BLOWLAMP NEWS

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MARCH 2019

The Newsletter of the Blowlamp Society - Editor Graham Stubbs - blowlampsociety@gmail.com

www.blowlampsociety.com

THE TINOL FAMILY OF BLOWLAMPS



SONA (France)

CORBA (Germany)

BRITINOL (United Kingdom)

See inside for twenty-one more examples

TINOL FAMILY OF BLOWLAMPS

EOLIPYLES: PART EIGHT

THE TINOL FAMILY OF BLOWLAMPS

By Michel Duval

Key to the lamps in the photo opposite:

- 1 ADKIS (unknown) Quite rare. If you have information about this make, please let me know.
- 2 BARTHEL (Germany) Barthel is the German best-known make.
- 3 BRITINOL (U.K.) The very practical telescopic soldering iron is also marked "BRITINOL".
- 4 **CORBA** (Germany) A Corba advert in French, which says "foreign manufacture", is dated 1909, making this one of the oldest lamps. A recently-purchased ad from 1912 identifies the maker as Franz Corbus, (hence CORBA brand) of Leipzig, Germany. This make is quite rare. See the unusual support for the soldering iron; I don't know if the support is original to the CORBA lamp.
- 5 **DESVIGNES** (France) The round shape does not allow supporting a soldering iron. "Desvignes" was an old French company created in 1865 and located in Paris.
- 6 EGONA (Germany) Egona seems to be a German tool retailer. This make is quite rare.
- 7 **FLUDOR** (Germany) Like the Fluxite, there were some models with different "loop" and "folding" handles.
- 8 FLUXITE (U.K.) For this make also, there were some models with different "loop" and "folding" handles. Yes, Fluxite comes from U.K. but apparently some models have also been manufactured in Holland. Why? When? I don't know... (Photo of the Fluxite "MADE IN HOLLAND" from the Guy GERARD collection)
- 9 **HAHNEL** (Germany) A classic model with a nice marking of the Hahnel logo. Unfortunately, the cap is missing...
- 10 **HESS** (USA) This 1912 advert shows us that Hess & Son were American tool retailers. There is "TINOL" embossed on one side of the tank and "HESS" embossed on the other side. Of course, these markings have been made during the manufacturing. Usually, there is the manufacturer make OR the retailer make. Here, we can see both.
- 11 **IMP** (U.K.) This make is quite rare. I didn't find any information about this make. Do you? We can read on the fragile paper label: "THE ORIGINAL IMP SPIRIT BLOW LAMP BRITISH MADE", "MOTORISTS, MECHANICS, Indispensable to all. CAN BE CARRIED READY FILLED. JUST LIGHT, AND IT IS READY FOR USE." and the instructions for use. I think it is my favorite...
- 12 **JOGRE** (unknown) Quite rare. If you have information about this make, please let me know.
- 13 **K 1** (Germany) This maker was best known for oilcans. Note its robust construction for the handle and the folding supports. The metal used is thick and seems strong.
- 14 **KANCELARSKE** (Czechoslovakia) These lamps had been of great interest, so many countries produced them. I didn't find any information about this make: do you know it?
- 15 **KARTRO** (unknown) Quite rare. If you have information about this make, please let me know.
- 16 "MOSQUE" PATTERN (France) We can see the picture of a "mosque" embossed on the tank, with "FRANCE". Why a "mosque" ? Some countries of North Africa (Magreb) were colonized by France for several years. Maybe this lamp was manufactured in Algeria or in Morocco?
- 17 **PTT** This is the acronym of "Postes, Télégraphes, Téléphones" (Post offices, Telegraphs, Telephones). There are PTT telecommunications companies in France, in Belgium and in Switzerland. It seems that this lamp was used by one of these national PTT companies.
- 18 **RAWLPLUG** (U.K.) This British company is best known for its wall fixings.
- 19 **REX** (U.K.) In my opinion, this British lamp is quite rare. We can find this model with or without folding supports to carry a soldering iron. It has a big capacity.
- 20 **SONA** (France) This is the biggest flat lamp I have. It was sold with a removable support sheet for a soldering iron. The French manufaturer was "PIGEON", famous for its lighting lamps.
- 21 STANNOL (Germany) This make still exists today with a lot of soldering products.
- 22 **TINOL** (Germany) Of course, the most famous lamps. I would like to be sure that it was really German... There were many lamps styled like Tinol.
- 23 UNMARKED We often find unmarked Tinol-type lamps. This one looks like the Corba.
- 24 VULCANO (Germany) Like the Stannol, this Vulcano is very similar to the Tinol.







