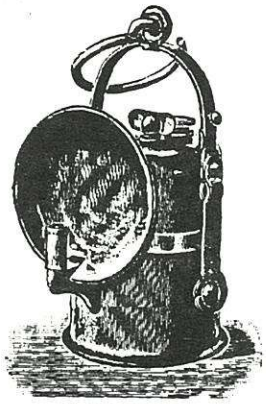
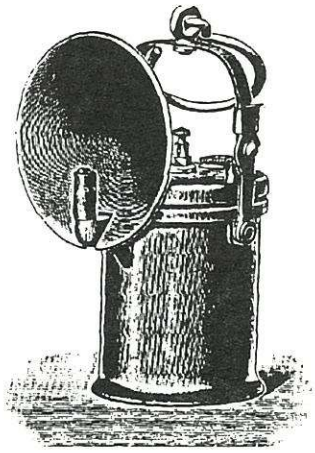


Nr. 850, 852 u. 854
Wolf's offene Acetylen-Grubenlampe
mit gewöhnlichem Bügelverschluß
und Reflektor.

History of the German Lamp Maker Friemann & Wolf

Part II: 1900- 1990

Manfred Stutzer



Nr. 856, 857 u. 858
Wolf's offene Acetylen-Grubenlampe
mit vereinfachtem Bügelverschluß
und Reflektor.

Illustrations from a 1908 Friemann & Wolf catalog: above are two carbide hand lamps, below is first page.

The French market was tapped more vigorously through the founding of a French subsidiary named Fabrique Liegeoise de Lampes de Surete to produce lamps in Jeumont, in 1901. That same year saw the introduction of the first Wolf carbide lamp on the market.

A 1903 Wolf catalog distributed in the U.S. listed 17 Pennsylvania and one Tennessee mining company that were using Wolf safety lamps, including the large Philadelphia & Reading Coal & Iron Co. and Lehigh Valley Coal Co. This same catalog mentioned six U.S. patents on the Wolf safety lamp Nos. 302878, 322514, 453456, 497699, 509418, and 530217.

TheUnited States subsidiary of Wolf changed to The Wolf Safety Lamp Co. headquartered in the Crystal Building in New York City. That same year Wolf sold 890,000 "benzine" safety lamps worldwide, making them the leading producer of flame safety lamps in the world.

Eight years after the development of the alkaline accumulator battery (rechargeable) by Edison and Jungner, Friemann and Wolf began production of an electric mine lamp in 1907.

In 1913 the Wolf Safety Lamp Company of England moved from Leeds to Sheffield and enlarged their production facilities. The death of Carl Wolf in 1915 saw his son Paul assume the role of Managing Director of Friemann & Wolf. At that time the firm employed more than 2,000 employees, with a worldwide production and sale of more than 1 million "benzine" safety lamps.

The end of World War I saw the breakup of Friemann & Wolf. The English facilities came under the control of William Maurice. The U.S. facilities became the Wolf

FRIEMANN & WOLF

Gesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung

ZWICKAU i. SA.

Zweigniederlassungen in Duisburg, Dortmund, Waldenburg i. Schl., Loncin (Belgien), Jeumont (Frankreich).

Über 60000 Wolf'sche offene Acetylen-Grubenlampen

haben sich in kurzer Zeit durch ihre großen Vorzüge in vielen schlagwetterfreien Gruben des In- und Auslandes eingeführt und in der Praxis bestens bewährt, worüber zahlreiche freiwillige Urteile vorliegen.

Vorteile:

