

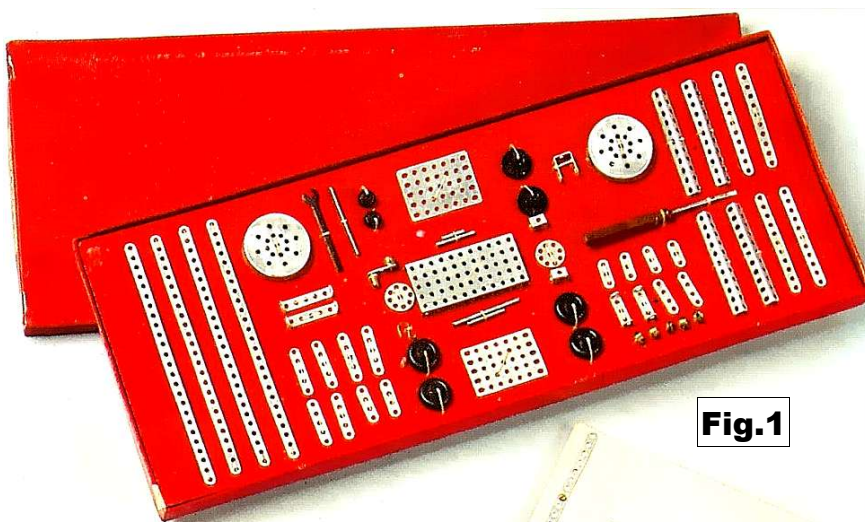
## 'New' Italian System RIVAROSSİ

This account has been taken from Giorgio Guiliani's [www.rivarossi-memory.it/Meccano/Meccano\\_RR.htm](http://www.rivarossi-memory.it/Meccano/Meccano_RR.htm), and links from it. Thanks also to Luciano Luppi for providing details of some of the parts. The story started in 1945 when, after war service, 24 year old Alessandro Rossi bought into a company called ASA which made electric commutators. Antonio Riva was already a partner and the company name was changed to Rivarossi Ltd. Rossi's intention was to produce the model trains which would soon make the company's name, but its first product was the RIVAROSSİ constructional system, launched in 1946 while the trains were still being developed. Riva left the company in 1946 and in 1947 it moved from Albese Cassano to Sagnino, 10km away across Lake Como.

RIVAROSSİ had small 7mm pitch parts, and was influenced by Märklin's prewar 1/4" pitch MINEX. There was much talk in the manual of building Cranes, Bridges, etc for use with the model trains. Production probably ceased in 1948, at least in part because by then there was much competition from many other systems, new & reintroduced. And perhaps building with the system's 2mm diameter N&B, appreciably smaller than the MINEX's 2.8mm parts, was something of a trial. (MINEX did not reappear after WW2.)

Sets are rare and only two small ones are known. There is though a picture of a larger set in the manual (Fig.1), and it also lists 8 outfits: sets HA, A, B, C; linking sets HA-A, A-B, B-C; & a Motor/Gears outfit. Sets HA - C contained 70,140,320 & 950 parts. The two small sets are shown on the website and are possibly an HA & an HA-A. All three sets have red boxes with no lid label, but with the name on the end of the lid, as on one of the small sets in Fig.2.

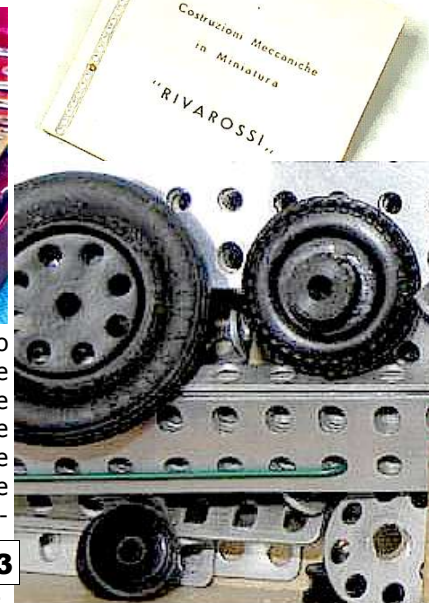
In all there were some 75 parts in the system, nearly all aluminium but the black Pulleys, Road Wheel hubs, & the handle of the Screwdriver were made of Bakelite. The rubber Tyre on the large Road



