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**ISSUE 02/20** 



PAGE 2: CURRENT

Corona pandemic unfortunately affects us all



PAGE 3: CURRENT Congratulations to

Prof. Fischer



PAGE 4: NEW

Crost povolty offensive 202



PAGE 7: BUILDING INSTRUCTIONS

FAN CLUB Model: Big marble run with trampoline

# Big ideas competition

#### Your idea is in demand

You always have great ideas about what can be built with fischertechnik?

Generally completely new and exciting ideas about fischertechnik?

Or even about new technologies or developments? Then apply to this year's ideas competition and with a little luck, you will be rewarded for your great ideas! You can submit your idea via www.fischertechnik.de/ideas

Send in the best case still another picture in addition at info@fischertechnik.de with the reference: Idea competition 2020, then the specialized jury can judge your idea in the best possible way.

The best three ideas will be presented in the next Fan Club News and great

1st prize: Four tickets for the Europapark in Rust
2nd prize: A Jochen Schweizer voucher worth 150 Euro
3rd prize: A voucher from our distribution partner Santjohanser

worth 100 Euro

prizes await the winners:



Your idea must be submitted by 11.12.
The expert jury will determine the winner by 12.02.2021. The winners will be notified in writing. Legal action is excluded.

# Filming at fischertechnik for an article in November Welt der wunder

"Welt der Wunder" is a science television program that has been around for 23 years.

You might know it, because it is a well-known, renowned knowledge brand and multimedia platform.

Since 2013, "Welt der Wunder" can be seen on television as its own free TV channel "Welt der Wunder"

Since 2013, "Welt der Wunder" can be seen on television as its own free TV channel "Welt der W TV". It can be received via cable, satellite and IPTV in Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

The informative documentaries can be viewed worldwide via livestream.

At the end of August a big "Welt der Wunder" shoot took place in our house. Together with the television team, we shot a feature on fischertechnik and STEM.

STEM, as you probably already know, stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Our products really do fit these topics perfectly and we were able to show that very well during the shoot. We filmed a whole day at different locations for the contribution. For example, we were at a school, in our training workshop, in the company, etc., to take pictures. The report will be broadcast for the first time on November 21 at 5 pm on the "Welt der Wunder" TV channel.

We will inform you again by newsletter and on our homepage about the exact times of further broadcasts. Should you miss the contributions on "Welt der Wunder" TV, you can also find them on our YouTube channel. You are as excited as we are?



#### HELLO DEAR FANS,

The year is marked by Covid 19 and has changed many things that are important to us. Unfortunately we couldn't make a Fan Club day for you, go to fairs and had to limit some things. You can read how the Corona Pandemic affected us on page 2. One highlight this year was the birthday of our company owner Prof. Klaus Fischer. He had three reasons to celebrate. Why? You can find out on page 3.

We can't reveal too much yet, but one thing is for sure, regarding new products you can really look forward to the year 2021. We're planning a major new product offensive and have added new colleagues to the development team (p. 4).

A further development colleague comes in November still into the team Fischer technology. Our trainee Marko has designed the current fan club model for you. You can find the construction manual for the big marble run with trampoline on pages 7 and 8. Enjoy reading the new FAN CLUB News issue! Your







### Covid-19

Effects on fischertechnik, our customers, on us as employees, on you fans ...

The year 2020 is characterized by Corona. The COVID-19 virus also had many effects for us at fischertechnik.

Our customers, the specialist toy retailers, for example, were no longer able to open their stores. For the most part, it was not possible to go to a toy store at Easter and buy a fischertechnik construction kit directly from the shelf. As you can imagine, this not only hit the stores hard, but fischertechnik as well, of course. As you know, our construction kits are not only used in children's rooms, but also in schools or universities. However, these remained completely closed for a long time during the Corona crisis. As a result, we at fischertechnik had difficulties selling our new school products. You were probably also affected by this and couldn't go to school or to work as usual?

