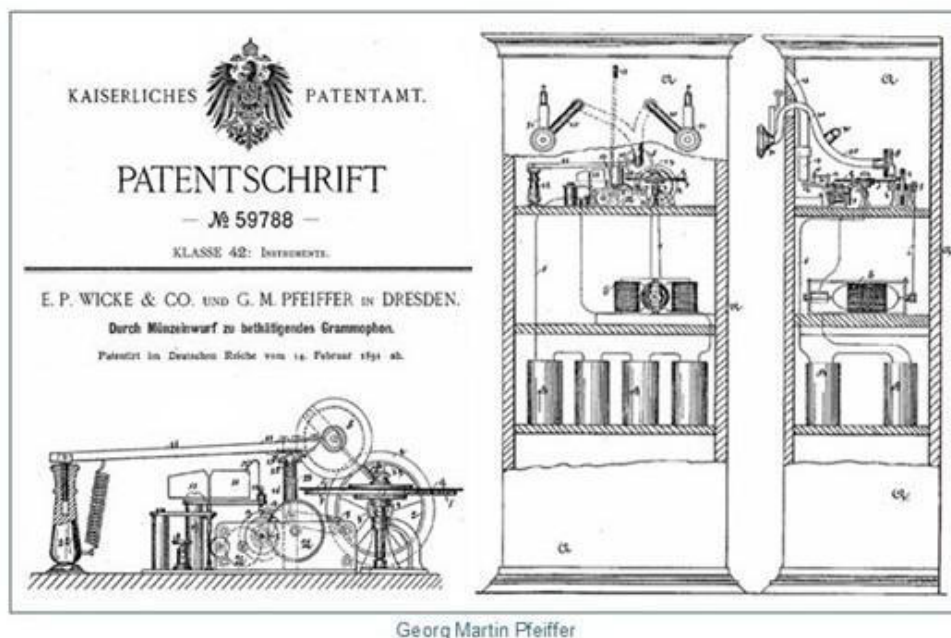


In Europe the first commercial disc playing gramophone was patented on the 14th February 1891 by Georg M. Pfeiffer and Automaten-Fabrik E. P. Wicke & Co. (*König-Johann-Straße 15*) in Dresden, founded 1890 by Eva Ernestiene Pauliene Wicke (1839-1917) and her son-in-law Hermann Theodor Starke. The mechanic Georg Martin Pfeiffer (*Louisenstraße 3*) was the owner of Apparatebauanstalt G. M. Pfeiffer and co-owner of Automaten-Gesellschaft Germania, Knoch & Co. (*Marienstraße 16*) in Dresden, and according to reliable information from historian Stephan Puille about a hundred machines were made with battery powered or weight-driven mechanisms. The dimensions of the cabinet were 110x50x35cm, and the mechanism was purchased from the Emile Berliner licensed Grammophon-Spielwaren-Fabrik Kämmer, Reinhardt & Co. in Waltershausen. The editor has not been able to find earlier European patents for commercial gramophones or phonographs. In October 1891 the *Wicke-Pfeiffer* model was improved by the company Pöschmann & Co. (*Freibergerstraße 43*), founded by Paul Pöschmann with production facility in Heidenau, and installed on locations in major cities with a new and patented coin-slot attachment.



— C. W., Tischlergeh., Rietschelstr. 11. iv. — Frz. Dsk., Bezirksschullehrer, Kammerstr. 48. ii. — F. Gstv., Bezirksschul-Oberlehrer, Martin-Lutherstr. 2. pt. — F. Mag., Konditor u. Pfefferkuchler, Schützeng. 37. vt. — Gg. Mart., Mechaniker, Louisenstr. 8. ii., GL. Marienstr. 16, Mitinh. d. F. Automaten-Gesellschaft Germania Knoch u. Co. — Gstv., Tischlergeh., Pfotenhauerstr. 35. i. — Gstv. Ad., Markth., Königsbrüderstr. 91. pt. GG. — Gstv. Alb. W., Postschaffn., Martin-Lutherstr. 16. i.	— F. C., Priv., Louisenstr. 44. i. — Marianne Adelh. gesch., Priv., Lothbringerstr. 8. i. v. Pfeil und Klein-Elguth, Ergt. Ant. F. Graf, Sek.-Lieuten. u. Bat.-Adj. im 2. Gren.-Reg. Nr. 101, Alsterstr., Carola-Allee, östl. Inf.-Reg. St.-Nr. 247 u. 248. Pfeilschmidt, Arch. C. Mag., Rechtsanw. b. R. LGer., Johannesstr. 23. i., v. 1. April an Grunauerstr. 7. ii., Sprechst. 8-12, 2-6. — E. H., emer. Archidiaf., Rathhildenstr. 33. ii. Wienia, Anna, Frau, Autumkitten, Dieselstr. 22. i.
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- HR 8457: Richter'sche Fabriken, Gesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung, Dresden.-
- HR 8458: Kommandit-Gesellschaft für Acetylen-Industrie Fournier und Co. in Löbtau, Dresden.-
- HR 8459: "Eureka" Neuheiten-Industrie G. M. Pfeifer und Co., Dresden.-
- HR 8460: Weinhandlung und Weinstuben "zum Niederwald" Max Grund, Dresden.-



