

Fan Club NEWS 01/2013 – English Translation

For a copy of the fischertechnik newsletter/magazine (in German) see our webpage...

www.procontechology.com.au/newindex.htm

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Dear Fans,

It seems like Nürnberg Toy Fair has only just come to an end (see page 2), and yet Easter is already upon us! But you still have time to put one of the 3 new BASIC Solar, Bulldozer or Tractors construction sets from page 4 on your wish list. Our Development Department has already developed a FAN CLUB model from 2 construction sets. The new PROFI Optics construction set puts you on the trail of optical phenomena and light. Discover the endless vastness of outer space with fischertechnik on page 5. But before you head for the Milky Way, I recommend that you visit the fischertechnik FAN CLUB day. I'm really looking forward to meeting you in Waldachtal on 14 July. We wish you an entertaining read and lots of fun with the new FAN CLUB NEWS!

The fascination of light

Why do we have day and night on earth, what causes a solar and lunar eclipse? How can light be deflected around the corner? What does focal length mean? You can find the answers to these and many more questions in the new PROFI Optics construction set. 3 optical lenses with 2 focal lengths, an LED in rainbow colours, mirrors, fibre optics, 2 lens tip lamps and 300 parts can be used to make 12 models. Read more about this on Page 5.

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Curtain up: the show begins! fischer TiP: new themed boxes and a backpack

fischer TiP's new products for 2013 take you to new play and adventure worlds. Become a fashion designer with the Style Box and Fashion Box! Scenery templates (Style Box) and dolls for dressing and standing up (Fashion Box) turn your room into a fashion studio. The fischer TiP models always look good, on the red carpet, in the disco, at the shops or on the beach. Use the new Fashion Box by fischer TiP to design your own collection and future trends with the TiPs and sparkling gems. Curtain up with the new fischer TiP Theater Box: create your own theatre and finger puppets with fischer TiP. Try the fischer TiP backpack with adjustable straps and about 1,000 coloured TiPs: ideal when you're out and about. Sponge cloth, cutting tool, colour and paste hat, building block shaper, 15 sticks and instructions are safely tucked away in the outer pocket.

fischer TiP Style Box: about 150 TiPs, 4 scenery templates, price: 5.95 euros **fischer TiP Fashion Box:** about 500 Tips, 25 sparkling gems, 4 scenery templates, 2 stand-up dolls, dressing-up doll with 4 dress templates and accessories (3 hats, 3 handbags), price: 12.95 euros **fischer TiP Theater Box:** about 1,000 TiPs, cardboard puppet theatre, 10 paper rolls, price: 16.95 euros **fischer TiP backpack:** about 1,000 TiPs, price: 18.95 euros.

Toy Fair: spotlight on fischertechnik and fischer TiP

German stars and celebrities in Nürnberg: pop star Lena Meyer-Landrut sings playback with the Furbys, boxer Axel Schulz poses for combat robots, the Turtles, Ernie and Bert, footballer Marco Reus, Smurfette and Princess Maja von Hohenzollern smile and wave at the cameras. For three hours, the new products show at Nürnberg International Toy Fair was turned into a stage for stars and celebrities - with fischertechnik and fischer TiP right at the heart of it all. To draw the press's attention to fischer TiP, before the Fair started, Sarah Pfau and other busy hands adhered about 10,000 pink and red TiPs to a dress, which Sarah Pfau wore during the new products show. During the Toy Fair itself, a shop window dummy presented the dress at the fischertechnik stand. Another eye catcher during the new products show and the Toy Fair was the bucket wheel excavator from ADVANCED Power Machines, our new mega construction set. More about this on page 4. At the world's largest toy fair, 2,776 exhibitors from 62 countries presented more than one million products to 76,055 visitors from 120 countries. This included more than 70,000 new products.

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Facebook, YouTube & Co. - fischertechnik active in the social networks

Many of you know Facebook, YouTube and Twitter. Perhaps you've already surfed the social networks with your parents, grandparents, siblings or friends, or maybe you even have your own Facebook site or a Twitter account. Since Nürnberg Toy Fair, our Facebook site provides you with information about new items, products, dates and events. For example, we have published current photos taken at the Toy Fair. There will definitely also be postings from upcoming trade fairs and from the fischertechnik FAN CLUB day. We look forward to lively dialogues with you. Let us know your ideas and requests, or send us photos of your models. Take a look, perhaps you may even want to click on "Like"! Do you know fischertechnikTV? If not, take a look at YouTube, where you'll find fischertechnik's official video channel with lots of interesting clips. Among others, you can also look at the new product video. But be careful whatever you do: ask your parents for permission or advice when using the social networks - perhaps your grandparents or older siblings can also give you useful tips.