Corona resulted in many other restrictions for us. For example, our sales force was not able to travel to their customers both at home and abroad. Many trade fairs were cancelled at which we wanted to show you and our customers around the world our products. We were unable to welcome visitors to the company for some time and worked a lot from home, in our home office.

Unfortunately we could not make this year's Fan Club Day possible for you fans. We are always very happy when we can talk to you directly and the models you present inspire us year after year. But Corona also showed us how good it is that we are a manufacturer Made in Germany. We had no problems to produce our products and were also able to deliver at any time. Despite all the disadvantages, we have been very lucky in the Corona crisis so far. No employee or anyone from our families has been seriously ill.

We hope that everyone in your family and circle of friends is also healthy? In the end, health is at the most important.

Therefore we wish you from our heart that you stay healthy!

# Interview with the new managing director

#### Wilhelm Schoch

Mr. Wilhelm Schoch has been the new managing director at fischertechnik since the beginning of the year. Before that, he had already worked for fischer for many years and had even been with fischertechnik for eight years. He has described his exact career in an interview and gives you fans further insights into his everyday life as managing director at fischertechnik.

#### WILHELM SCHOCH ENTREVISTA

#### What was your career like from training to managing director?

After my training as an industrial clerk and two years of professional experience in the new fischerCBOX division at fischer, I completed my community service. Afterwards I worked first as a sales representative in the office and later as sales manager at fischertechnik. In May 1995 I moved within the fischer group of companies to the fischer automotive division, where I worked first as sales manager and later as managing director. In 2008 I left the fischer company for a few years to gain further experience and to get to know other companies. In 2014 I joined fischer automotive as Managing Director Sales, Project Management and Supplier Management and thus also joined my home again. I started a new challenge at fischer in January 2020 when I took over the management of fischertechnik. I am very happy to return to my roots and look forward to the work. Now, after almost a year at fischertechnik, I know that this was the right decision.

#### • What has changed from then to now?

Some things have changed like the colors of the components.

Today everything is much more colorful than years ago. In addition, digitalization has moved into fischertechnik. fischertechnik has always been the digital pioneer in the children's room. In my first time at fischertechnik I was allowed to make the first computer-controlled models. But topics such as cloud, dashboards and much more have of course changed. fischertechnik is now represented in several channels of distribution active; above all, online trade has become very important. But I have found something else that has not changed: The fischertechnik employees are still as enthusiastic about the brand as they used to be and we are still a great team that always sticks together.

#### • What does the daily routine of a fischertechnik managing director look like?

My main task is to take over the overall coordination of fischertechnik. It is always important to keep an overview of the key figures for production and administration. I also work a lot in the normal course of business. I support my sales colleagues at important customer meetings, I take part in new products meetings, hold weekly coordination meetings with the divisions and much more.



As managing director for the fischertechnik division, I am the link between the parent company fischer and fischertechnik and take over overarching tasks. In times of Corona, however, a field of activity also changes very quickly. I had to deal with new regulations, rules on hygiene, distance and other things. With regard to Covid-19, I had some tasks as managing director which I could not imagine.

#### What do you particularly like about fischertechnik?

The technology that can be illustrated with our system. I've always been interested in technology and I'm thrilled that you don't reach your limits so quickly with fischertechnik. In my opinion, fischertechnik is a pioneer here and can do something that others can't.

#### What do you enjoy most in your job?

The team! Working with the employees and dealing with each other is fun. Striving forward, trusting in the changes in the future of the employees not only spurs me on, but of course makes me proud.

#### • What are you looking forward to in the coming years at fischertechnik?

As a new managing director, one naturally pushes new topics, changes some points and also brings in many new ideas. I look forward to seeing how these innovations develop and pay off.

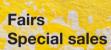
#### • Where do you see fischertechnik in 20 years?

Oh, that's a good question. I still see fischertechnik as a pioneer in technical topics with an even stronger digital orientation. I can even imagine very well that in 20 years we will be playing digitally with fischertechnik.

# CURRENT 3

# DATES 2020

Due to the corona pandemic, several dates are cancelled.
Unfortunately, our annual special sale cannot take place this year either.