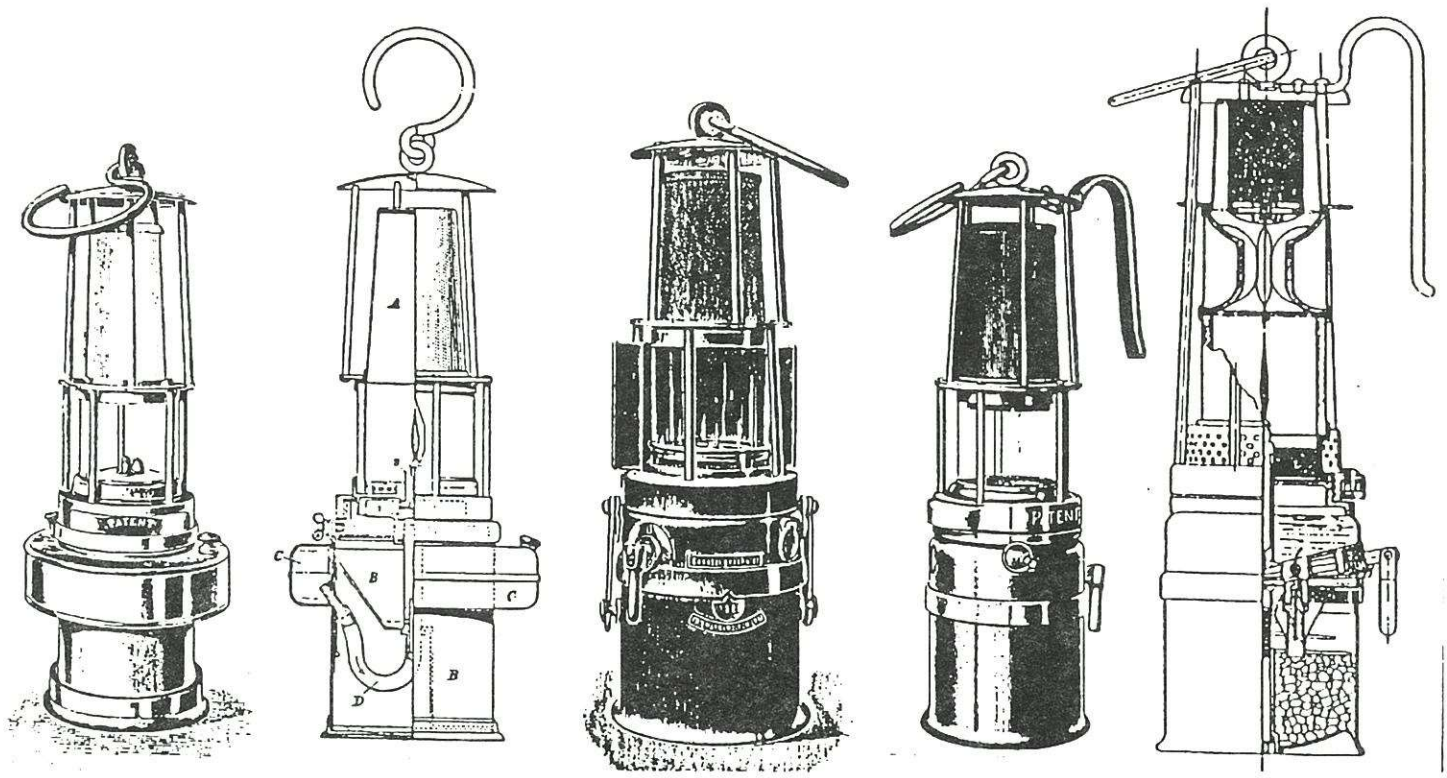
Absolute Gefahrlosigkeit
Vollständig geruchloses Brennen
Bedeutend billiger als Rüböllbrand
Unbedingt gleichmäßiges Brennen
Sicherster Verschluß

Vorteile:

Denkbar einfachste und leichteste Bedienung
Größte Stabilität
Bedeutend heller als Ölbrand
Gar keine Regulierung nötig
Größte Reinlichkeit.

Wolf's offene Acetylen-Grubenlampe mit Reflektorhaube.