TINOL-TYPE LAMPS

Blowlamp collectors are familiar with these lamps based on the original TINOL design. Those made in UK include Britinol, Rawlplug and Fluxite. I am sure that you have several on your shelves, clean and shiny...

They are small and light, and convenient to use, and inexpensive. For how they functioned, on the next page see the Britinol "Directions for Using". For their construction, see the photos of the two wicks and the metal support tube. TINOL-style lamps were used by handymen and by professionals such as metalworkers, electricians, jewelers, watchmakers, radio repairmen, etc., for small soldering jobs and for many other uses, for instance sealing wax or burning paint. They were also included in toolkits for use by some early motorists and motorcyclists. These lamps were manufactured from around 1905 to about 1960.

We can find a lot of different makes of these Tinol-type lamps from many different countries. Here is a non-exhaustive list:

Germany: Barthel, Brock's, Corba, Egona, Enders, Fludor, Hahnel, Herberg, J.L & S, K1,

Stannol, Tinol and Vulcano.

United Kingdom: Bladinol (Bladon), Britinol, Fluxite, IMP, Rawlplug and Rex.

France: Desvignes, Globe, "mosque" pattern and Sona.

USA: Hess (Tinol)

Czechoslovakia: Kancelarske

Australia: The "Solderine" brand name still exists for soldering paste. This brand may also

have existed in the U.K. or France.

France, Switzerland or Belgium: lamps marked PTT

From unidentified countries: Adkis, Jogre and Kartro I am sure that there are many others...

The most common shape is flat and rectangular (parallelepipedal) but there are also more or less cylindrical shapes (Desvignes, Herberg N°89, Rex and IMP).

The common shape Tinol-type lamps are more suitable to support a soldering iron and they are smaller than cylindrical ones. The latter are more stable and contain more fuel than the flat lamps. Fuel capacity can vary considerably, even for the flat lamps (see the Sona and the unmarked lamp), like usual blowlamps.

Several different devices were provided to support a soldering iron:

Folding supports (e.g. Britinol or Tinol),

Removable support sheet (Sona)

Wireframe (Corba).

The Fluxite lamp is different than most. It has a cap retainer (to keep from losing it), and different handles ("loops" rather than then folding handles). Some Fluxite lamps have "MADE IN HOLLAND" stamped underneath the tank even

though the seller was in England.

This photo of a disassembled **BRITINOL** lamp shows the component parts, which includes a cylinder of wick material, through which the brass tube is fitted. Inside the brass tube is a second small diameter wick.

The flame burns vapor emerging from the pinhole in the side of the tube.





MORE TINOL-TYPE LAMPS

In the following pages are illustrations of more varieties of TINOL lamps.

DIRECTIONS FOR USING THE "BRITINOL" SELF - ACTING BLOW LAMP



It may help the understanding of the directions given as under, if the principal of the working of these lamps were described. The metal tube burner has two wicks, one on the outer part and one on the inner part of the tube. The methylated spirit used on these lamps is carried on the inner wick, the metal tube is heated by the outer wick. This heating vaporises the spirit inside the metal tube which is ejected through a small hole and is ignited by the outside flame.

To fill the lamp. Unscrew cap and remove central tube and wick, fill container about three quarters full with methylated spirit and replace central tube, making sure that the pinhole near the blank end is facing away from the handles. On lighting the external wick the flame should be just long enough thoroughly to heat the central tube, as illustrated above, and the lamp will give a flame from 3½ to 4 inches in length.

If the lamp is not burning properly. First make sure that the pinhole

lamp will give a flame from 3½ to 4 inches in length.

If the lamp is not burning properly. First make sure that the pinhole in the central tube is clear: if it is not, insert a needle, being careful not to enlarge the hole.

