

## Fan Club NEWS 01/2015 – English Translation

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

[www.procontechology.com.au/newindex.htm](http://www.procontechology.com.au/newindex.htm)

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Dear Fans,

For a long time, Tobias Brezing has welcomed you at this point. He has moved to a new job at fischertechnik with responsibility for product management so that it is now my pleasure to put together the contents for the FAN CLUB News. In the team, we have been giving some thought as how we can join with you in celebrating the 50th birthday of the fischertechnik construction set. All we can say now is to wait and see: there will be surprises galore for you at the grand birthday party during the FAN CLUB day on 26 July in Waldachtal. Needless to say that we have also developed lots of super construction sets in the anniversary year. Page 5 presents the new PROFI Solar Power and PROFI Pneumatic Power construction sets: compact packaging and great ideas at an attractive price. And best of all: the solar boats in the PROFI Solar Power construction set really float! We've turned the ball obstacle course product into a whole family. Read more about this on Page 4. Have fun with the new issue of the FAN CLUB News!

Yours Diana

### Balls on the move - new: PROFI Dynamic M

We have really got moving with the fischertechnik ball obstacle course. In response to your overwhelming enthusiasm for the ball obstacle course construction sets, we now present the new PROFI Dynamic M construction set. The familiar ball obstacle course elements are now joined by the new rotary funnel, sound tubes and short flex-rails for even more fun and possibilities for creative course design. Do you want to know what's in the new construction set? Please turn to page 4 to find out more.

### Grand birthday party at FAN CLUB Day

The fischertechnik construction set is 50 this year and we want to celebrate with you, your families and friends at the 9th FAN CLUB Day on 26 July 2015 in Waldachtal. Together with tours of the company, special sales and workshops, you can also expect lots of birthday surprises. One focus will naturally once again be on the fan model show. Referring to this, we are particularly pleased to welcome the exhibitor of the ft convention. Detailed information for the model show at the Fan Club Day, regarding the registration and the process, you can see on the enclosed flyer. More information about the birthday party will soon be available on the website, on Facebook and Twitter. Come and join us!

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#### Building blocks for life: celebrating 50 years of fischertechnik

From Waldachtal into the big wide world: it was 50 years ago that Artur Fischer presented the very first fischertechnik construction set. Just twelve months later the construction sets were presented at the Toy Fair for the first time and received the "Meilleur Jouet" toy award in France. The fischertechnik Club was founded already in 1968, and today 33,000 fischertechnik FAN CLUB members say Happy Birthday. The construction sets were to be found not just in children's rooms. Soon they were being developed specially for school lessons, followed subsequently by the first models for simulating industrial processes. fischertechnik has set many a trend over the last 50 years. Electronic controls for the models were already a feature during the 1970s. The first computer-controlled models were presented in 1985. We were also the first to offer construction sets dealing with solar power and bionics. Computers and smart phones have meanwhile become an integral part of your daily lives. This is why the robots in the ROBOTICS TXT Discovery Set can also be controlled with gestures and apps. Look forward to the future with fischertechnik. And best of all: even after 50 years, the basic building block has remained unchanged in practically all construction sets, with only the colour being changed from grey to black in 1989. This means that all building blocks, including those from the construction sets belonging to your parents, aunts and uncles, are compatible with your own: building blocks for life.

#### This must be toy paradise – fischertechnik at the Toy Fair

Just imagine: one million items on display including 75,000 new products. The Nuremberg Toy Fair is the world's largest show for toys and leisure activities. With fischertechnik in its midst. This trade-fair is only open to dealers and business people to order merchandise and find out about the latest products. Children are not allowed in, unfortunately. This is why we show you the latest developments in the FAN CLUB News. Furthermore, we also posted live on Facebook from the Toy Fair. Take a look! The day before the Toy Fair begins is taken up with a show of new products. For three hours the focus is entirely on toys - this must be paradise! Here manufacturers show their very latest super products to reporters from television and radio channels, web portals, newspapers and magazines. This year, two girls, Joana and Lena, helped the fischertechnik employees to present the company's new products.

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#### Once around the world

Dubai, Moscow, Hong Kong: fischertechnik is popular all over the world. Laurenz Wohlfarth and his team are responsible for exports and for the schools market. During the first few weeks of the year, the colleagues live out of a suitcase as they travel to trade-fairs around the world. If you draw a line on the map to join up their destinations and add up the miles, you'll come to a total distance of 23,897. That's nearly once around the earth.