5000. 10. 08. F & B



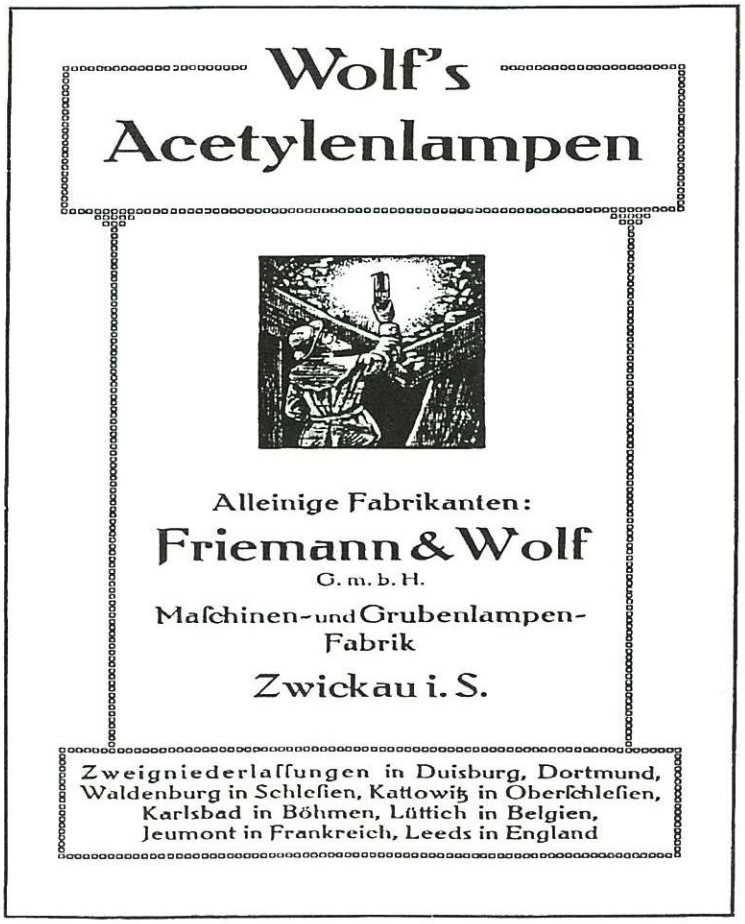
Five different Wolf carbide safety lamps: (left to right) Wolf-Stuchlik lamp, 1. version, Wolf-Stuchlik lamp, 2.version, Wolf-Pokorny lamp, 1. version , Wolf-Pokorny lamp, 2. version, Wolf-Wiede lamp.

Safety Lamp Co. of America, Inc., headquartered in Brooklyn, New York, under the direction of D. Anglada. The Belgian facilities came under the control of the former Belgian Agent, Hubert Joris, in 1919 with the firm name of "Usines H. Joris, Eclarages Minier".

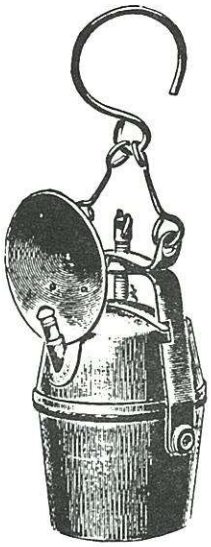
The firm survived as Friemann & Wolf in Germany and continued production of lamps. The company received Patent No. 446183 for a rechargeable electric cap lamp on June 9, 1927. By 1929 Friemann & Wolf had become one of the leading manufacturers of lead and nickel cadmium storage batteries.

In 1931 Paul Wolf died and control of the firm was assumed by long-time employees Paul Stoppel and Wilhelm Blumberg.

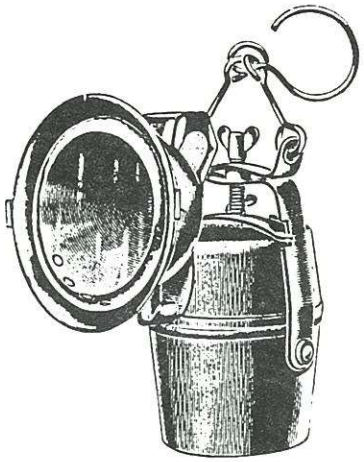
With the advent of World War II all international business associations outside of the Axis Powers were severed. As a result of the war all production facilities were destroyed.



