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Dear Fan Club Members,

fischertechnik is excellent - an attribute confirmed once again by nominations for the coveted toy awards "Golden Rocking Horse" and "TOP 10 Toy". See page 2 for more. Around 1,000 visitors at the FAN CLUB day gained new insights into the world of fischertechnik. Page 3 shows all the exciting discoveries that could be made. Loops, steep curves and other obstacles - no, we're not talking about our new PROFI Dynamic construction set but the break-taking fischertechnik roller coaster model made by Christian Knobloch. You can find the full story on page 4. Have lots of fun and enjoy reading the new FAN CLUB NEWS! Your Tobias

Double bill of excitement: fifth international fischertechnik FAN CLUB day

Around 1,000 youngsters, parents and enthusiastic fischertechnik designers came to Tumlingen and Salztetten to take a look behind the scenes. Special eye-catcher: the exhibition of historic construction sets. Find out more on page 3.

On the trail of Isaac Newton: experience physics with PROFI Dynamic

A construction set with computer control for kids aged eight - completely new from fischertechnik. Read on page 5 to find out how easy it is to control the models with the ROBO Pro Light software and which possibilities the new ROBO LT Beginner Lab offers.

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Profile

Busy as bees in production

Recent issues have featured profiles of the employees working in development, management, marketing and sales. Maybe you've already met one or other of them at events, trade-fairs or special sales functions. To round it all off, here's the whole production team that always works as busy as bees! They make sure that the construction sets are made up without any mistakes and that orders are sent out as soon as possible. Our team works in two shifts in our new premises in Salztetten, which is why not all the employees were present at the photo session. In the run up to Christmas in particular, everyone has their hands full making sure that all Christmas wishes are delivered in plenty of time for Father Christmas. Many thanks to the whole team!

Bulls-eye with robots: fischertechnik teams from SFZ clean up the prizes at Robo Tec GMH

The School Research Center (SFZ) in Osnabrück has really cleaned up the prizes at the regional RoboTec GMH competition held by the vocational training institute Berufsbildungsgesellschaft Georgsmarienhütte mbH. Eight teams with models made from fischertechnik COMPUTING construction sets won 12 of 24 top places in the overall standings and in the individual disciplines. But this doesn't mean to say it was all easy going for the SFZ team. Several unexpected technical problems demanded that they all stay calm and show full dedication.

Double awards: fischertechnik PROFI Dynamic and fischer TiP Play and Learn! "Traffic"

The new fischertechnik PROFI Dynamic (€99.95) makes it as easy as child's play for you to learn that physics is much more than just math formulas and equations. The construction set has been nominated for two major toy awards. The jury of the competition "The Golden Rocking Horse 2011" has nominated the PROFI Dynamic construction set for the category "Toy and Technology". The construction set has also been proposed for the "TOP 10 Toy". The "TOP 10 Toy" award goes to the toy highlights of the specific year. fischer TiP has also been nominated for the "TOP 10 Toy" with its "Traffic" box from the new Play and Learn! line. The "Traffic" box (€12.95) contains not only 500 colorful TiPs but also cardboard templates, a cutting tool, sponge cloth and flash cards. You can find more information about fischer TiP on the internet at www.fischertip.de.

Building and playing with Granny and Granddad

In the last issue, we launched a search for the best fischertechnik grandparents and your answers simply poured in! Many thanks indeed! These entries received from Finn and Laurin are just two examples of all the letters we received.

Two years ago, I saw the Ferris wheel made up in a toy shop. Since then all I've really wanted was to have one of my own. At Christmas I was then actually given one. I think the fact that my Gran sits on the floor with me and helps me sort out the difficult bits really makes her the coolest fischertechnik Granny. Finn, aged 7 I started to build things with fischertechnik when I was 4 years old. The first parts were handed down from my Uncle Fabian and must be about 26 years old now. Meanwhile I have been given a few new construction sets of my own. My Granddad has helped me make up lots of super models. Laurin, aged 7

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fischertechnik paradise with amazing experiences at the fischertechnik Fan Club day

On 24 July, the fischer Group sites in Tumlingen and Salztetten turned into toy-land. Around 1,000 children, youngsters, parents and enthusiastic fischertechnik designers all came to the fifth international fischertechnik FAN CLUB day to share the joys of playing and building together and to enjoy all the amazing sights to see. All visitors were given a small metal ball at the entrance. Everyone who sent the ball over the new green flex-rails of the larger-than-life PROFI Dynamic obstacle course for balls took part in a prize game. Just one reason why the model was constantly surrounded by curious fans. But it wasn't just the historical construction sets and new products that people enthused over: the original creations made by some of the fans also attracted huge crowds. These included imaginative models such as an "airy car", "temporary structures" or a "people mover". In Salztetten, fans could put together their own BASIC Carts and Bikes construction sets and fill buckets with colored fischer TiPs. It was with great suspense and wide eyes that the numerous spectators watched the Science Show all about air presented by the Science House. Fans used the COMPUTING workshop to fire questions at our experts, while the Plug Seminar gave adults a chance to learn how to use power drills and plugs properly. There were numerous extras for younger visitors to the FAN CLUB day as well. For example, making a volcano, for the extra inquisitive. Creative visitors made things with the colorful fischer TiPs at the play tables, while the Bouncy Castle offered an opportunity to let off steam.