**Fig.1**



**Fig.2**



**Fig.3**

Wheel has RIVAROSSİ moulded into the sidewall (Fig.3), otherwise the parts are not marked. About 40 can be identified from the website and are listed below with a reference Figure No. in red where needed. All but the N&B can be seen in the photos. Dimensions have been scaled.

- Strips, 3,4,5,6,11,25h.
- A/Gs, 11,13,17,25h.
- Flat Girders, 17,25h.
- Brackets: Flat; Angle; Double; 2h high Double.
- Axles, 18,30,50mm.
- Pulleys: 9mm Loose, brass (2); 12mm (1,3,5); 20mm with 8h disc (1,2).
- 8h Bush Wheel.
- Screwdriver.
- Spanner.
- N&B, brass, good quality.
- Bolts, CH, 3.5, 5.5 & 16mm u/h.
- Nut, square.
- DAS: 1\*3,5\*1h.
- Flanged Plates: 5\*11h; 5\*7h.
- Perforated Plate 7\*11h

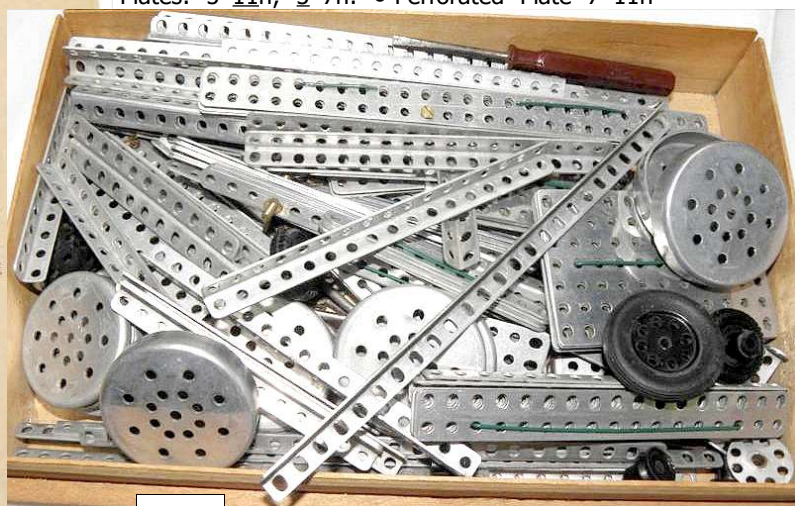
## GRU A BRACCIO SNODATO

Pezzi occorrenti

**Fig.4**

- |       |      |
|-------|------|
| 1 del | 8 A  |
| 1     | 8 B  |
| 1     | 10 B |
| 2     | 3 L  |
| 1     | 14 A |
| 22    | 14 C |
| 5     | 14 B |
| 1     | 12   |
| 4     | 1 A  |
| 4     | 1 D  |
| 4     | 1 G  |

- |       |      |
|-------|------|
| 2 del | 1 H  |
| 2     | 4 L  |
| 1     | 5 L  |
| 2     | 10 A |
| 2     | 17 I |
| 2     | 17 E |
| 3     | 20   |
| 1     | 26   |
| 27    | 15   |



**Fig.5**

- (5). • Hook, brass wire (1).
- Collar, brass.
- Handle Crank, brass, (1).
- 5h Ø Flanged Disc.
- Road Wheels with rubber Tyres 20mm (1,3,5), 37mm (3,5) o.d.

Two manual models are shown on the website, a small Handcart and the Crane in Fig.4. The photos of both models are identical to those of Models 39 and 86 for Set 01 in the MINEX manual.