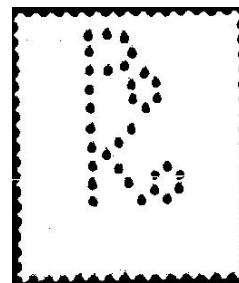


What Is It? - POKO Label – Bulletin 344/4

Mick Penfold writes to give us the following information.

“The German Poko machines were introduced into the UK in 1910, but then again in 1925, because of WW1. This machine was the only really successful advance in producing perfins mechanically. A metal box was fed strips of stamps, which were already sold by the Post Office for use in vending machines, and by means of a handle at the side fed the strips through to be perforated. Various types were sold with single or multi strips, even different dies at the same time, and attaching the stamps directly onto envelopes.”

“The dies are noted for their standardized lettering, and were produced by Deutsche- Post-und Eisenbahn-Verehrsweren, AG, Staaken Berlin. The trimmed perforations at the side of some stamps were caused when the strips were cut from sheets. When the machines were introduced the company issued several different advertising labels, looking like postage stamps, these usually just contained the producers name. It is not surprising that the example you illustrated was perforated. Although there are about forty different dies of MS in the Germany catalogue, none tie up with this one. The mention of the stamp being perforated by Michelius was a little puzzling to me, because I always believed they were a completely different system!”



“POKO had their own perfin (illustration) which I do not have, so if any member has a spare perhaps we could do a deal.”

[Ed:- I noticed in The US Perfins Bulletin Magnus Werner states that this particular label (there are others) was a test stamp and is known in five different colours.]