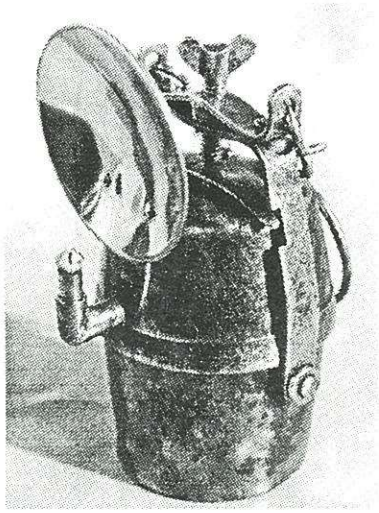
Right: First page of lamp catalogue 1910 for carbide lamps.



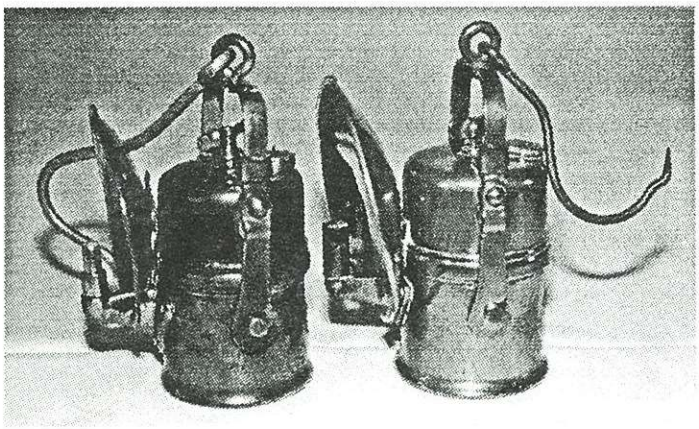
Lampe mit gewöhnlichem Reflektor.

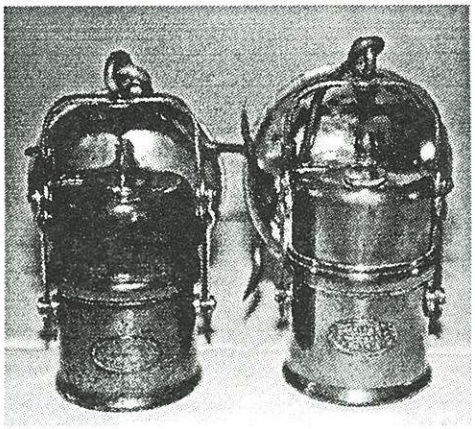


Lampe mit Reflektorhaube.

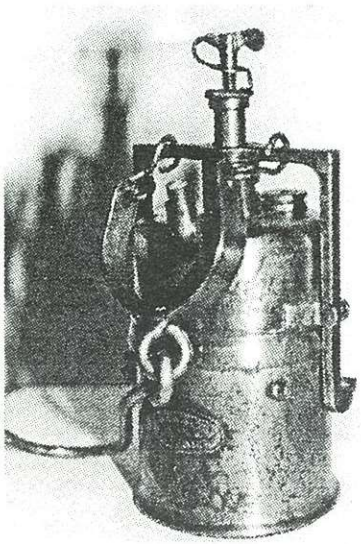


The famous Wolf carbide lamp No. 911, Illustrations left are in brass from 1911 catalog. Photo right shows steel lamp from author's collection.

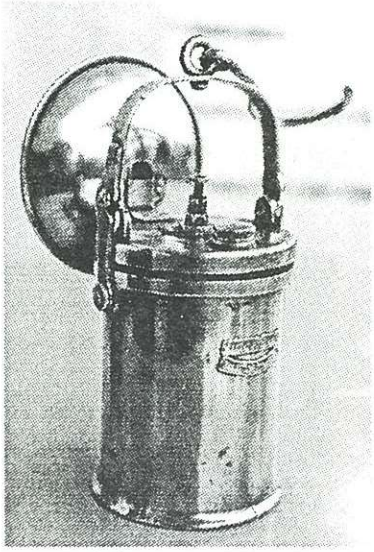


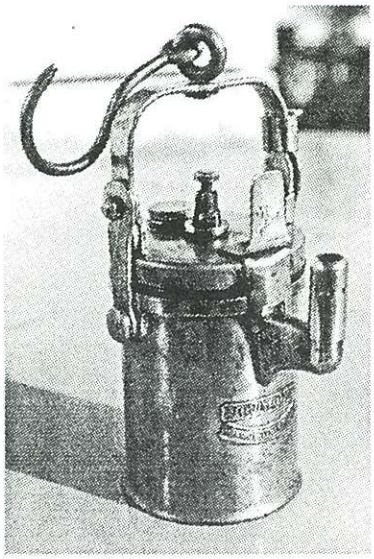


Two early brass carbide hand lamps, No. 850.



