

# WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Herman van Herwijnen

With this title we would like to invite you to give your opinion on slide rule name giving which we think is important as we are at the beginning of converting our Dutch catalogue into an international catalogue. Some 100 out of 2700 slide rule descriptions in the Blue Book have been translated from Dutch into English. As far as name giving these were very easy because they were Graphoplexes and Diwa's. But as far as name giving is concerned there are more difficult cases. In the Proceedings of the First International Meeting of Slide Rule Collectors in the Netherlands November 1995 some proposals were made on page 33 and 34. We would like to extend the rules on name giving and the first statement is:

*There is no constant rule to make without producing very long names.*

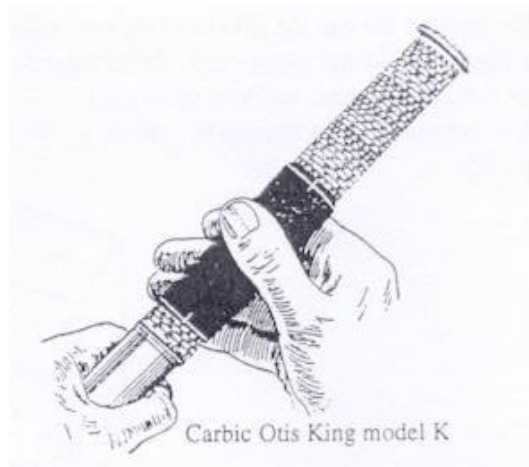
Questions risen are:

1 Should the Otis King Model K be named Otis King Model K or Carbic Otis King Model K as Carbic is the manufacturer? Otis is the name that one sees on these magnificent cylindrical collectors items but Carbic is the manufacturer.

***Our proposal: "Carbic Otis King Model K" as name under the C and have a cross reference in the alphabetical list saying: "Otis King see Carbic".***

But to be frank nobody ever said to me: "Do you have a Carbic Otis King Model K?", no! They always said: "Do you have an Otis King". But this is a case where we could be consistent and mention the Otis King under Carbic and have the mentioned reference "Otis King see Carbic".

It is extra information to the novice that the Otis King is made by Carbic and it is as



in the catalogue for classic camera's. You will find the Exakta Varex not under the E but under the I of Ihagee, the Makina under Plaubel, the Contaflex under Zeiss, etc.

2 Should we put Hemmi as name of these Post slide rules that bare both names and even if Post gave the code numbers to these rules? We are then sure Hemmi made them and the manufacturer can be identified.

***Our proposal: "Sun Hemmi Post no. 1444 as name and have a cross reference saying: "Post see also Sun Hemmi"***

What if it says only Post and the rule does very much look like a rule made by Hemmi but it is not known who made the rule?

***Our proposal: "Post no. 1234 as name. Under Manufacturer: "Unknown" and mention in the text: "Most probably made by Hemmi".***

What if it says only Post and the rule does not look like any other Hemmi or other make and it is not known who made the rule?

**Our proposal: “Post no. 1444 as name. Under Manufacturer: “Unknown”.**

The same treatment can be given to the SR’s with the name Ahrend which were made by Aristo and Sun Hemmi. Also Wolters Noordhoff some of which were made by Fuji falls in that category.

3 Should we give all military artillery rules that do not show a manufacturer and of which there are now 55 in the data base and which we now give a name code “Arti” from Artillery, the NoNa(me) code because we do not know the manufacturer? Adding in fact a real meaningless word “NoNa” while “Arti” after some introduction into the reading of names is easily identified as an artillery rule? We think yes and diverse from the rule that says: If you do not know the manufacturer call it “NoName”.

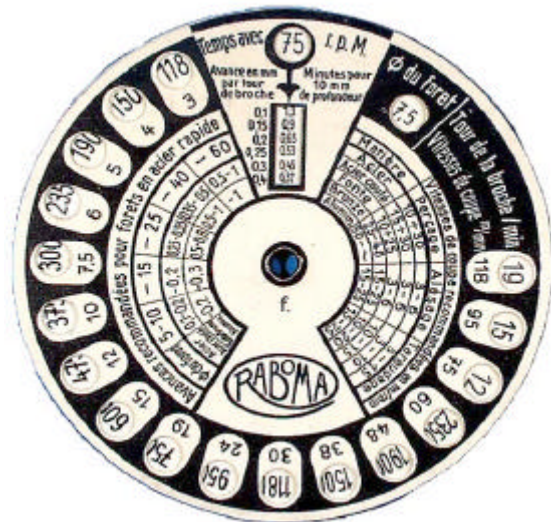
**Our proposal: “Artillery 155mm.6/7" as name and mention under Manufacturer: “Unknown”.**

4 Should we call a slide rule of which the manufacturer is not known, issued by Shell oil company, to calculate a pipeline diameter, “Shel Pipeline” or “NoName Shell Pipe” as we know for sure that Shell did not make these rules? Many rules fall in this category like ABN (a large Dutch bank), AEG, PTT, or Raboma as in the example. Was Raboma an IWA?