Fan Club day

Even more action, new attractive features: Look forward to the fischertechnik FAN CLUB day in Waldachtal on 14 July 2013 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.! Together with our popular items such as a tour of the company, fan model show or workshops, you can also look forward to an exhibition of historical tractors. This year, the focus will be on various features in our new PROFI Optics construction set. A mobile planetarium brings you close to the stars. Prof. Dr.-Ing. Fasoulas, expert for transport technology in space travel, will be explaining when we can expect to fly to Mars. New information about the FAN CLUB day will be published regularly on the internet and on our Facebook site. We look forward to welcoming you to fischertechnik.

ROBO TX – the first app from fischertechnik

The new RoboTXdroid app lets you control the mobile robot models from then fischertechnik ROBO TX Training Lab and ROBO TX Explorer construction sets. ROBO TX Controller receives the signals via a Bluetooth interface. The tilt sensors of the smartphone control the models. You can download the app for Android smartphones free of charge in the Google Play Store. The corresponding link is also on the fischertechnik website.

More curiosity - more future: Genius, Daimler's young knowledge community

Genius tells you all you need to know about cars and the technology contained in them. For example, how engines powered by fuel cells work without any gasoline, with nothing but water coming out of the exhaust. Or how cars can help drivers to avoid accidents. Many electronic aids, so-called assist systems, make driving safer. The Genius website shows you how it works: www.genius-community.com. You can also experience Genius at the fischertechnik FAN CLUB day on 14 July 2013. If you always wanted to

know how cars are made, then this is just right for you! The mini-assembly line workshop needs teamwork! The Genius team looks forward to meeting you!

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Low-cost construction sets

The 3 models in the BASIC Solar construction set let you find out how a drive works with renewable energy. Special feature: the solar rotor, which is a combination of a solar cell and a motor. You can use the 60 parts to make up a helicopter, an airboat or a ventilating fan. A road grader, a snow blower and a track mounted recovery vehicle: use the BASIC Bulldozer construction set to make 3 different models from 85 parts. The road grader and the snow blower have an adjustable blade. The track mounted recovery vehicle is equipped with a cable winch. The two new tracks can cope easily with difficult terrain. Modern, classic or way-out: The BASIC Tractors construction set makes 2 different tractors and a dragster. The functional stub axle steering offers additional fun. As in real tractors, 2 different sized tyres are used for the front and rear axle. The construction set also includes a fischertechnik figure.

BASIC Solar: from 7 years, 3 models, 60 parts, with solar rotor, price: 19.95 euros, available now.

BASIC Bulldozer: from 7 years, 3 models, 85 parts, with new tracks, adjustable blade and functioning cable winch. Price: 19.95 euros, available now.

BASIC Tractors: from 7 years, 3 models, 130 parts, with figure, functioning stub axle steering, price: 24.95 euros, available now.

Superlative models

If you really like big models, you can look forward to the new ADVANCED Power Machines construction set: 1,400 parts are waiting for you. You can make not just a 1.40 m long bucket wheel excavator but also a track mounted crane up to 1.60 m high. Brand new: 6 tracks, 2 conveyors and black wheels. You can read more about the construction set and how the models work in the next issue of FAN CLUB News.

ADVANCED Power Machines: from 7 years, 2 models, 1,400 parts, with XS Motor, ideal additions: PLUS Motor Set XS, PLUS Motor Set XM, PLUS Sound+Lights, PLUS Control Set, PLUS Power Set or PLUS Accu Set, price: 199.95 euros, available from July.

