

Snippet. 'New' System: ARMCILO This is about a set called ARMCILO seen on Brazilian Ebay. Apart from 2 extra parts and some very minor differences, the Set is identical to CASTCO's Make-A-Bike outfit described in 39/1167, but with all the text rendered into Spanish. Given the language it probably didn't originate in Brazil, more likely one of the Spanish-speaking South American countries, with Argentina as the most probable.

The Set's box was said to measure 42*26cm and the lid is shown right (ignore the name of the toyshop in white and part of its logo at the top). The only addition to it is 'Establecimiento ROD-MET S.R.L.' along the bottom, perhaps the maker or agent. A date of Dec. 1950 was mentioned in the Ebay ad but without saying what it represented.

Fig.1



The CASTCO's parts were numbered 1 to 12: the new parts are #13 & 14 and occupy previously empty spaces under the red panel at the top of the tray, right. The new parts are shown larger below and are most likely formed rods. The other change is a wire Screwdriver (if original) instead of the previous one with a yellow plastic handle.



Fig.3



Fig.2

The purpose of the new parts isn't known but I suppose they were to be used in new or improved models. I wonder if CASTCO ever added them to the Make-A-Bike set, and if so

whether the model sheet was changed to include them. Or perhaps they were shown in an additional leaflet. There was no mention of instructions in the ARMCILO Ebay ad.

ARMCILO: S1

OSN 49/1486

Snippet: a CONSTRUCTA Outfit

An account of this 100-part Brazilian system, based on a B&W photocopied manual, was given in 14/376. Some details of a No.1 set, the smallest of the 5 basic sets, seen on the Brazilian Ebay follow.

Fig.1a



The outside of the box is whitish and the top of the lid is nearly covered by a label identical in design to the manual cover right. Both their top left corners are printed, or possibly stamped, with the Fig.1a logo. It has some text to its right and its gist, it isn't legible when reproduced, is that Epotec is a company dealing in synthetic resins based in the Brazilian state of Paraná. It has an office at 1740 Avenida João in a town called Gualberto, a head office in Guarayuba, & a factory in Piraquara. It's not clear how, or indeed if, it's connected to CONSTRUCTA. Neither the logo nor the text were on the OSN 14 Manual.

Most of the major different parts in the Set can be seen in the open box right. They look like the parts in the OSN 14 Manual, and as would be expected some resemble MÄRKLIN, the Flanged Plate, & the Trunnions (in the bottom right bay); some MECCANO, the DAS, & Curved Strip; and one STABIL, the Wire Stay in the top right bay. The Set looks to be largely complete (the contents were given in an MCS Extra Sheet) and there are actually a few more of some parts than would be expected – the extras include at least 2 of the (yellow) 1" Pulleys, a Curved Strip, & possibly a second Flanged Plate. 'Foreign' parts are the green strips on the Flanged Plate; the silvery formed strip, the padlock, the longer of the two Screwed Rods in the second centre bay up from the bottom, and perhaps the part in the bay above – it possibly has an electrical coil but doesn't really look like a motor (one was mentioned in the Manual but not illustrated). The 2 Tyres

Fig.2



Fig.1



which should be in the Set could be those in the bay above the light blue Plate but it's odd that one seems to be mounted on a black Pulley, and the other is on, or underneath, a probable foreigner. Said part is almost certainly not a Wheel Disc (there is meant to be one in the Set) – it doesn't match the part shown in OSN 14 (a normal 8h Wheel Disc of 3h' diameter, with normal size holes & radial hole pitch).

CONSTRUCTA [1]: S1

OSN 49/1486