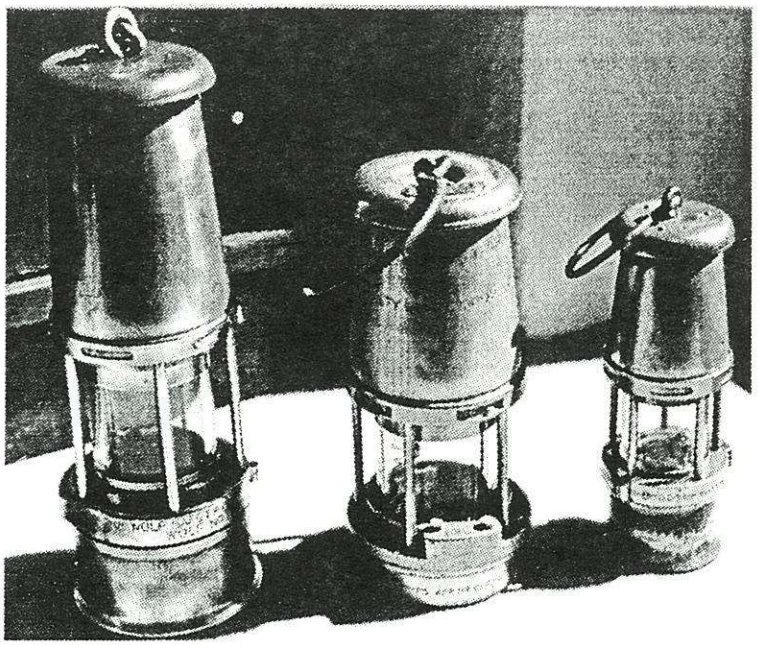
Rare carbide hand lamp with Bloch locks design, No. 851.





Two different canister-style lamps with the old company's label.

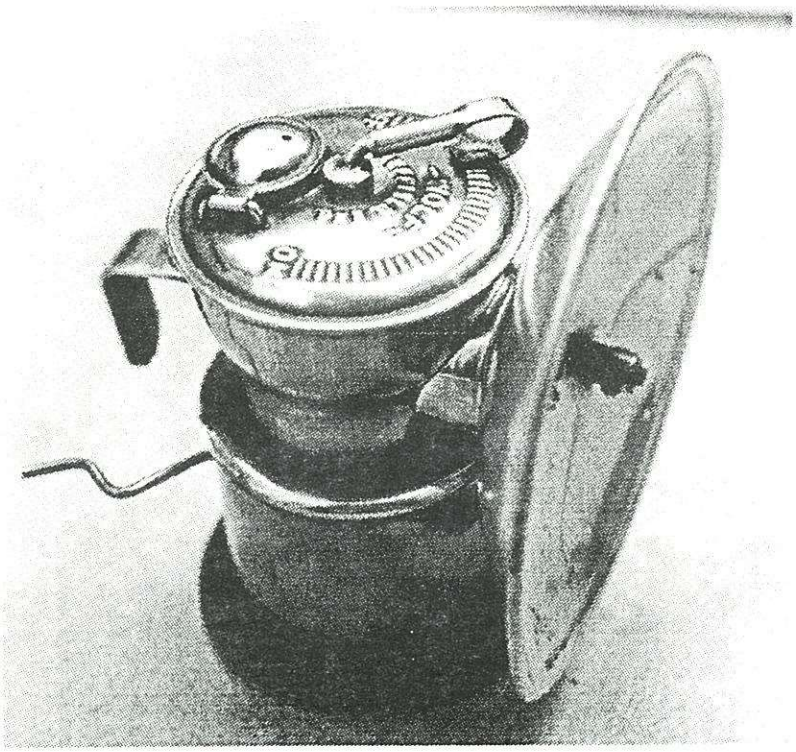
Two Baby-Wolf lamps, made in aluminum.



