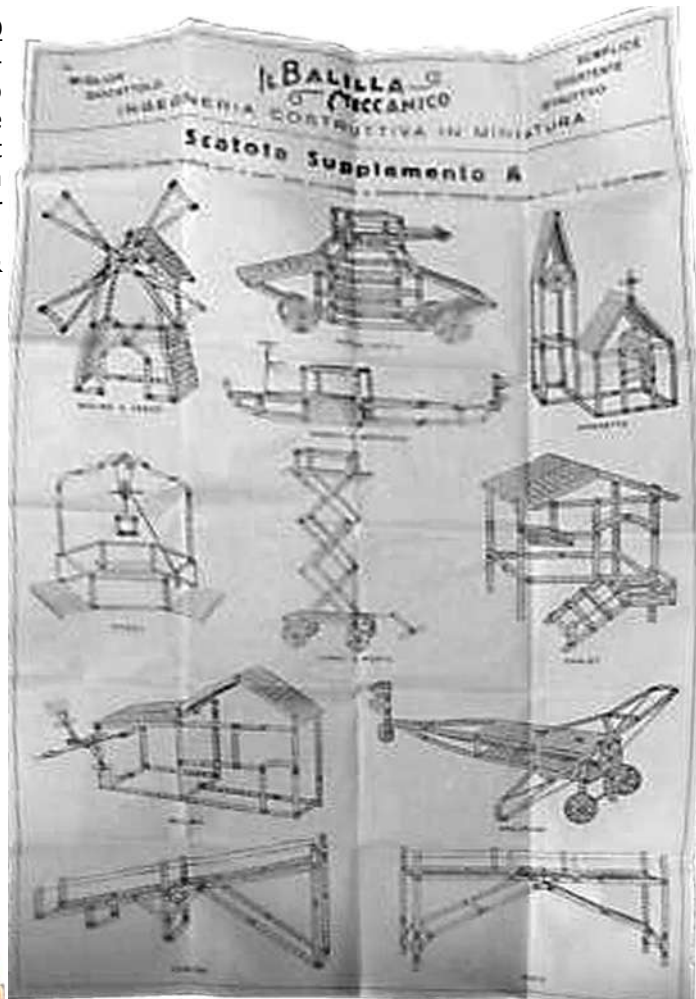
KIS TECHNIKUS: S2

OSN 40/1226

Snippet. 'New' System: IL BALILLA MECCANICO

The outfit below was offered on Italian Ebay and is an add-on Set A. The box looks to have a sliding lid and was said to date from the 1930s. According to Wikipedia Balilla was the nickname of a 19th century Italian patriot and a current meaning is 'little boy'. It also seems to occur in the names of a variety of items from Fiat cars to table football games. Prewar 'Opera Nazionale Balilla' was the fascist youth organization.

The parts that can be seen in the original photo are: 7 &



11h Strips (and probably other lengths less than 11h); 1*5*1h DAS; 5*11h Flanged Plate; Wheel Disc (with a 3*3h array of holes); Span'driver; Screwed Rod; Hex Nut; CH Bolt.

The box's dimensions were given as 17*11*2cm and scaling

gives the hole pitch as about 6 to 6¼mm, so possibly ¼". Then the hole diameter would be around 3mm.

The model sheet for the Set is shown above and from its heading, and what can be seen of the models themselves, it is conceivable that they could be made from the Set A alone.

IL BALILLA MECCANICO: S1

OSN 40/1226

New System: M'TEK In 33/995 some details (from www. toy-kraft.com) were given of 20 small ENTECH sets made by the Indian company Aries. From the same web site last November the Toy-Kraft brand is now owned by Pegasus International of 321 Udyog Mandir No.1, B.K.Marg Mahin(w), Mumbai – 400016, India. The change probably occurred about 3 years ago. Only 4 construction sets are now available & are listed under the M'TEK name. All the lids are similar in design to the Starter Set right.

The other 3 sets, all smaller, are: Mini Flying Machines with 4 aircraft models on its blue lid; Mini Cars with 4 models on a yellow lid; and Off-Roaders with an orange lid featuring 3 Motorcycles & a Trike. All the models are small and are identical or very similar to those for the ENTECH Mini sets. Unlike the Starter Set these outfits have the set name in fairly large letter top right on the lid & the M'TEK name at bottom right. All 4 sets have the Toy-Kraft logo top left, but it now sports Pegasus instead of a rocking horse.

It is said on the Site that the 3 Mini sets were introduced last June and the Starter Set last October. No details of them were given, nor any prices, but 124 parts can be seen on the Starter lid.



M'TEK: S1

OSN 40/1226

CONSTRUCTION in 2010 from a catalogue and the Eitech web site. 9 new sets were added for 2010 and 4 dropped.

