

**PITT** This small post-WW2 German system was mentioned in 15/418 with a few details. It was made by Markes & Co., K.G., the company that made DUX-UNIVERSAL, but PITT was entirely different in concept and included only a few DUX parts. The main PITT parts were Strips with 3 to 19 holes, 2 DAS, 3 Brackets, 2 Plates (but only in the largest set), Wheel Disc, Pulley, and Screwed Rods as axles. DUX parts were versatile but unusual and perhaps a little hard to get to grips with – PITT with its limited range of more or less conventional parts was no doubt intended for younger modellers. In as much as the same thread was used in both systems the parts could be used together; but the hole pitch was different and this would have limited compatibility, though the slots in the Strips do allow Bolts through 2 adjacent DUX holes.

5 PITT sets were produced, Nr.01, 1, 2, 2a, & 3. Little is known of the Nr.01 but otherwise the sets were progressive and an additional Nr.1 would convert a Nr.1 into a Nr.2. Baukästen gives 1948 to 1965 as PITT's lifespan but sets, or even parts, are rarely seen. At least 3 different styles of lid are known.

This account is mainly based on a 1949 Set 1 Model Leaflet; a Nr.2a, unused but with no Model Leaflet, and Ebay photos of a jumbled Nr.2 and an unused Nr.3, both with a Model Leaflet. The Nr.3 is shown in Fig.1 and the parts on the left match those on the right.

**The PARTS** Holes are 3.2 to 3.4mm Ø at 12.5mm pitch, and slots are 6.8mm long. The thread is M3. The parts are nicely made and with the exceptions stated all are nickel plated. There follows a list of the parts with explanatory notes as necessary. Most can be seen in Figs.1 & 2.

- **Strips**, 3,5,7,9,11,19h long and 11.0 - 11.1mm wide. Alternate holes are slotted. One of several 5h Strips in a loose lot has the reverse hole/slot pattern with slots at both ends – a factory error perhaps or home made from a longer Strip.
- **DAS**, 3 & 5h long, made from 5 & 7h Strips.

- **Flat Bracket** with 2 round holes at 11mm pitch. This allows 2 Strips to be joined neatly side by side but a hole & a slot would make the part much more useful.
- **A/B**, a DUX part made from a 10mm wide '2h strip'. Its sides have little notches in them at the bend point.
- **D/B**, made from a special 10.4mm wide 5h strip with holes at about 7½mm pitch and bent across the slotted holes. Possibly a DUX part. In the Nr.3 (Fig.1) they sit on the 4 Wheel Discs in the upper row.

- **Flanged Plate**, 5\*11h, with a

centre 3\*7h cutout. Painted blue but a nickel one has been reported.

- **Perforated Plate**, 3\*7h from the centre of the Flanged Plate.

- **Pulley**, Loose, 26.0mm Ø & 4mm wide. Red but nickel ones are known.
- **Rubber Ring**.
- **Wheel Disc**, 8h. Not seen for sure but what may be an example is 32.3mm Ø and brass plated, though nickel in all the Sets.

- **Screwed Rods**, 90, 110, & shorter, probably 50mm; brass plated.
- **Axle Stop** – a DUX part, it is filled with rubber, see Fig.2. In the Nr.3 they are on top of the Wheel Discs on either side of the red Pulleys.

- **Hook**, not seen but in the models in the Nr.1 Leaflet it looks like a 'cuphook' with a threaded end.
- **Handle Crank**, STABIL style.

- **Bolts**: 6, 12, 23mm under a 5.5mm Ø cheesehead.
- **Nut**, hexagonal, pressed, 5.5mm A/F.

- **Screwdriver**.
- **Spanner**. A DUX part, sometimes stamped DUX and sometimes PITT. In the Nr.3 the Tools are on the 3\*7h Plate, below the Flanged Plate.

**The SETS** The lids in Figs.3, 4, & 5 are, at a guess, in chronological order, and the one in Fig.1 may be a variant of the Fig.5 version. The Table (Fig.6) includes what is known of the contents, a blank indicates no information.

**The Nr.01** is a small set seen only in Baukästen. Its white box is 12\*17.5\*2.5cm and the lid is filled by the Fig.5 label. Of the parts only a few Strips, a DAS, several Wheel Discs and a 50mm Screwed Rod are visible.

**The Nr.1** seen is in a plain cardboard box with the Fig.4 lid. The packing material and most of the parts are missing. The contents in the Table are the parts needed for the models in the Nr.1 Model Leaflet. 80 parts are claimed on the lid.