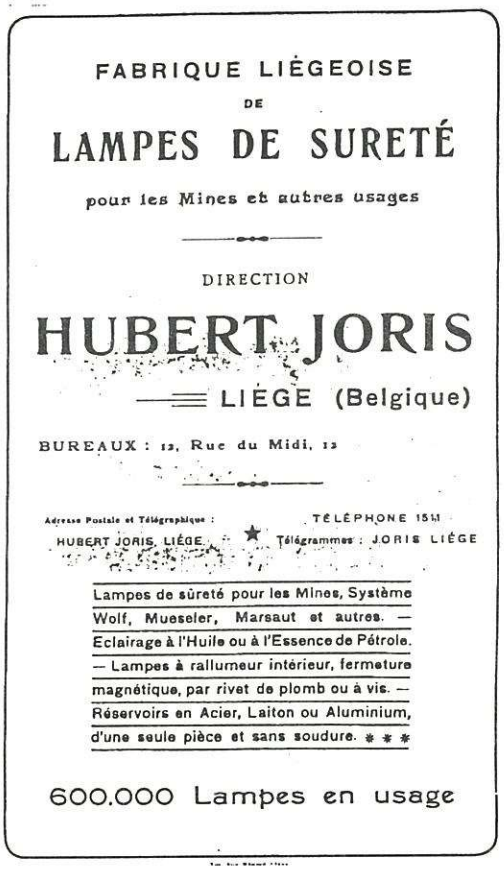
Three sizes of Wolf/Sheffield safety lamps/England.

Carbide hand lamp made by Wolf/Sheffield.

Two Wolf/USA carbide hand lamps in brass and iron.



Wolf/Sheffield carbide cap lamp.



FABRIQUE LIÉGEOISE

DE

LAMPES DE SURETÉ

pour les Mines et autres usages

DIRECTION

HUBERT JORIS

LIÉGE (Belgique)

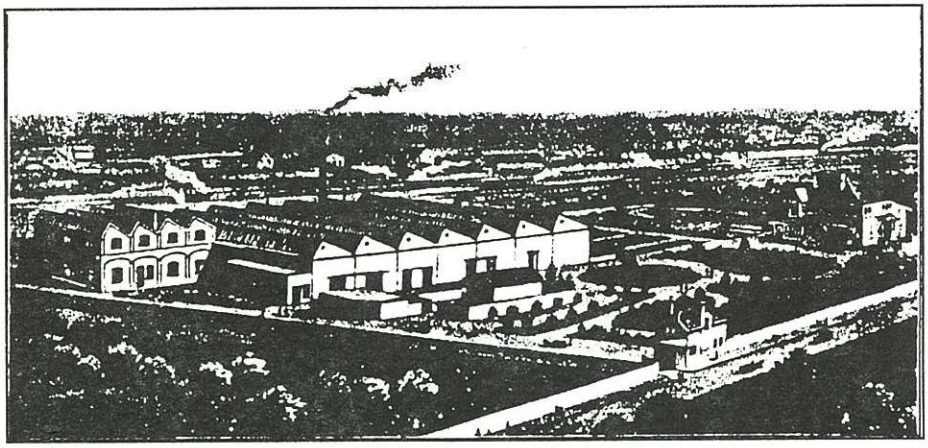
BUREAUX : 12, Rue du Midi, 12

Adresse Postale et Télégraphique : HUBERT JORIS, LIÉGE. ★ TÉLÉPHONE 1511 Télégrammes : JORIS LIÉGE