The new range, with the new sets asterisked, is: 03,05, 08,09*,17,19,20,21,23,24,25,30,31,33,34*,35*,45*,46*,53,54,55, 56*,57*,61,62,64,67,72,73,74,75*,80,82,83,84,87,91,92*. All the new **lids** emphasise 'eitech' rather than CONSTRUCTION, and like the existing large 30-series sets, the new ones, 34 & 35, are packed in wooden boxes.

The New Sets. • **No.09** (Fig.3) has over 440 parts and any one of 3 models can be made. None are powered but the Motor/Gear Accessory Set 135 is suggested as an add-on – I wonder though how easy it would be to incorporate the necessary parts in the models. • **No.34** is the Eiffel Tower set No.33 but with the Strand of Light included to illuminate it inside.

• **No.35** is a set with 960+ parts for one of the 3 Cranes shown on the lid (Fig.2). The featured model (Fig.1) stands some 90cm high and the jib turns on a Geared Ball Bearing, probably the one shown in 35/1062. It is powered by 3 remotely controlled 6v Geared Motors. The 3 channel Controller is the one shown in the No.134 set in 37/1107. • **Nos.45 & 46** are simplicity models of a 7h span Biplane and a Rocking Horse respectively. • **No.56** is a larger, rather nice, simplicity model of a Tractor & Trailer running on 3 & 2cm Discs as wheels. • **No.57** is another small model, a Buggy of some sort using Eitech's smallest Road Wheels. • **No.75** is a Solar model with a 30cm arm rotating on top of a 9h high pylon. The Cell is at its centre, with the Motor at one end driving a large red plastic propeller, and the No.45 Biplane at the other. • **No.92** has 180+ parts & features a Racing Car on the lid, sized to match the standard Road Wheel. 2 other model are possible.

2 new sets are featured on the Eitech home page as coming soon. One is a small tracked Excavator; the other the Bridge in Fig.4 which combines metal parts with Eitech's TEIFOC bricks – shades of ANCHOR in the early 20th century except that the Bricks are cemented together. They can be soaked apart, like BRICKPLAYER years ago.

The Deleted Sets.

• **No.18** was a 500 part set for Cranes, see 35/1063.

• **Nos.51 & 52** were small sets for a Helicopter & a Bi-plane respectively, again see 35/1063. • **No.85** was introduced in 2005 & should

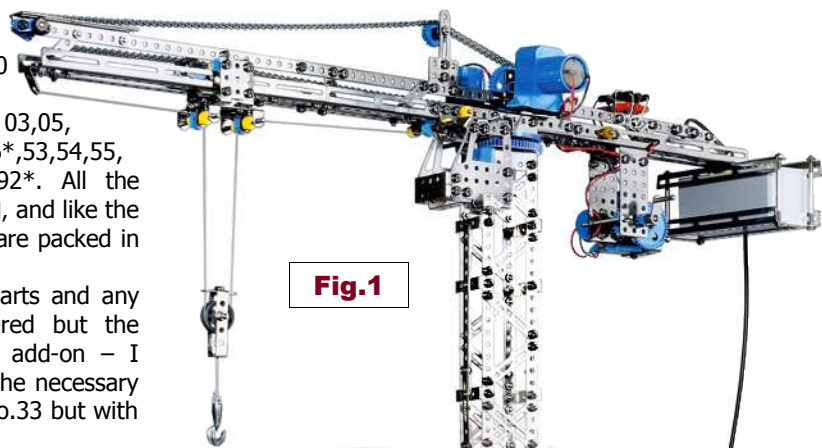


Fig.1



Fig.2



Fig.4



Fig.3

have been mentioned in 34/1023 – it had 180 parts for a small Buggy.

Accessory Packs & Add-on Sets

The range of sets with Gears, Motors, etc is Nos.130-133, 135, 136 & 140-143. No.143 is new and has 2 red flashing LED's powered by 2 AA cells in a switched Battery Box. Among the Parts Packs the 6m long Strand of Light is now included as No.137.

CONSTRUCTION [1]: S11

OSN 44/1330

An M'TEK Update The sets of that name, from the Indian Toy-Kraft brand, which were available in 2009 were described in 40/1226. They continue and 7 new ones were added later in that year. 6 are entry-level theme 'u CAN do it' outfits which are packed in canisters and each has instructions for 2 small models. The Mini Cars set is shown right; the others are for Bikes, Airplanes, Racer Cars, Trucks, and Helicopters. The M'TEK name can't be seen on them. The other introduction, far right, does have the name on the lid, though, as before, it is in tiny letters in one corner. The set has 146 parts and a 3v Motor. Its 24 page manual describes 'construction methodology' and more prosaically, 20 models of all manner of vehicles.



M'TEK: S2

OSN 44/1330