#### Students make a humanoid robot

Four students at Heinrich Schickhardt School in Freudenstadt are particularly interested in technical and scientific topics. They have set up a Students Engineering Academy (SIA) to proceed with a project assignment in cooperation with fischertechnik. The task and aim is to develop, construct and control a humanoid robot using fischertechnik. The four lads have successfully familiarized themselves with statics, drive systems, electromechanics and programming, and have made the robot using fischertechnik parts. It's amazing how the humanoid moves with a caterpillar drive and uses the gripper to grasp things. The robot can also turn its head, open its mouth and use the USB camera to observe its surroundings. Its magnificently coloured fiber optics hair also makes the fischertechnik stand out in a crowd.

## **Fun playing with animals: creative worlds with fischer TiP**

The creative fischer TiPs once again offer new scope for the imagination. The compact boxes contain TiPs in special colour mixtures to make a fantasy horse, a dinosaur, a princess or a panda. Every box also contains instructions to help put your ideas into effect. The new themed boxes are available from your toy shop already for 3.49 euros. The new Farm Box XL also offers lots of fun when playing with animals. 1,200 coloured TiPs, the building block shaper, the paint-and-glue cap, three wood sticks, a sponge cloth and the cutting tool will help you to make your own farm yard from a 3D cardboard template, together with pigs, cows or horses. The cardboard farm is already cut to shape and is easily put together. The Farm Box XL is on sale in your toy shop for 18.95 euros.

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### **Fascinating ball obstacle course - new: PROFI Dynamic M**

Making ball obstacle courses with fischertechnik and watching the balls run down is simply great fun. This is what children and their parents have said, an opinion also shared by the juries awarding the "Golden Rocking Horse" and "TOP 10" toy prizes. This is why we were also declared Toy Of The Year in 2014 with the PROFI Dynamic XL. To please you and also the "big children", we have developed additional ball obstacle course elements and new construction sets. The Dynamic family consists of the following construction sets: PROFI Dynamic M, PROFI Dynamic L (formerly Dynamic kit), PROFI Dynamic XL and the Dynamic Tuning Set.

The new PROFI Dynamic M construction set, with more than 550 parts, can be used to make four different ball obstacle courses. Together with the familiar elements such as the catch funnel, 90-degree bend and cross-over, the new rotary funnel and the short flex-rails promise even more possibilities for course design. The new sound tubes add a further fun factor. The building blocks and elements can be supplemented by all Dynamic construction sets and the ADVANCED Rolling Action construction set. This gives you even more possibilities for designing creative ball obstacle courses. Take a look at our website [www.fischertechnik.de/en](http://www.fischertechnik.de/en) Here you'll find plenty of ideas and instructions for downloading.

PROFI Dynamic M: • from 7 years • 4 models • 550 parts • with 14 long flex-rails, 4 short flex-rails, rotary funnel, 5 90-degree bends, 8 steel balls, cross-over, magnet holder and 3 sound tubes • ideal additions: PLUS Motor Set XS, PLUS LED Set, PLUS Sound + Lights Set, PROFI Dynamic Tuning Set • price: 59.95 euros. • already in the shops or PLUS Power Set • price: 29.95 euros • on sale from June

You're sure to have made a ball obstacle course before now and wondered how to make the model even bigger? Now you can let your imaginations roll. The new Dynamic Tuning Set makes your ball obstacle course even bigger, faster and cleverer. The set with 180 parts is compatible with all Dynamic construction sets and offers a wide range of possibilities. Dynamic Tuning Set: • from 7 years • 180 parts • with 10 long flex-rails, 4 short flex-rails, 6 steel balls, 4 90-degree bends, 2 cross-overs, 2 magnet holders and various add-on parts (angular blocks, angle girders) • ideal additions to PROFI Dynamic M: PROFI Dynamic L (formerly PROFI Dynamic), PROFI Dynamic XL or ADVANCED Rolling Action • price: 24.95 euros • already in the shops

### **Super light effects**

Spotlight on your fischertechnik models: presenting the new PLUS LED Set. Two Rainbow LEDs flashing in different colours and frequencies together with two white LEDs create light effects to further enhance your models. PLUS LED Set: • 40 parts • with 2 Rainbow LEDs, 2 white LEDs and battery tray for 9V battery (battery not included) • ideal additions: PLUS Accu Set or PLUS Power Set • price: 29.95 euros • on sale from June

### **Racing robots**

ROBOTICS Mini Bots: • from 8 years • 3 models • 100 parts • with ROBOTICS module, IR trail sensor, 2 push-button switches, 2 XS motors, battery tray for 9V block (battery not included) • didactic activity material available free of charge online • price: 99.95 euros • on sale from June.