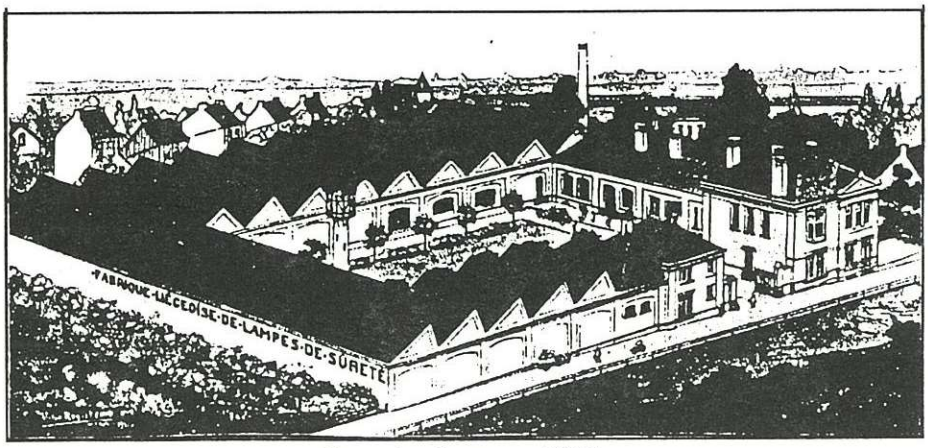
Lampes de sûreté pour les Mines, Système Wolf, Mueseler, Marsaut et autres. — Eclairage à l'Huile ou à l'Essence de Pétrole. — Lampes à rallumeur intérieur, fermeture magnétique, par rivet de plomb ou à vis. — Réservoirs en Acier, Laiton ou Aluminium, d'une seule pièce et sans soudure. * * *

600.000 Lampes en usage

First page of 1908 catalog for Wolf carbide lamps.



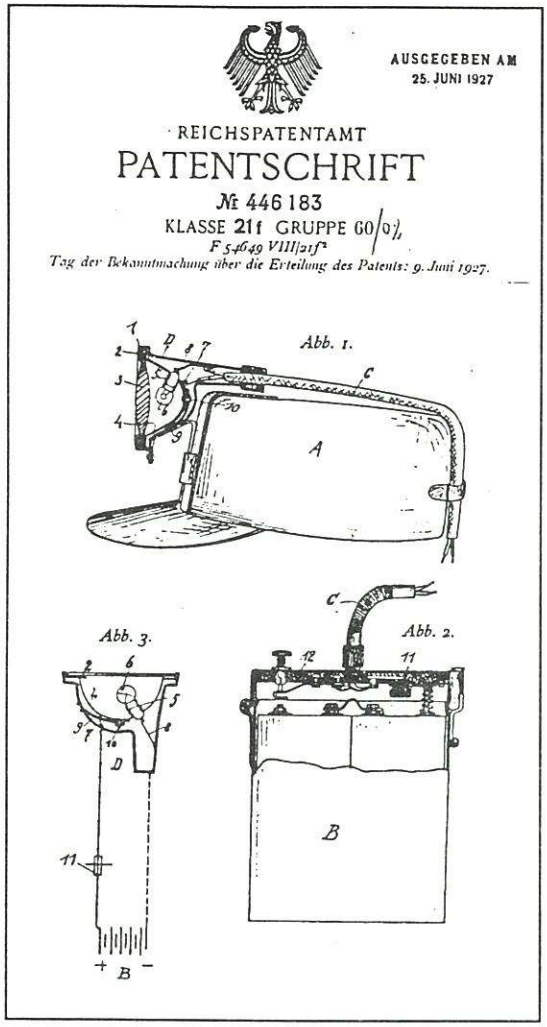
Belgian plant ca. 1911.



French plant ca. 1911.

In 1946 the rebuilt plant in Zwickau (East Germany) assumed production under the name Grubenlampenwerke Zwickau with 1,450 employees. By 1947 a new production facility was opened in the previously destroyed plant in Duisburg (West Germany). This plant produced safety lamps, air pressure lamps and electric cap lamps.

Friemann & Wolf, in Duisburg, got the production license for Silver/Zinc batteries from Yardney International Corporation of N.Y. In 1951 a new production subsidiary (Silberkraft leichtakkumulatoren Bmbh/ Rudesheim) was founded to produce Silver/Zinc batteries, known as .



AUSGEGEBEN AM
25. JUNI 1927

REICHSPATENTAMT

PATENTSCHRIFT

№ 446 183

KLASSE 21f GRUPPE 60/02

F 54649 VIII/21f²

Tag der Bekanntmachung über die Erteilung des Patents: 9. Juni 1927.