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On the light trail

Outer space and stars in distant galaxies all far away? No, not any more: the astronomical telescope by fischertechnik with an eyepiece and two lenses helps reduce the endless vastness of outer space. fischertechnik models and the didactic activity booklet help you to discover optical phenomena and to experiment with light. The PROFi Optics construction set contains 3 optical lenses with 2 focal distances, an LED that flashes in the colours of the rainbow, mirrors, fibre optics and 2 lens tip lamps. The 300 parts can be used to make 12 different models, such as the microscope, magnifier, telescope, periscope or a model of the planets. Make an illuminated magnifier, a simple telescope or a microscope to see how a lens deflects light and enlarges objects. In the fischertechnik microscope, the focus is adjusted by modifying the height of a specimen slide using a worm gear. In addition, it is illuminated with a lens tip lamp. But light can also be deflected. If you make up the periscope, you will see how a mirror is used to "see round corners". Why do we have day and night on earth, what causes a solar and lunar eclipse? These exciting questions can be simulated with a fischertechnik model of the planets, providing answers you can understand.

PROFI Optics: from 9 years, 12 models, 300 parts, ideal addition: PLUS Accu Set, price: 79.95 euros, available from June.

Sun, wind and water

320 parts help you to find out how renewable energy sources work. The construction set contains high-powered solar modules, a solar motor, an LED and a super capacitor (Gold Cap) as energy source. The two solar modules generate current for the solar motor with just a little sunshine or light irradiation. The next issue provides more information about PROFi Oeco Energy and the PROFi Fuel Cell Kit.

PROFI Oeco Energy: from 9 years, 10 models, 320 parts, 2 solar modules, solar motor, LED and super capacitor (Gold Cap), with didactic activity booklet, ideal addition: PROFi Fuel Cell Kit, price: 99.95 euros, available from June.

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GALLERY

Many thanks for continuing to send the numerous letters and e-mails with photos of interesting and funny fischertechnik models! Here we show you a selection of models. In addition, you can visit www.fischertechnik.de/en to vote for the coolest model. Take a look! Please keep in mind that we can only consider photos that are sent via e-mail to info@fischertechnik.de.

Knowledge quiz

Light, optical phenomena and a look at the galaxies: Take part in the fischertechnik KNOWLEDGE QUIZ ("WISSENSQUIZ") and win the new PROFi Optics construction set. Please send the solution to the puzzle by e-mail to following address, stating WISSENSQUIZ: info@fischertechnik.de. The closing date is 31 May 2013. The decision is final and there can be no appeal. Have fun!

1. How fast does light move?

S about 300,000 km/s (kilometres per hour) **A** 120 km/h **U** cannot be measured

2. What is a light year?

B the light intensity of a lamp **T** an astronomical unit of length **V** the burning time of a lamp per year

3. How far is the sun from the earth?

E 150 million km **C** 150 km **G** 15 billion km

4. Which lamps were banned in the EU in September 2012?

D energy saving lamps **P** LED lamps **R** 25W light bulbs and 40W light bulbs

5. Which colours can you see in the rainbow?

F red, yellow and black **Q** white, purple and blue **N** red, green and blue

6. When was the last solar eclipse visible in Germany?

H 2006 **SCH** 1999 **W** 1961

7. What is the Milky Way?

I supermarket chiller cabinet containing milk **L** roads with lots of white road markings **N** a galaxy that our solar system belongs to

8. What is focal distance?

J says how far a candle has burnt down **U** the distance between the lens and its focal point **X** the height of a flame in a fire

9. What is a telescope for?

P for observing things that are far away **K** for recognising small objects **Y** for recognising objects in the dark

10. Which of these is a constellation?

P big dipper **Z** small truck **M** fast car

11. The following picture shows you a telescope by fischertechnik, with a shadow. From which direction does the light fall on the telescope to create this shadow?

Picture puzzle

Look very carefully at the small picture cutouts. They are missing in the large picture. When you have found the right locations, write the letters from the boxes into the fields below to spell out the solution to the puzzle. Send the solution in an e-mail to info@fischertechnik.de, to reach us by 31 May. Write "Picture puzzle 01/13" in the subject line. This time you can win one of the new BASIC line construction sets. The winner of the construction set will be notified in writing. The decision is final and there can be no appeal. Good luck!

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No. 42 – FAN CLUB model front loader with dump trailer for your collection

To make the FAN CLUB tractor with front loader and dump trailer, you need the new BASIC Tractors construction set and the ADVANCED Universal 3. You can turn the worm gear by hand to lift and lower the front loader. Use the functioning stub axle steering to control the tractor. The trailer with drawbar is also full of technical features: if you turn the cable winch, this tilts the loading surface. The rear flap opens automatically when dumping. Have fun constructing and playing!