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### **Energy from the sun - new: PROFI Solar Power**

Pocket calculators, parking meters or lamps: you're sure to be familiar with things that run on solar power. But how does it work? Answers are provided by the new PROFI Solar Power construction set. It contains 130 parts, a solar module, solar motor and boat hull for you to make four exciting models. The solar catamaran zooms like an air boat over the water. In the fischertechnik model, the stern propeller is driven with electric energy from the fischertechnik solar module. It is not steam but electric energy that propels the drive wheel with the paddles of the fischertechnik solar paddle boat. The sun's energy is converted into electric energy in the solar module. The fischertechnik solar mobile also uses the power of the sun for silent propulsion. When the sun is beating down and the air heats up, you'll be glad to use the solar ventilator to cool down.

PROFI Solar Power: • from 8 years • 4 models • 130 parts • with solar module (2V/200mA), solar motor (2V) and boat hull • didactic activity material available free of charge online • price: 49.95 euros • on sale from June

### **Learning pneumatics by playing - new: PROFI Pneumatic Power**

Compressed air and pneumatics have become so common, it is hard to imagine getting along without them. You probably encounter them every day. For example when they use a pneumatic hammer to break open the ground on a construction site, or when a truck puts its brakes on. It's amazing to see exactly what air can move! The new PROFI Pneumatic Power construction set by fischertechnik offers five models that explain how compressed air works. Air is pumped into the air chamber with the hand pump. Pressing the hand valves conveys the compressed air through the hoses into the pneumatic cylinder. This is turn is what moves the machines. The mighty tracked excavator is an important feature on any construction site. Thanks to its caterpillar track, it can move easily over particularly difficult ground. Its large excavator arm digs deep into the earth and lifts out large quantities of soil. In our model, the excavator arm and bucket are moved pneumatically.

The track mounted recovery vehicle is also mostly used for recovering vehicles in off-road situations. In the fischertechnik model, the crane superstructure turns through 360 degrees and the crane arm is moved pneumatically. The stamping machine model illustrates the pneumatic principle for you in two ways: in clamping and in machining the workpiece. Another model shows how a workshop crane lifts workpieces as an engine or a gearbox, with pneumatic air power.

PROFI Pneumatic Power: • from 8 years • 5 models • 180 parts • with 2 hand valves, 3 pneumatic cylinders, non-return valve and air chamber • didactic activity material available free of charge online • price: 49.95 euros • on sale from June

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### Gallery

Many thanks for continuing to send the numerous 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](http://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](mailto:info@fischertechnik.de)

### Congratulations!

In the 02/2014 issue, we were looking for the solution "Spielspaß im XL Format" in the letter puzzle. Henri from Dorsten found the right answer and wins a PROFI Dynamic XL. To obtain the solution "Touch" for our silhouettes puzzle, you had to find out which silhouettes belonged to a robot model. Gregor from Hamburg knew the right answer and can look forward to receiving a ROBOTICS TXT Discovery Set. We sincerely congratulate all winners!

### Labyrinth

The ball just keeps rolling - but where's it going? Find the right way through the labyrinth and collect the letters on the way. Write the letters in the correct order in the boxes – then you'll have the solution. Send your solution in an e-mail by 30 April 2015 to [gewinnspiel@fischertechnik.de](mailto:gewinnspiel@fischertechnik.de). The prize is a PROFI Dynamic M construction set. The winner of the construction set will be notified in writing. The decision is final and there can be no appeal. Good luck!

### Picture puzzle

Look very carefully at the small picture cutouts. They are missing in the large picture. When you have found the right points, write the letters from the boxes into the fields below to spell out the solution to the puzzle. Send your solution in an e-mail by 30 April 2015 to [gewinnspiel@fischertechnik.de](mailto:gewinnspiel@fischertechnik.de). The prize is a PROFI Solar Power construction set. 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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### Assembly instruction

#### No. 46 – FAN CLUB model dexterity obstacle course for your collection Dexterity obstacle course

Use the new PROFI Dynamic M construction set or the PROFI Dynamic L and PROFI Dynamic XL with the new Dynamic Tuning Set to make a tricky dexterity obstacle course. Short and long flex-rails are put together to create a labyrinth. If you're very clever, the balls will run right through the obstacle course from start to finish. Enjoy a completely new approach to the fischertechnik ball obstacle course.

Not at all easy, just give it a try. . . Have fun!