Abb. 1.

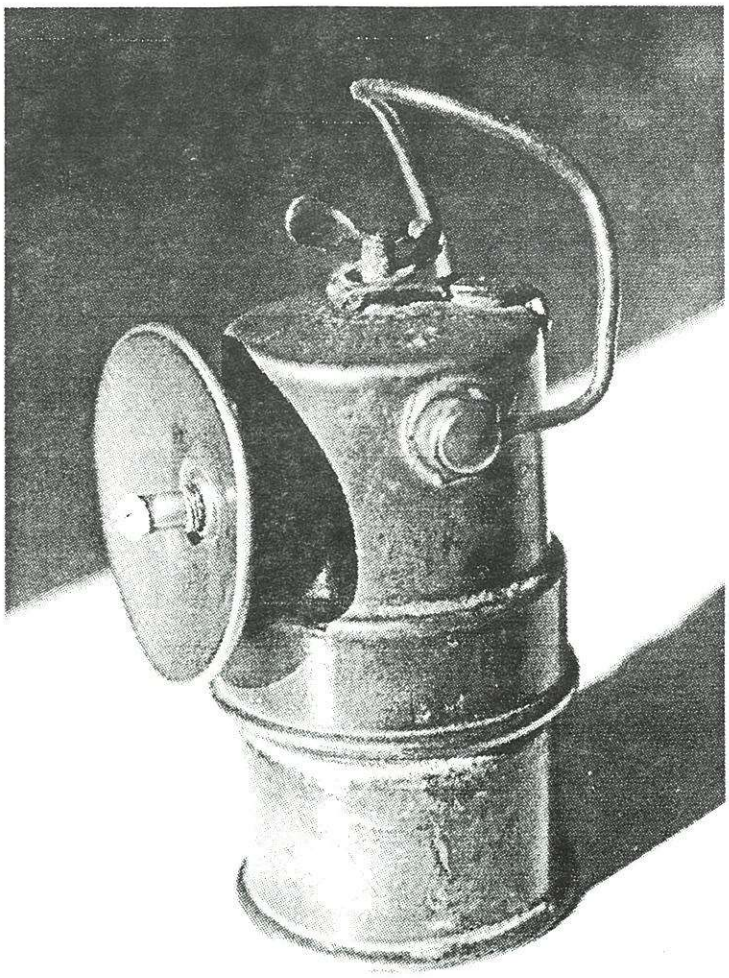
Abb. 3.

Abb. 2.

Patent for first Friemann & Wolf electric cap lamp.

Front cover of a lamp catalog, 1927.

Vignette depicting Zwickau plant as of 1927.



Carbide cap lamp, No. 918e, made in the fifties by GLZ.

By 1952 the Soviets had returned the Zwickau plant to the East German Government. The firm, owned by the German Democratic Republic, was then called VEB Grubenlampenwerke Zwickau.

The production of "benzine" safety lamps continued at the Zwickau plant until 1960, when production ceased.

In West Germany Friemann & Wolf continued to produce Ni-Cd batteries, a variety of mine lamps and air pressure lamps, as well as Ag-Zn batteries for space, at its Duisburg plant.

By 1984 the firm had changed its name to: GAZ - Gruben lampen und Akkumulatorenwerke. The CEAG Industries firm controlled 68% of Friemann & Wolf by 1985, with a work force of 600 employees.

With the reunification of East and West Germany in 1990, production came to a halt at the Zwickau plant.

This long history of producing mine lamps certainly has earned for Friemann & Wolf the record for longest producing major lamp manufacturer. How many other firms can boast a record of more than 100 years of producing safety, carbide and electric mine lamps?

FRIEMANN & WOLF - GMBH
AKKUMULATOREN- UND GRUBENLAMPENFABRIK
GEGRÜNDET 1884
DUISBURG

Gewerks-chaft
R h e i n

Bacharach / Rhein

Eingegangen 19 DEZ. 1958

Rechnung Nr. 3736/3199

Duisburg, 17.12.58 Fr.-

Unser Hausruf 21 (2916)

Erl.:

Letterhead by Friemann & Wolf/Duisburg, 1958.