**The Nr.2** again has a plain cardboard box, but with 2 partitions and the Fig.3 lid. The parts in it are obviously from more than one set but all the Pulleys are nickel and if the lid is the first pattern, perhaps there were no coloured parts in the early sets. In the No.1 Leaflet 3 models are shown which it is said can be built from a Nr.2 or from two Nr.1's. No Set 1a is mentioned so probably the Nr.2's contents was twice a Nr.1's, but perhaps without duplicates of parts like the Hook. The quantities in Fig.6 reflect this.



FIG.1

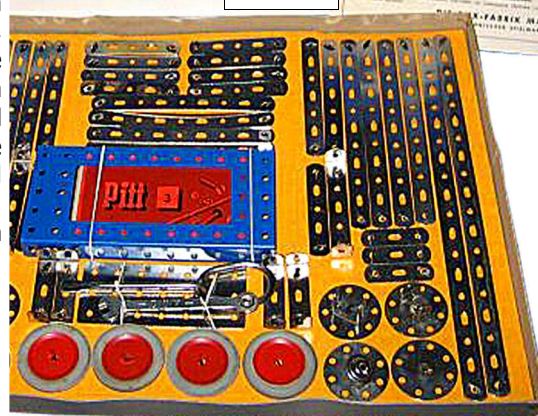


FIG.2



FIG.3



FIG.4



FIG.5

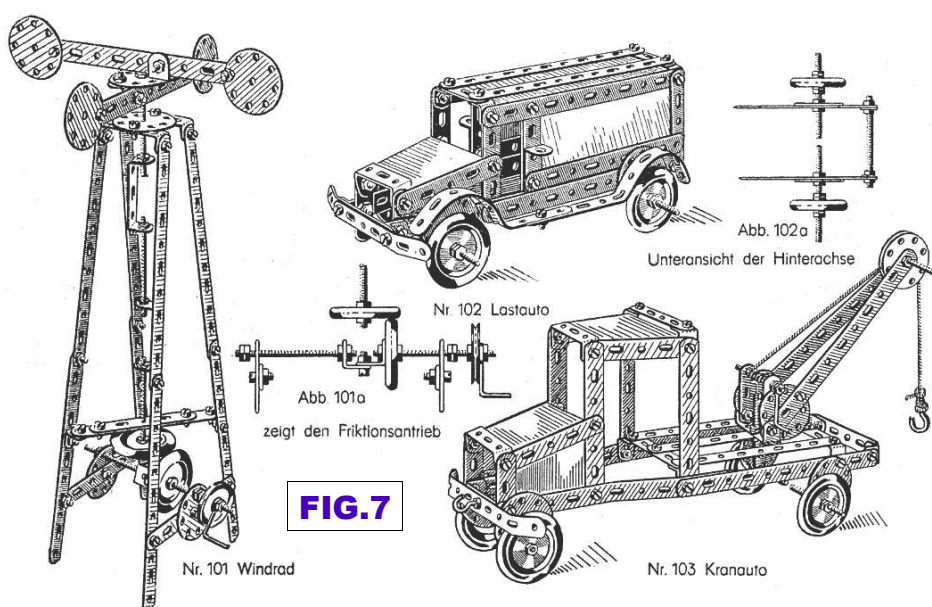


Part/Set	01	1	2	2a	3
Strip 3h		2	4	2	6
Strip 5h		4	8	2	10
Strip 7h		2	4	0	4
Strip 9h		2	4	0	4
Strip 11h		4	8	0	8
Strip 19h		0	0	4	4
Flat Bracket		0	0	4	4
Angle Bracket		4		4	
Double Bracket		0	0	4	4
DAS 1*3*1h		2	4	0	4
DAS 1*5*1h		0	0	2	2
Flanged Plate		0	0	1	1
Perf. Plate		0	0	1	1
Wheel Disc		4	8	0	8
Pulley		2	4	0	4
Rubber Ring		2	4	0	4
Screwed Rod, 50mm		4		0	
Ditto, 90mm		0	0	4	4
Ditto, 110mm		0	0	2	2
Axle Stop		0	0	2	2
Handle Crank		1		0	
Hook		1		0	
Bolt, 6mm				18	
Bolt, 12mm				5	
Bolt, 23mm				5	
Nut				46	
Screwdriver				1	1
Spanner				1	1

**FIG.6**

The **Nr.3** (Fig.1) has a more elaborate lid than the 2a but the parts are packed in the same way with the red box for the small parts under the blue Flanged Plate, and the Tools on top of the 3\*7h Plate. The quantities in the Table are the parts that can be seen in the box. No A/Bs can be seen and they are no doubt in the red box.

the Nr.3. The quantities in Fig.6 are as found.