Don't worry, we've thought about it: The stock sale will still take place - online! Go to www.fischertechnik.de/sonderverkauf

# Our company owner Prof. Klaus Fischer celebrated his 70th birthday

#### We say "Congratulations!"

On August 17th our company owner Prof. Klaus Fischer celebrated his 70th birthday.

And not only that! He was also honored for his 45th anniversary of his company and for his 40th anniversary as general manager. Those are enough reasons to give a proper applause, aren't they?

Unfortunately, the possibilities for celebrating were somewhat limited due to the Corona pandemic. Nevertheless many congratulations found their way to Prof. Fischer.

We employees also wanted to congratulate him on his day of honor. We came up with something special for this:

Our company owner came to the company on the morning of his birthday, escorted by our plant fire department.

We expected him to stand in a trellis at the company headquarters in Tumlingen. Equipped with balloons and gossip sticks, we congratulated him on behalf of all colleagues who work in our subsidiaries around the world and were unable to attend. Of course, great importance was attached to hygiene rules and a two-meter distance. After Prof. Fischer had driven through the "staff trellis", our fischer music band sang a birthday serenade. Our CEO and the works council gave congratulatory speeches. Afterwards, a special gift

awaited our company owner: a special edition of our employee magazine "together" with many messages of congratulations from the German and international locations. As a highlight, our management presented a film with many personal messages of congratulations from fischer colleagues from all over the world.





#### More about Prof. Klaus Fischer

His motto is "we can only shape the future". For more than 40 years he has always looked ahead.

To realize new ideas and innovations again and again - that is his way and also his understanding of running a company.

He was 25 years old when he joined the company and

managed the test facility after graduating as an engineer. At that time

fischer had about 1,000 employees and the turnover at that time was 102 million marks (approx. 51 million euros). You can also see what he has built up from the development of the number of employees, sales and national companies: Today, more than 5,200 people work for fischer worldwide, and in 2019 we generated annual sales of over 887 million euros. Our company now has 50 national

companies all over the world. Klaus Fischer assumed overall responsibility for the company in 1980. He developed new visions at a time when the world was changing more and more due to increasing globalization.

He rolled out product ranges internationally. Proximity to the customer was always important to him. The center of successful research and development remained in Germany, but the worldwide presence grew steadily: Prof. Fischer founded companies in various countries. Products are also developed, produced and sold there.

In Germany, he further advanced metal and chemical fasteners by taking over other companies. However, he did not remain active only in the fastening sector. He always had other areas in mind and in 1982 he laid the foundation for entering the automotive supplier business with the so-called fischer CBOX, a storage system for music cassettes.

The music cassettes have been replaced by CDs over the years.

Today, fischer automotive is fischer's second largest division as a specialist for vehicle interior parts such as ventilation nozzles. We sell our products to many car manufacturers around the world. Of course, Prof. Fischer has also significantly expanded another division which you probably know best: fischertechnik.

The brand is very close to his heart and we are pleased that he is always personally involved in the development of new construction kits.



#### YOU CAN REACH US:

Mondays to Fridays from 8.30-12.00 am and 1.00-5.00 pm Phone +49 (0) 7443 12-4369 Fax +49 (0) 7443 12-4591

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# Great novelty offensive

#### You haven't seen something like this from fischertechnik for a long time

In 2021 you can look forward to a multitude of fischertechnik innovations. For many years we have not launched such a large number of new products on the market. We will realize a large amount of novelties for you and our customers worldwide in the toy, education and industry market. We focus on our technical strengths and want to really take off in this area.

Thanks to the support of our company owner, Prof. Klaus Fischer, this will be even easier for us, because in the development area, for example, new employees are hired to develop exciting innovations and implement the product ideas. The development department is already hard at work and rotating, as you can surely imagine.

Look forward to it. We are sure that we will convince you with our novelties and that there is definitely something for you.

You are curious what will be on the market in 2021?

You will find detailed information on our homepage at www.fischertechnik.de/Neuheiten2021 at the beginning of January.