If the lamp still refuses to project a flame, the wick may require slight adjustment. Remove the wick from inside central tube, and replace it so that the top of the wick is level with the groove round the central tube; it should not be higher or lower than this. If the flame is blown out by the pressure of gas this can be corrected by either reducing the outside flame, or slightly pulling out the inside wick. The blowing flame can be increased by either increasing the outside flame or pushing the inside wick further up the tube, the latter is preferable providing the outside flame is sufficient to heat the central tube. This outside flame should be as small as possible consistent with obtaining a correct blowing flame, on no account should the small hole in the loose centre tube be enlarged.

If the flame is noisy and intermittent. It will probably be found that

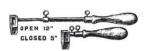
If the flame is noisy and intermittent. It will probably be found that the spirit in use contains water. This lamp will burn for at least one hour at one filling, giving a clean noiseless flame without smoke.

BRITINOL blow-lamps cannot explode, have no parts liable to get out of order, and will not spill when carried in the pocket, being fitted with an airtight screw cap and washer. The handles fold close up to the body.

SPECIAL NOTE

SPECIAL NOTE

Should a larger flame be necessary, lift burner tube from the body of the lamp. A flame up to 5 inches long may be obtained by this adjustment. If after much use the flame diminishes, it is probably due to the internal wick getting hard and therefore preventing the spirit from passing. To rectify this, remove internal wick and withdraw about three strands of



Britinol Telescopic Soldering Iron Open 12 in. Closed 5 in.

This Soldering Iron was designed to rest on the two folding supports of the Blow-Lamp.

"Britinol" blowlamps are manufactured only by:-

Bi-Metals (BRITINGL) Ltd.,

1, BALFOUR MEWS, BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, N.9

Telephone: TOT. 9413

174 TOOLS SECTION: SOLDERING OUTFITS AND BLOW LAMPS



'REX' SELF BLOWING **BENCH** SPIRIT LAMP

"Britinol" Spirit Pocket Blow-lamp

As supplied in the Outfits, burns methylated spirit and will give an intensely hot and clean flame 3-4 in, long. The Lamp cannot leak when carried in the pocket, and like the "REX" has no valves to get out of order. Complete in box with instruction leaflet. Price (with iron rests) 7/-. (Without) 6/6d.

Manufactured only by: BI-METALS (BRITINOL) LTD
ST. MARY'S WORKS, BRIDGE RD., LONDON, N.9
FOR DISCOUNTS, TRENS, SET, SEE SEPARATE LIST

TELEPHONE: TOTTENHAM 9413

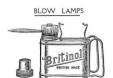


Complete Soldering Outfits Britinel

soldering:
Self-Blowing Sprint Lamp
Telescopic Soldering Iron
Tin Passe Soldering Iron
Tin Passe Soldering Iron
Tin Passe Solder Wire Solder
Pair Extra Wicks for Lamp
ted in cardboard box. Price 16s, 3d.



BI-METALS (BRITINOL) LTD., ST. MARY'S WORKS, 13 BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, N.9.





MECHANICS MUST "! The 'BRITINOL' Spirit Blowlamp Completely self-acting, it gives a 3-4in. flame from methylated spirit, is ideal for all soldering jobs, and heats a small iron rapidly. Price 7/-, from Halfords Branches, Model and Tool Shops, Send for free illustrated list from: BI-METALS (Britinol) Ltd., St. Mary's Works, Bridge Road, London, N.9. Phone: Tottenham 9413.





THE BLADINOL METHYLATED SPIRIT BLOW LAMP









Bottom tamped "MADE IN HOLLAND"

The Fluxite Soldering Set

CONTAINS SPECIAL "SMALL SPACE" SOLDERING IRON WITH NON-HEATING METAL HANDLE, POCKET BLOWLAMP, FLUXITE, SOLDER, ETC., with full instructions.

A compact, substantial outfit, suitable for carrying on a car or motor cycle, or for any soldering jobs about the Home.



Fluxite

SIMPLIFIES SOLDERING

Recognised world-wide as being the most effective flux invented. Used for thirty years in Government Works, and by the leading Engineers, Manufacturers and Railways.

In Tins 4d., 8d., 1/4 and 2/8 of all Factors.