**FIG.7**

The **Nr.2a** is in a rather flimsy plain cardboard box, 25½\*17½\*2cm, with the Fig.5 label, the same size as on the Nr.01. The parts are clipped, or held with elastic cord, to a yellow backing board, with the N&B & Screwed Rods in a red lidded box similar to the one in

**The MODEL LEAFLETS** The Nr.1's PR is 'BR 649 S' and it is one sheet folded once to 151\*214mm in portrait format. The front has an introduction, then some basic constructions, and it ends by suggesting migration to DUX for even better models. Inside and on the back are line drawings of 45 reasonable little models from Nr.1 Wegweiser (Signpost) to Nr.45 Hobelmaschine (Planing Machine). Also on the back the Nr.2 models mentioned earlier and they are shown in Fig.7, at their original size.

The Leaflet with the Nr.2 looks about the same size and its front appears to cover the same ground as above. The Nr.3 Leaflet (Fig.1) is about the same size too but has a different style front and may be more than a single folded sheet.

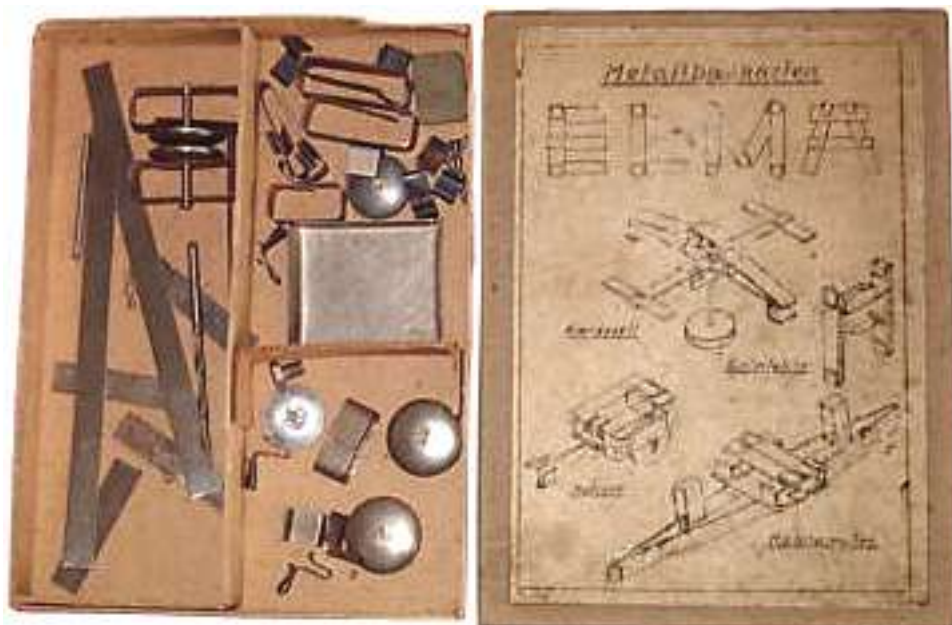
The 2 models shown in MCS, a Digger & a simple weight-driven Pendulum Clock (with just an escapement and a single hand on the end of the scape wheel shaft), are much more ambitious than the Nr.2 models above, and although there is nothing to say that they are Nr.3 models, they could I think be made with the parts in the Nr.3 set.

PITT: S2

OSN 41/1258

### Snippet. 'New' System:

**ELMA** The set right was offered on German Ebay and was said to be from the 1950s. The model leaflet pasted inside the lid is headed 'Metallbaukasten ELMA', so it will be assumed that ELMA was made in Germany. Leaving aside the probable foreign parts (a twist drill, a formed disc that looks aluminium, the bolt above it, and various other oddments), the remainder remind one strongly of the French system CONSTRUC, described elsewhere in this Issue. The Strips, the formed Shapes, the Clips, and the Tray all look identical. But the Pulley Discs are unlike any CONSTRUC part. There is no indication as to whether the Clips and Shapes were factory made, or if a Jig was included in the Set. The models don't look like any of those in CONSTRUC's Notice Explicative.



ELMA: S1

OSN 41/1258