New employee in the development department

We say welcome to the team

My name is Igor Mirosenski and I am the new developer at fischertechnik. I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself to you in more detail:

I was born in 1980 in Moldova in quite simple circumstances. We didn't really have a lot of toys at home, so even as a child I was very interested in making toys, technology and art. I have always drawn and built a lot. My role models were Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci, for example. I read a lot about them back then and was interested in their lives and ideas.

I followed my interest and studied design and architecture in Ukraine and graduated successfully. Besides, I pursued a competitive sports career in kayaking.

Since 2002 I have been living in Germany. Here I completed a second study in industrial design at the University of Applied Sciences in Pforzheim. I am married and father of two children (14 year old daughter and 17 year old son).

I was also very successful in sports, as I became eight times German Champion in Kayak, which I am very proud of.

Before I started here at fischertechnik at the beginning of September 2020, I worked in design and construction in the automotive industry.

I am: A competitive athlete and a creative personality who is looking forward to his work as a product developer at fischertechnik.



## The idea and creation of a fan

#### A ruler for fischertechnik!

The quantity and variety of fischertechnik components is increasing constantly. This results in even more creative models, but also poses a challenge: How to find the right part quickly and easily when there are different dimensions or the parts are different?

If a known part is now 30 mm long instead of 60 mm?

The solution came from you and it was created step by step! The foundation for this was simple: A ruler is the quickest way to measure the lengths of axes, for example. But when building the models, not only axes have to be measured, but also angles, chains, struts and many other parts.

This is how the idea for an own fischertechnik ruler was born. It really took shape in the mind of Holger, one of our great fans.

He put them down on paper and designed a ruler on the PC. Thus a first basis was created. Then further consideration, drawing, discarding and adding was done. Other fischertechnik enthusiasts were now also on board and developed Holger's idea further. Finally, the fischertechnik ruler was perfect.

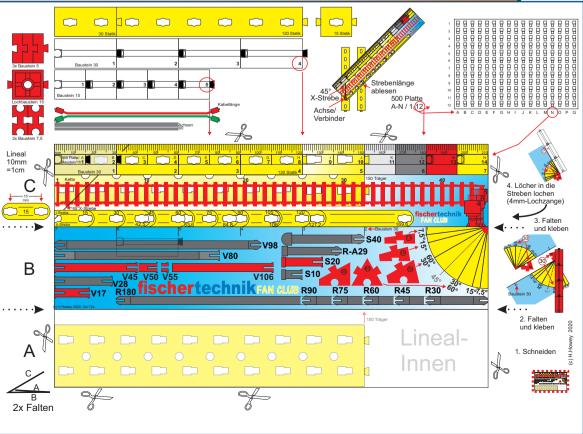
Anyone can now make it themselves and use it as they wish for testing

The craft template can be downloaded free of charge from our website.

Have fun with the new fischertechnik ruler! We say THANKS to Holger for his great idea.







#### For technology professionals

# fischertechnik factory with learning factor 5

#### Now new in 24V with possibility for connection to a SPS control

The Training Factory Industry 24V is a factory model made by fischertechnik. The almost one square meter large model consists of a production plant with different production steps, which are connected to each other via a conveyor belt. The plant is equipped with actuators and sensors and connected to the Internet via cloud. Using a special platform, online purchasing can be simulated and recreated, which then happens in the manufacturer's production - just like in reality!

#### You wonder where this large factory simulation is used?

The factory is mainly used in industry and therefore mainly in the training department in companies. Imagine for example a training workshop in a company.

In this workshop the trainees learn how to program with a so-called SPS (programmable logic controller).

NEW

The trainees learn how to control machines and network them intelligently in order to read and use data efficiently.

In addition, IT companies and departments like to use the Learning Factory to simulate their own products, such as the structure and function of software. At colleges and universities, our Learning Factory is also used to explain digital process topics to students in lectures. Our factory model is also often used as an exhibition model for trade fairs and events to clearly communicate Industry 4.0 on a model.

The individual workpieces pass through various steps in the factory. Each workpiece is equipped with a so-called NFC (Near Field Communication). This allows the workpiece to be tracked digitally, data stored on it and read by an RFID reader.