Whiz kids at Jugend forscht

In the last issue, we asked you to send us projects with fischertechnik parts that you have entered for "Jugend forscht" [Young Researchers]. Of all the super projects that you sent in, we would like to show you the projects by Frank, Steffen and the Samuel/Benedikt team just as examples. Frank's model is a technical reconstruction of the way in which worms move. The jury was most impressed by his pneumatic worm. That's great! Steffen's highly scientific project also earned lots of praise. His physics project examines "Factors influencing the speed at which a gyroscope turns". Wow! Samuel and Benedikt worked together to develop a robot that strikes a match to light a candle, and then blows the match out again. Super! Many thanks for all your entries; construction sets worth altogether €600 are being sent out to the participants.

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Superlative roller coaster: fischertechnik fan gets his kicks from speed

Loops, steep curves, centrifugal forces - what a thrill. It took Christian Knobloch twelve months to build a superlative roller coaster using fischertechnik. The results can definitely stand comparison with the real thing. Lots of parts had to be obtained and many technical details finalized and put into effect - heaps of work, in fact, although the 17 year-old still goes to school. But this still didn't stop Christian from constructing an impressive roller coaster with fischertechnik in the cellar of his parent's house. How many parts did he use? Christian really doesn't know any more. There were simply too many! But he does know that he used more than 130

rails to assemble the total length of 32 meters - most impressive. Christian discovered his love of roller coasters at the Europa Park theme park in Rust. His personal favorite is the "blue fire Megacoaster" - a roller coaster with a loop that is 32 meters high. Did Christian shake in his shoes? No way - after all, he thoroughly studied the way in which real roller coasters work to collect all the ideas he needed for his fischertechnik roller coaster. Christian's roller coaster is not just a reconstruction. For his "firestorm Megacoaster", he designed every loop, curve and obstacle himself. His model corresponds with real-life roller coasters in every respect: The running gears clasp the rail on three sides, the ride has an automatic blocking system to prevent any collisions. The braking system is also practically the same as in a big roller coaster, consisting of a contactless eddy current brake for magnetic braking. Christian designed some parts for the running gear and brakes with a CAD program at his computer and then milled them out himself. Great engineering skills, on a slightly smaller scale. Acceleration of the vehicles that weigh a good 1 kg each is provided by a catapult system using fischertechnik chain drives. On approaching one of the obstacles, the vehicles pass sensors that trigger the catapults for a great acceleration effect. The highlight of the system is without doubt a loop with a total height of 1.5 meters, believe it or not. Several fischertechnik ROBO interfaces control the whole thing. But Christian felt it was all simply not spectacular enough, and wanted to send the vehicles through a foggy tunnel. What's a father supposed to do in this kind of situation? He grins and sets off to get hold of a fog machine for his son to put in the tunnel. All in all, this resulted in a superlative roller coaster that can be admired on Christian's YouTube channel "www.youtube.de/ftmegacoaster". The film was produced at the ft-Convention 2010. Since then, Christian has continued to modify the model with even more daring figures and an improved rail and car system. Brilliant!

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On the trail of Isaac Newton: experience physics with PROFI Dynamic

Physics is fun and something we encounter for example in a roller coaster or even in everyday situations. But exactly what's it all about? The three experiment models, the three obstacle courses for balls and the didactic activity booklet of the new PROFI Dynamic construction set introduce you step-by-step to the thrilling world of kinetics. You can use the PROFI Dynamic experiment models to learn the secrets of physics, including the conservation of energy principle, the law of linear momentum of the equilibrium of forces. See for yourselves why things move and get slower or faster, and observe the effects of gravity. These phenomena are explained in the comprehensive activity booklet which takes you through the individual experiments to help you understand the teachings of Isaac Newton and James Prescott Joule. The three obstacle courses for balls in the PROFI Dynamic construction set show just how fascinating physics can be. The balls are raised by the magnetic ball holders on the motorized elevator. They are accelerated, diverted by switches and teeter-totters, and trigger chain reactions, traveling at high speed. The steel balls in the new fischertechnik flex-rails fly through loops and steep curves. PROFI Dynamic: • 690 parts • 7 models • 22 flex-rails • 10 steel balls • 3 magnetic ball holders • 1 XS Motor • Battery holder for a 9-V battery • Didactic activity booklet • Age: from nine years