WITH FLUXITE, "WIPED" JOINTS CAN BE MADE SUCCESSFULLY THAT ARE IMPOSSIBLE BY ANY OTHER METHOD—ASK FOR LEAFLET

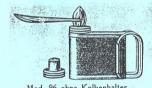


Barthel's Spiritus-Blaaslampjes.

Spirituslampen worden slechts weinig meer gebruikt. Enkel deze kleine lampjes komen nog wel voor, voor zwakke soldeeringen. Wij hebben deze in voorraad in blikken en koperen uitvoering.

Behalve voor soldeeren kunnen de lampjes bij Bank- en Handelskantoren gebruikt worden als laklampies, tot het dichtlakken van brieven.

No.	1.	Blikken uitvoering. Gepolijst	101	12.0	20					83		f	0.60	
		Idem met boutdrager .											0.65	
,,,	3.	In koperen uitvoering .	•		*8							,,	1.10	
Red	lam	ebord van triplexhout, bevatter	nde	6 B	likk	en a	lsm	ede	1 k	oper	en			
	lami	nie de lamnies vastgehouden	in (orig.	Ter	rrvv	eere	n.					5.10	



Lötlampen für Bastler

Eignen sich auch sehr gut für Bleirohrlötungen

Mod. 96 ohne Kolbenhalter.

Brenndauer	ca.	11	Std.
Flammenlänge		60	mm
Gewicht		0,1	kg
Weißblech		1,35	RM.
Modell 96		3,-	"
Modell 97		3,50	.,





Reine Messingausführung. Daher kein Durchrosten, wie bei Lampen aus Weißblech.

Original (GXB)



Barthel

Spiritus-Taschenlötlampe "Tapo"



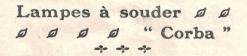
Diese kleine Taschenlötlampe, die im allgemeinen als Siegellampe benutzt wird, eignet sich auch für kleine Lötungen an Hausgeräten, Spielzeugen usw. Kupferkolben dazu siehe Seite 10.

Die Handhabung ist die denkbar einfachste. Um die Lampe zu füllen, entfernt man das Brennrohr und gießt in die dadurch freiwerdende Oeffnung den Spiritus. Man achte darauf, daß das Brennrohr beim Einsetzen auf den Boden aufstößt und daß das kleine Düsenloch nach vorn zeigt. Der äußere Docht muß ungefähr mit der Oberkante der Lampe abschneiden. Der Innendocht muß das Düsenloch freilassen. In dieser Stellung brennt die Lampe am ruhigsten und

Der Brennerkopf ist von Zeit zu Zeit mit feinem Schmirgelleinen abzureiben und die kleine Düsenöffnung mit einer dünnen Nadel vorsichtig freizulegen.

Ausführung	Telegramm- wort	Preis RM
Weißblech, poliert	Tapo Tapol	1 1.20
Reinmessing	Tekla	3.—

1 Postpaket (5 kg) = 50 Lampen



Cet appareil d'un prix excessivement modique est de toute utilité et c'est pourquoi nous avons cru à propos d'en entretenir nos Lecteurs.

Cette lampe Corba à alcool est en effet toute indiquée par les installateurs de becs à essence, pour les soudures de tubes de petits diamètres. La soudure sera faite proprement



meilleures conditions possibles. La lampe Corba permet aussi la chanffe

à souder. Sa durée de fonctionnement sans recharge est de 50 minutes ajoutons à cela que la mise en marche est d'une simplicité rare et qu'elle n'est aucunement dangereuse.

Si réellement, comme nous le pensons, nos Lecteurs s'inté-ressent à cet article et qu'ils veulent se procurer de ces appareils, nous les prions de nous donner commande avant le 15 janvier, afin de faire un groupement car, nous devons l'avouer; cappareils sont de fabrication étrangère. Prix: 6 fr. 25.

