

3. **Snippet. A FALCO Set** A little on this Italian ASSEMBLO/ DINKY BUILDER style system was given in 26/758. This Ebay 2-layer set has '1' on the lid below and an animal head logo in



the top left corner. It was said to have been made by a firm called S.A.I.C.E. and to date from the 1940s or 1950s.

Below its partitioned tray with the manual sitting in its own



space. The part at bottom right looks to be flanged with perhaps a centre cutout, and if so I'm not aware of such a part in any other comparable system.

Below, the tray, without the manual, resting on the



partitioned box and presumably the parts shown have been taken out of it. The Rods etc are in/from the blue and red-brown packets.

FALCO [2]: S1

[39/1165]

4. **POLYLONG Etc.** Graham Aldous wrote that he has compared sets which are definitely from Polylong (see 37/1123) with TECH & METAL KITS outfits (see 37/1125), and he thinks that the latter are from a parallel manufacturing system in China. The parts are very similar but there are small differences, for example the Curved Strip has a slightly different shape. Also the TECH metal parts are more smoothly pressed with more uniform plating, and the plastic parts are slightly better moulded. The TECH parts right (and a Flanged Corner Bracket of opposite hand) were not among those in the Polylong outfits. It was also noted that TECH has a different numbering system for its parts (Polylong tend to use Eitech numbers, sometimes changing the first digit from 1 to 2), and that TECH models, though similar to POLYLONG items, differ somewhat and are perhaps rather more attractive and more solidly built.



TECH & METAL KITS boxes have a UK address on them and Graham wondered if the components are imported and packaged here. The larger TECH models are the Dragster shown in OSN 37, a Plane, a Tank, & a Helicopter; the smaller ones are as METAL KITS.

[John Peach and several other readers have sent details of the various 'POLYLONG' sets they have seen or bought, often multi-model outfits which are 'bundles' of single-model sets, not all of which are the same brand. I don't think that it's really sensible to try to record all these piecemeal and so for the moment I am filing them away against the day when an overall picture can be written. Needless to say though, I am grateful for all such comments and especially for details of parts not recorded so far – Ed.]

POLYLONG: S12

[39/1165]

5. **METALLIX** The Metallus range now includes (at the end of the 'Single Components' web page) a selection of TRIX-like parts which are listed under the name METALLIX. They include all the parts that were in the old TRIX Sets A, B, C, D, & G, plus 2 Tyres. New parts are more Strips & A/Gs up to 57h long, longer Bolts (M3.5), and 4 Flexible Plates, material not stated, from 5*5 to 5*26h. They are blue; the other parts yellow, except the Brackets, Hook, Spanners, Worm, and N&B which are shown black. The Gears are light coloured Delrin discs with and without brass bosses. The Bosses are also sold separately in a range of lengths (of the shank that goes through the disc, that is) and no doubt more than one Gear could be mounted on the longer ones. The shanks have flats and they are presumably a push fit in the discs. Also listed a METALLIX set called 1ABCD, but nothing is said of its contents.

Postscript. Revisiting the site a few weeks ago the Flexible Plates are no longer listed but a 12v Motor has been added, a cylindrical motor mounted on a red, TRIX-like flanged base.

METALLIX [2]: S1

[39/1165]

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