**Our proposal: “Shell Pipeline” as name and mention under Manufacturer: “Unknown”.**

We again propose to diverse from the rule that says: If you do not know the manufacturer call it “NoName” and give it the name of the name of the company that ordered the slide rule.

5 What if a brand name is used instead of



the manufacturers name like Aristo instead of the manufacturers name like Aristo instead of Dennert & Pape. Because the name Aristo is used since 1936 and far more slide rules carry only the name Aristo I suggest to use Dennert and Pape only when this name is on the SR mentioned with or without the name Aristo and use Aristo when only Aristo is mentioned. As manufacturer Aristo should be used but in the introduction an explanation given.

6 What if neither a manufacturers name, a brand name, a clients name, is present but the SR has a unique other name indicating for instance its use.

*Our proposal: “Use that unique name and give more information in the code part of the NCV code and mention under manufacturer*

*“Unknown”. The “NoName” as name part of the NCV code only comes in when there is indeed no text of any importance on the SR.*

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## WHAT’S IN THE CATALOGUE? Herman van Herwijnen

This is the question we will have to ask and answer as the number of items being fed into the catalogue database is growing quickly.

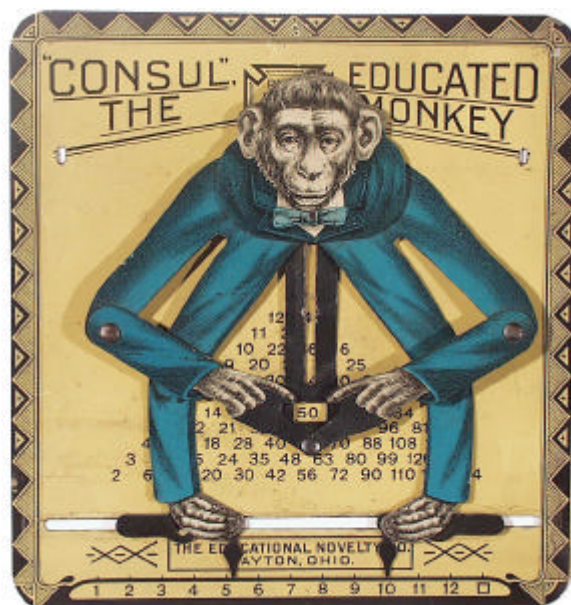
What is in the catalogue, said with three words, is: **logarithmic**, **goniometric** and/or **technical**.

Let us start with those that should **not** go into the catalogue:

- 1 Calculating machines and even the Curta falls into that category.
- 2 Addiators when not on the back of a slide rule.
- 3 Those simple calculating rules in which no logarithm is involved often based on a table that can be moved and shows the answer in windows that are only used and/or for adding, subtraction, multiplication and division. Child type rules.
- 4 Normal linear rules without a small electrical pocket calculator or with addiator.
- 5 Graphs or nomogrammes without cursor or slide.

What qualifies are (and some of the points may overlap):

- 1 All rules, discs, cylinders, watch types, slide charts, etc (in short: SR) that use at least one logarithmic or non linear scale.
- 2 All SR that use a goniometric relation to do the calculation.
- 3 All SR that may not have a logarithmic or goniometric scale but that can be qualified as technical in the widest sense of the word including those that qualify as a table with technical data provided it



has a cursor or slide. A graph or nomogram does not qualify.

- 4 All SR that use degrees to indicate an angle.
- 5 All SR that give conversion factors from one system of units to another be it the metric system (m, s, kgf), the Imperial system (ft, s, lbf), oil field units (Mmcf, Btu, HP), or SI system of units (m, s, kg, N, J, W, etc) or other. See Mear.
- 6 Classical SR like the Educated Monkey is a border case but age and rarity may cause it to classify.
- 7 Protractors, sectors, Gunters and other classical items in the mathematical sphere belong in the catalogue.

*Please comment!  
This is your last chance!*