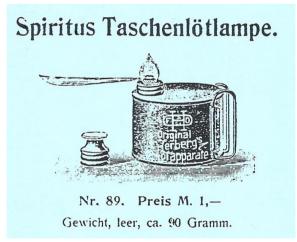


Spiritus-Bastler-Lötlampe No. 9019	DM 2.07	DM 2.95
Technische Daten:		
Höhe der Lampe: 10 cm, Gewicht: 70 g, Brenndauer mit einer Füllung: 2 Stunden.		
Benzin-Lötkolben No. 9005		
1/4 Liter		
Mit Sturmschutz und auswechselbarem Kupferstück. — Der praktische Kolben für vielseitige Verwendung. Nach Ab- nahme des Kupferstücks auch als Lötlampe zu verwenden. Mit automatischer Düserreinigung, Sicherheitsventil in der Füllschraube, starker Druckluftpumpe und Neusilber-Steigrohr.		
Technische Daten:		
Gesamtlänge: 480 mm, Gewicht: 1,4—1,8 kg, je nach Kupferstück, Brenndauer mit einer Füllung: 1½ Stunden.		
Gesamtlänge: 480 mm, Gewicht: 1,4—1,8 kg, je nach Kupferstück, Brenndauer mit einer Füllung: 1½ Stunden. Mit Kupferstück 350 g Kupferstück Hammerform	DM 24.—	DM 35.50
Gesamtlänge: 480 mm, Gewicht: 1,4—1,8 kg, je nach Kupferstück, Brenndauer mit einer Füllung: 1½ Stunden. Mit Kupferstück 350 g Kupferstück Hammerform Mit Kupferstück 500 g Kupferstück Hammerform	DM 24.30	DM 36
Gesamtlänge: 480 mm, Gewicht: 1,4—1,8 kg, je nach Kupferstück, Brenndauer mit einer Füllung: 1½ Stunden. Mit Kupferstück 350 g Kupferstück Hammerform		



Enders





No. 956. Benzin-Lötlampen "Fludor".

Diese Lampe ist schön ausgeführt und hat sich praktisch sehr gut bewährt; sie genügt für die meisten Installationslötungen bis zu 30 qmm u. ist mit derselben ein gefahrloses Löten verbunden.





Lampes à souder Original-Herberg "Talisman" sans nettoyage automatique de la buse pour petites soudures. Exécution en laiton pur.



Das reichhaltige Sortiment!

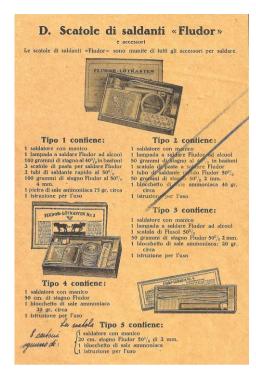
Taschen-Lötlampen m.Docht ohne autom. o. Düse Pumpe Düsenr. für Uhrmacher, Elektriker, Radio-Bastler, für Hausgebrauch und Bastelarbeiten

Inh. ca.	0,10 Ltr.	0,10 Ltr.	0,18 Lt
DM	5.—	12.—	15.—

501 502 511 512 Benz. Spir. Benz. Spir.









There's

MONEY

in Selling Solder

provided it is



(Paste or Wire)

TINOL is a combined solder and flux, so devised that the

merest novice can use it with success. "Just put it on the spot and heat." Use gas jet, candle, the TINOL Alcohol Torch, a soldering iron or hot poker.

TINOL Paste is a mixture of finely pulverized solder and flux. TINOL Wire



is hollow, with a core of flux.
The flux is absolutely non-acid, yet so active that careful cleaning is not necessary.

enamelware can be mended with TINOL.

To the housewife, the amateur mechanic, the automobilist, and the electrician, TINOL

is a veritable boon. To the first it saves tinsmiths' charges, besides being always handy. To the electrician it saves the time lost by separate fluxing and does better

Put a TINOL display card on your counter: it will bring many sales at a good profit to you. Write for prices and discounts on this attractive specialty.

TINOL is advertised in the magazines.