In the cloud you can see where the workpiece is currently located in the factory. This is possible thanks to the built-in Raspberry PI and Node-RED.

This all sounds not quite so simple and yet somewhat complex. It is, but apprentices and students from all over the world learn to program a PLC with our factory.

We are proud how much you can do with fischertechnik.

If you are interested in a video about **Training Factory** Industry 4.0, please visit our YouTube channel.



fischertechnik books Maybe you already know the books? If not, then pay attention:







This book by the three

authors Gail, Püttmann

Mr. Püttmann and Mr. Fox have shown in this book how robots can be built and programmed with the help of the physical computing platform Arduino.

Many of our sensors, motors and actuators can be connected to the universal controller Arduino. The book shows the possibilities of the fischertechnik robots controlled by Arduino using five exciting basic models: a plotter, two mobile robots and two robot

In their book, Mr. Fox and Mr. Püttmann bring the history of technology from the early days to the twentieth century closer to the reader.

Inventions such as the pulley block to over the clock, the calculating machine, the steam engine to the helicopter are explained in their mode of operation on the basis of fischertechnik models and their technical background is explained.

and Fox is something for demanding designers. It opens up the fascinating world of engineering arts in various technical applications such as: electromechanics, sensor technology or hydraulics. Different Maker models with fischertechnik are explained. Topics are for example: three-phase current, barcodes and optical coding, laser applications and

much more.

By the way: on the homepage you can find detailed information about all fischertechnik books. Feel free to drop by.

My name is Sabrina Salameh, I am 18 years old and have been an enthusiastic fischertechnik fan for many years. I was lucky enough to be able to test the marble run novelty Hanging Action Tower from fischertechnik and share my experiences with you. Even before construction, you can choose between three different versions of the tower - a table/shelf or a wall model. I decided on the shelf model and started building it right away. No questions remain unanswered when building the

As always, it is clearly presented in the instructions and can be completed in about 3-4 hours. An especially cool feature are the stickers which glow in the dark.

These are glued to the individual components and allow the tower to shine brightly even in the dark. In addition, there is now a new type of ball lift in addition to the classic method of transporting the balls by means of a chain. This consists of five thin plastic strips, which can be easily and quickly put together with the help of two parts. (Pay attention to the alignment of the parts, otherwise they will get stuck in the gears) Thus the lift runs more stable than a chain lift, but is less flexible in length when building your own models. There are holes in the individual strips, which hook into special gear wheels and are fixed in this way. The strips are kept under tension by springs.

The lift can then be driven by a hand crank or optionally by a motor. In order to be able to fix the tower to the shelf, there is a vacuum pad in the construction kit, which can be easily attached to most surfaces and adheres so well that removing it requires a little more force. This allows the ball track to be attached securely to a shelf or table edge, for example, and even strong jolts on the model have no effect on the adhesion. The conversion from table to shelf model can be done easily within a few minutes by moving the mounting plate with the vacuum pad. All in all, the Hanging Action Tower is a very good model with many new features, which open up a lot of playing possibilities and leave a lot of room for own creations.

FUN GALLERY, GALLERY

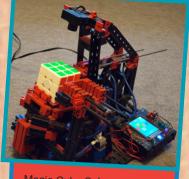


Automatic toilet paper dispenser, Lando (9 years)

Teatimer, Tobias



Mixer, Kilian (9 years)



Thank you so much for the interesting and funny models, which

models? Are you able to creatively design various models without building instructions? Plus do you always have downright cool model ideas? It would be a real shame if no one apart from you and your family saw them. Just send us a picture of the model you

We always show the most beautiful models here in the Fan Club

News. We look forward to pictures of awesome models.

Are you creative and hardworking and often build your own



Historical crane, Peer Ole (9 years)





Remote controlled beam mower, Simon (7 years) and Moritz (9 years)





Ferris wheel, Hannes (8 years)

YOUR photo could be here!



(Regional winner "Jugend forscht")

Big marble run, Ole (14 years)



made yourself to info@fischertechnik.de.