Build your own world: new play dimension: ADVANCED Universal 3

Are you new to fischertechnik or do you want to expand your range of components? No problem! The ADVANCED Universal 3 construction set offers all you need to build 40 models. The ADVANCED Universal 3 has enough blocks to make play worlds with up to three models. Airplane, helicopter and a rotating radar and radio tower turns your room into an airport. If you make the conveyor belt, crane and truck all at the same time, it's a case of "Caution, construction site". The new cab, tires and rims bring you even more pleasure and fun in building your models. Supplement the ADVANCED Universal 3 with other fischertechnik sets. The PLUS Motor Set XS can be used for example to drive the dockside crane, the ventilating fan or also the block and tackle contained in the construction set. The addition of PLUS Sound + Lights creates the whole merry-go-round atmosphere of the funfair. ADVANCED Universal 3: • 500 components • 40 models • Additions: PLUS Motor Set XS, PLUS Motor Set XM, PLUS Sound + Lights • Age: from seven years

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GALLERY

Many thanks for all the many letters and e-mails that you keep sending in with photos of interesting and cool fischertechnik models! From now on, we'll be showing you a wider selection of model pictures again. At the same time, you can vote on www.fischertechnik.de for the model you think is best. Take a look! Please note that we can only post pictures that have been sent in by e-mail (info@fischertechnik.de).

Fun Code

On page 7 and 8 you will find assembly instructions for you to make a catapult. Can there be anything better than giving this super model a try? But please do not point the catapult at people and animals, or at glass panes. Given these restrictions, we have designed a target for you which you can download on the fischertechnik website www.fischertechnik.de under Fan Club by entering the Fun Code. The Fun Code is as follows: L1004S

Winner of the car quiz

The quiz to celebrate 125 years of cars was really quite tricky. The questions were difficult, and what's more, a typo crept in to make things worse. This caused people to rack their brains, with heaps of questions and incomprehension. We would like to take this opportunity to apologize! Here are the correct answers. Gottlieb Daimler made his first car in the greenhouse in Bad Cannstatt (Question 1). The right letter should have been O. A planetary gear is a special design of a compact gear drive (question 3). The right letter should have been A and not S. Even so, many of you sent us entries with the right answer. Many thanks! Sven from Berlin is the lucky winner of a fischertechnik PROFI Mechanic + Static construction set. And because our mistake with the wrong letters caused so much confusion, we are sending another construction set to Enno from Langen who was drawn from all the other entries. Congratulations and have fun!

Arthur Christmas: 5 fan packages with cinema tickets to be won

How on earth does Father Christmas manage to deliver all the many presents in just one night? Ultimate cinema fun for the run up to Christmas! See how Arthur, Santa's kind but clumsy younger son loves everything about Christmas. His elder brother Steve, who will be taking over one day, is a clever businessman who has brought high-tech and precision at the North Pole. Santa, the boss of the family firm, is meanwhile out of his depth with the whole thing. His 136 year-old father Grandsanta is always moaning that "Christmas was much better while I was still Santa." Now it's up to Arthur Christmas to save it all. 5 fan packages with cinema tickets to be won.

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS is being released on 17 November. Best of all: we are raffling 5 fan packages exclusively among FAN CLUB members with super fan articles and 5 x 2 cinema tickets. The tickets are valid at cinemas throughout Germany. For more information: www.arthur-weihnachtsmann.de Just answer the question: What is Father Christmas called in the USA? a. X-man; b. Santa Claus. It's so easy: Send us an e-mail with the answer to reach us by 16 November 2011, stating ARTHUR WEIHNACHTSMANN [Arthur Christmas in German] to info@fischertechnik.de. Good luck! The judges' decision is final. Cash payment of the prize is not possible.

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No. 39 - Collector's item: catapult FAN CLUB model

The catapult FAN CLUB model can be made using the parts of the new ADVANCED Universal 3 construction set. It has been developed by Hartmut Diekmann. He is employed as a sandwich student at fischer (working on an internship in the company as part of his degree course). What does he have to say about his first creation? "It was quite a tricky task, as I wanted to develop a model using only the parts in the Universal 3 construction set. It took me a long time to think exactly what I could make, until I got the idea of making a catapult." He has an important tip for you all when building the model: "The lever moves forwards very quickly, please keep right away from the action area". Along these lines, we hope you have fun making the model!