HESS @ SON

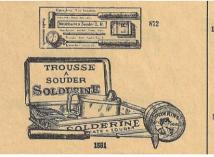
Dept. G

1215 Filbert Street Philadelphia, Pa.



15-4088. Petite lampe à souder inexplosible à alcool, tout en métal nickelé avec bouchon hermétique à vis, diam. 7%. Pour faire fonctionner cette lampe,

il suffit d'allumer la mèche qui se trouve autour du bec..... 11.70



1581 NÉCESSAIRE A SOUDER complet en boîte métal contenant : 2 boîtes à souder décapante, 1 fer à souder, 1 lampe à alcool et de la soudur en fil — Indispensable pour petits travaux. Le coffret 39. »

N. B. — Voir Soudure - Plaques à souder, etc... par ordre alphabétique dans ce catalogue.

507 FERS A PLAQUER tout acier pour raccords de bitume

Numéros	00	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Longueurm/	60	75	95	110	125	135	140	155	160	175



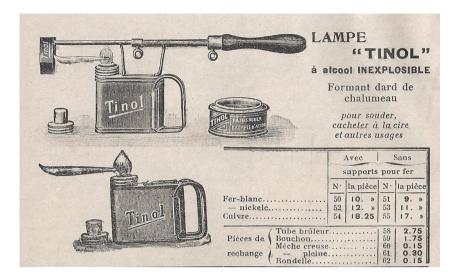
MODE D'EMPLOI: Chauffer la pièce à souder au dessus d'une flamme quelconque, la chaleur d'une allumette suffit. Appliquer une goutte de soudure et représenter à la flamme de façon à faire brûler la matière qui décape sans acide et se change en étain solide et durable.

Réf. 7675. - Le tube. . . 1.95

Petite Lampe à Souder "GLOBE"

Indispensable pour les soudures délicates où la chaleur d'une flamme ordinaire ne peut aller (angles, objets profonds, intérieurs de vases, etc.

Réf. 7676 — La lampe 2. »









Tinol, from Germany, was the most common brand. See the next page for its origin. Do you have Tinol-type lamps of makes other than those shown in this article? If yes, please let us know.

TINOL: THE ORIGIN OF THE BRAND

By Graham Stubbs

Küppers Metallwerke G.m.b.H of Bonn, Germany was the originator of **TINOL**, the brand name applied to solder products and to the well-known blowlamps.

On June 6th, 2002, the following headline appeared the business section of a newspaper published in the city of Bonn in Germany: "Küppers Metallwerk in Bonn ceases operations." The report went on to say that at the end of that month, operations would cease at Küppers Metallwerke. Most recently about thirty employees had been employed by the long-time manufacturer of soldering products used in electronics. As recently as the 1970s, Küppers had employed almost 120 people. Founded in 1905 by Bonn master plumber Rudolph Küpper, the company was the leading supplier of filled solder wires in Europe before the Second World War.

Michel Duval's article about the many variations of TINOL lamps motivated me to dig into the early history of the brand.

Google searches vielded 1907/1908 advertisements by Küpper, A 1907 ad included this depiction of a devilish character using a conventional blowlamp to solder electrical wires. The gnomelike individual below is holding a can of TINOL soldering paste. In 1908 the ad at right included the same circular logo. plus the contents of a soldering kit based



on the unique TINOL torch, which is described, in German, as a "pocket soldering lamp". The name on the lamp, **Tinol**, is in distinctive slanted characters, as found on lamps produced for the next several decades.

Küppers Metallwerk appears to have done an excellent job of marketing both the solder paste and the blowlamp. The company took care to secure trademark and patent protection. The TINOL name, applied to the soldering paste and to accessory tools, was trademarked world-wide. A 1903 patent for the solder formulation was successfully asserted in 1914 against the American Westinghouse Corporation. During the next few years the products were licensed and/or introduced in numerous countries.

The American company, Hess & Co. of Philadelphia was advertising in 1907 the products, product name and the soldering kit. The British Company Bi-Metals Ltd. of London chose to incorporate TINOL into the name of its products as BRITINOL. During World War One, Bi-Metals attempted in Australia to have the TINOL trademark suspended and transferred to the British concern; the request was turned down. Also in the UK, Bladon adopted BLADINOL as a tradename.

I find it interesting that Küppers was so successful, but that locating them as the originators of the TINOL family of lamps took some serious digging into the archives.



EOLIPYLES PART EIGHT

Morgan & Herrick, OL marking, R.B.T. marking, Reitz

By Charles Smith

NOTE: This is the eighth article in a series of contributions about three-piece Eolipyles. For earlier "background" information, please refer to the last few Society Newsletters.

