

Do you always look at the postage stamps on your mail? If so, you probably noticed that the envelope of the previous MIR had a postage stamp featuring a slide rule. The Dutch Post Office (TNT Post) has a special initiative where you can make your own postage stamps, valid for mailing. So I took a scan of one of my slide rules and had a number of these stamps made: more than enough to stick one on each of the MIR envelopes.

Have you saved the stamp? Then you may be in for another present: I have two questions regarding the slide rule on this stamp. Send the answer(s) to me and for each of the questions, one of those who provide the correct answer will receive a slide rule from my own collection. And no, it will not be the rule on the stamp. You will find my e-mail or surface mail details in the address list attached to this MIR.

Here are the questions:

1. Which slide rule is shown?

Hint: it is a pocket rule, as can be easily seen from its length/width proportion.

2. Which calculation is shown?

Hint 1: although the slide rule shown has many scales, this calculation involves only the basic scales present on each normal slide rule;

Hint2: the calculation uses round numbers on the scales used.

In the next MIR I will show the original scan used to print the picture, give you the answers to these questions and name the two winners.

Good luck and have fun!