Low loader with tractor, Rasmus (14 years)



Marble run, Nathalie (13 years)



Marble run, Flavio (8 years)



Tractor with plough, Paul (53 years)

Figure, Clement (London)



Vacuum Suction Robot, Tom (8 years)

Marble run, Ben (8 years)

#### The winners are informed in writing. The organisers' decision is final.

# Which section fits into the picture?

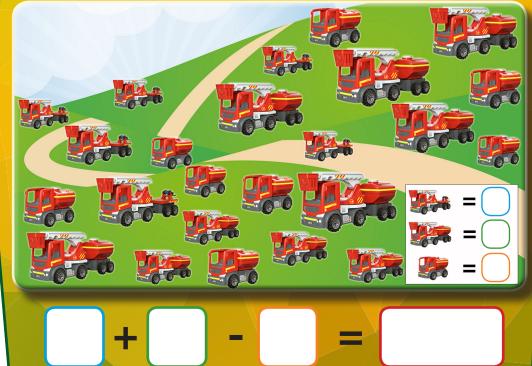
A detail fits exactly into the picture. Do you know which one it is? If so, send us the solution with the subject "detail" to gewinnspiel@fischertechnik.de by 11.12.2020 - we look forward to hearing from you. You can win the matching construction kit for the picture, the new PROFI Hanging Action Tower. Good luck!



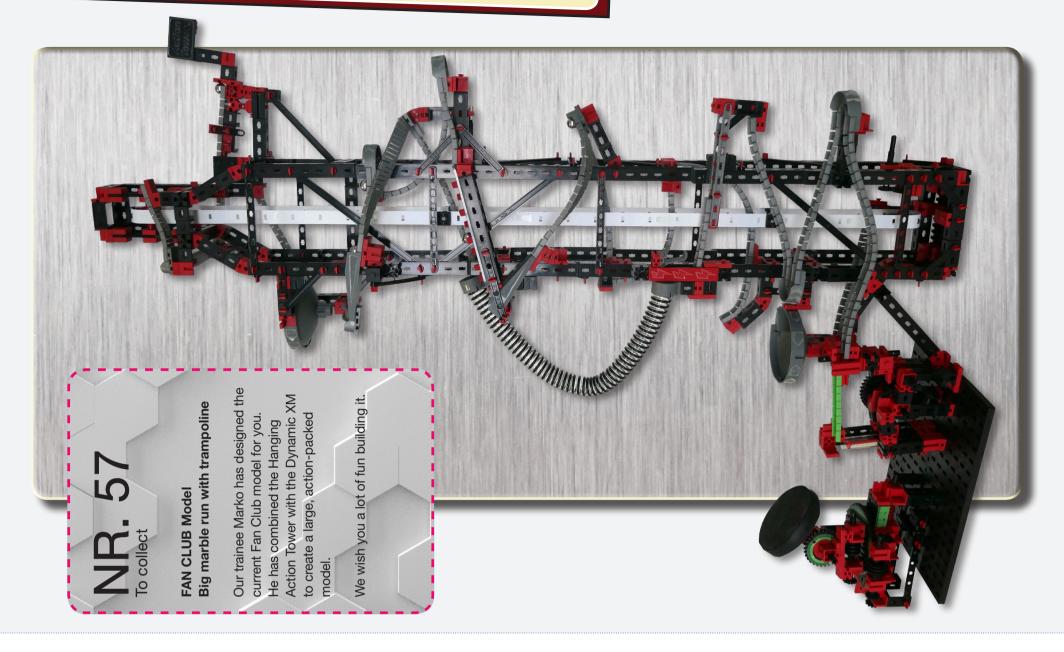
# Counting and calculating task

How many models of the different lighter models can you find? Write down your result in the corresponding boxes. Solve the calculation with the help of your counting results and send us the result by e-mail with the subject "Model calculation" to gewinnspiel@fischertechnik.de by 11.12.2020.

You can win the matching JUNIOR Fire Trucks. Good luck with counting and calculating.







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