MORGAN & HERRICK, NEW YORK (unmarked) Slots with Circles Cutout Pattern

This lamp is about 18 cm in height with its stand being 8 cm in diameter. The stand, its base, the sheet-metal handle, the bottom of the alcohol lamp and the lamp's wick holder, the pressure-release/filler plug and curved burner tube are made of brass. The body of the alcohol lamp and the upper fuel chamber are made of copper (Fig. 1).

The burner tube is external. That is, rather than exiting the bottom of the fuel tank, the tube exits the top rear part of the tank. It then curves around the back of the tank and terminates near the bottom center part of the tank. The top rear part of the stand is cut into a slot to accommodate the external burner tube (Fig. 2). I have observed that if the Eolipyle is tipped forward, or to the side, or even backward, the fuel tank will "fall out.





The pressure-release screw on top of the tank (Fig. 3) initially looked suspicious, but on closer examination it's real. The inside of the screw is hollow and there is a small spring inserted into the opening. As the screw is tightened, the spring exerts added pressure on a tiny flat valve increasing pressure in the tank and increasing the "blast" of vapor across the wick.



The cutout consists of vertical "slots" with a central circle, three on each side of the stand (Figs. 1-2). There are no markings on the Eolipyle. Its identity comes from an engraved illustration on page 74 in an 1880 Morgan & Herrick Catalog published in New York (Fig. 4). It is believed that Morgan & Herrick were retailers of this lamp and not its manufacturer.



OL Marking

Michel Duval has kindly made me the gift of his No. 2 Magnet Eolipyle having a copper stand BUT with the additional mark "OL" (see BN 105, Eolipyles Part 7). The trademark consists of two crossed soldering irons with an "O" to the left of the irons and an "L" to their right. Near the bottom of the imprint and between the two soldering-iron handles is the word "DÉPOSÉ", indicating that the trademark has been registered. The origin, owner, and location of this retailer are unknown.

R.B.T Marking

The marking "R.B.T" and "PARIS", separated by images of "bees" (Fig. 5), is found rarely stamped into the top of the filler caps of some Doria and Magnet Eolipyles. "R.B.T" is the abbreviation of "REBATTET", or F. M. Rebattet and Co., a tools retailer located in Paris. Limited catalog information shows them to be in business in 1897 and to be actively marketing Doria and Magnet Eolipyles. See Eolipyles Part 7 in the last issue of BN for photographs and additional information.



REITZ, OHIO, USA (unmarked) No cutout pattern

Like the Molard Eolipyle shown in the last issue of BN, this torch is very different from most of our three-piece Eolipyles. However, it too continues to retain the three essential parts: a lower alcohol lamp, an upper fuel chamber with attached burner tube, and an intervening stand. This is certainly one of my tallest Eolipyles, measuring a total of 24 cm in height (Figs. 6-7). Its diameter is 9 cm. Attached to the rear of the stand is a small iron handle which is copper-braded to the lower rear part of the stand. The front of the stand has a large semi-circular opening 9 cm in height by 8.5 cm in width. The opening is undoubtedly large so as to accommodate the relatively large alcohol lamp in the bottom of the stand.







The torch is made of copper except for the iron handle, tin lower alcohol lamp, and brass burner tube and filler caps. It also has a most unusual internal "sheath" of thin sheet tin covering the inside bottom of the body and surrounding the sides internally to a distance about 5 cm, or about 2 inches, below the top of the body (the level of the top of the sheet tin can be seen in Figure 8 at the point where the burner tube enters the back of the stand). I presume this thin sheet of tin somehow provided some protection to the lower portion of the body, the part that would be most susceptible to heat during use. I don't know about this. The torch also has the lower alcohol lamp made of thin sheet tin soldered together. I'm puzzled by this. Why not copper? I'm sure it belongs with the unit because of its "snug" fit in the base and because the screw-on fill plugs in the lamp and reservoir are identical.