PATENTSCHRIFT

— № 53703 —

KLASSE 21: ELEKTRISCHE APPARATE.

AUTOMATEN-GESELLSCHAFT „GERMANIA“ KNOCH & CO.
IN DRESDEN.

Contactscheibe für elektrische Schaltapparate.

Patentiert im Deutschen Reiche vom 4. October 1889 ab.

AUSGEFÜHRT DEN 30. OCTOBER 1890.



PATENTSCHRIFT

— № 47690 —

KLASSE 44: KURZWAAREN.

E. P. WICKE UND G. M. PFEIFFER IN DRESDEN.

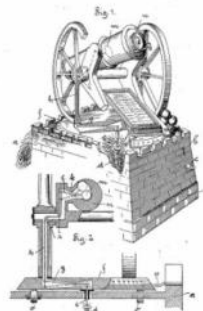
Selbstthätiger Verkaufsapparat.

Patentiert im Deutschen Reiche vom 17. April 1888 ab.

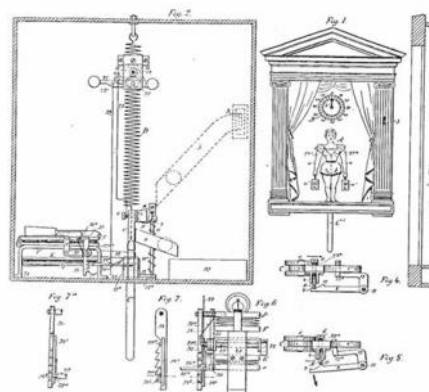
AUSGEFÜHRT DEN 4. JULI 1889.

M. J. Lammrich und G. M. Pfeiffer,
Zl. Nr. 1895.

Patent N. 12482.
1 Blatt.



Firma: „Bauka“, Maschinen-Industrie;
G. M. Pfeiffer & Co.
Z. April 1895.



Stephan Puille, Berlin:

In 1890 Automatenfabrik E. P. Wicke & Co. co-operating with Apparatebauanstalt G. M. Pfeiffer, both located in Dresden, jointly developed a coin-slot gramophone in an upright cabinet. According to the patent, filed February 14, 1891, it had a battery-operated electric motor an automatic switch-off, a mechanical tonearm transport run by a clockwork, and earphones. Based on the measurements of the patent model the dimensions of the upright cabinet were determined as follows: 110 x 50 x 35 cm (43.3 x 19.7 x 13.8 inches).

E. P. Wicke & Co. produced 100 units; - the gramophone mechanism was purchased from the Grammophon-Spielwaren-Fabrik Kämmer, Reinhardt & Co. (☐) in Waltershausen.

There was also a weight-driven E. P. Wicke & Co. model at a price of at least 800 Marks. An electric bell indicated when the clockwork had to be wound up. In October 1891, the company Pöschmann & Co. at 43 Freiburgerstraße, workshops for electrical engineering founded by Paul Pöschmann in Heidenau, had improved the E. P. Wicke & Co. model and patented a new coin-slot mechanism. Pöschmann & Co also supplied Otto Kühn, a company from Stuttgart. Otto Kühn's coin-slot gramophones, housed in a simple spruce cabinet, had a patented clockwork motor and was sold for at least 350 Marks. Until March 1892, Otto Kühn had installed a total of 72 coin-slot gramophones in major German cities and sold twelve of them.

(☐) Ernst Kämmer, Franz Reinhardt, Albert Flürscheim, and Julius Heinrich Zimmermann.

Sources:

W. Busch to Ludwig Albert Stollwerck, Febr. 20, 1892.

Ludwig Albert Stollwerck to *unknown*, Febr. 22, 1892.

Otto Kühn to Gebrüder Stollwerck, March 18, 1892.

Rheinisch-Westfälisches Wirtschaftsarchiv, Köln, RWWA 208-265-6.