The burner tube, soldered to the top of the tank, exits the top center part of the fuel container where it forms a large downward-projecting loop along the outside back portion of the tank (Fig. 8). The tube extends to a point about 2.5 cm below the bottom of the tank where it curves forward toward the front of the tank (Fig. 9). When the fuel tank is in place atop the stand, the upper part of the burner tube is outside the Eolipyle, while the lower part enters through a vertical slot in the back of the stand and is then in an internal position (Figs. 6, 8). This doesn't seem very efficient as the hot alcohol vapors exiting the top of the tank would surely "cool" before the burner tube eventually entered the stand near the bottom of the tank. Note also that the fuel tank has no pressure regulator, no pressure release mechanism. I can only presume that this primitive design (early 1870's) resulted in cracked fuel tanks and explosions aplenty!



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The alcohol lamp (Fig. 10) has two wicks and a separate filler opening rather than a single filler opening/wick combination. When looking at the top of the lamp, the two wicks are offset. A shorter wick tube, or wick holder, is placed on the left front part of the lamp and a taller wick holder is placed in the back center part of the lamp. The filler opening and its screw-on/screw-off cap is located on the right front part of the alcohol lamp (Fig. 10 right).

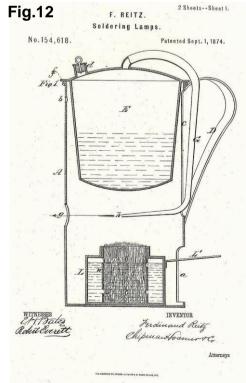




When the lamp is inserted into the base of the stand, and its loop handle moved to the far left (Fig. 11 left), the shorter wick providing the flame for the burner is moved to the left rear part of the stand. In this position, both wicks provide more intense heat to the fuel tank generating a stronger pressure but without a generated flame. When the loop handle is moved back to the right (Fig. 11 right), the shorter, or front left wick, becomes positioned in front of and in line with the burner tip. In this "operating" position, the front wick provides both heat to the fuel tank as well as the flame necessary to ignite the alcohol vapors emitted from the burner tip. The taller or rear wick is positioned to the left of the burner tube and provides the majority of the heat to the fuel container for alcohol vaporization. When the loop handle is moved to the center position (Fig. 11 center), the taller wick is positioned beneath the burner tube providing extra vaporization within the tube, while the shorter wick provides heat to the overlying tank. When the loop handle is moved back to the right (Fig. 11 right), a strong flame is emitted once again.

As noted earlier, this Reitz Eolipyle is unmarked. However, US Patent No. 154,618 for "Improvement in Soldering Lamps" and awarded to Ferdinand Reitz of Birmingham, Ohio, on September 1, 1874 (Fig. 12), seems applicable to this Eolipyle. Although of different design, after reviewing the photographs and descriptions of this "unknown" Eolipyle and comparing them to the claims in the patent, Graham Stubbs has stated (August 9, 2009) "ALL of the elements of the claim are therefore present and the article (the Eolipyle) performs what is claimed. In summary, your torch implements claim 1 of the Reitz patent, and the unusual shape of the alcohol tank convinces me that it's a version improved by the inventor." Thus, in the writer's opinion, an identity has been established.

I wish to thank Michel Duval for his constructive criticism of an earlier version of this contribution. Also, special thanks are extended to Graham Stubbs for his input and assistance in the preparation of the text and text figures for publication.



WANTED

A Good Home for this Collection of Soldering Irons

Long-time member Brian Grainger submitted this note and a request:

"Following the sale of my collection, I am left with just a few lamps to remind me of the collection that once was. But in addition, I have a collection of soldering irons, about 50 in number, which I would like to dispose of. In this respect I was wondering whether you could enter an item in the Newsletter offering these irons to any interested person, free of charge, provided they arrange collection from Portishead, near Bristol."

Brian can be contacted by email at bluegrassgrainger@gmail.com



WANTED

Charles Smith is interested in purchasing old three-piece Eolipyles similar to those shown in the article this issue. Please send a photo(s) and a note about its condition with your asking price to Charles at ccsmith2@charter.net. Thank you!

INDEX to ISSUES 1-100 (August 1992 - September 2017)

A cross-referenced index to **BLOWLAMP NEWS** is available from Keith Hawkins on request, with a contribution to cover the costs of printing and postage. (Also at www.blowlampsociety.com)

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Thanks go to Michel Duval and Charles Smith for contributions to this issue.

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