

Strange description**Chris Hakkaart****From slide rules to...?**

Sometimes your interest runs away from slide rules to other interesting items. Years ago I started with collecting ancient clocks and barometers. However at that time there was a lack of time besides my normal working activities, often abroad, a lack of space in the house to display clocks and barometers and a lack of money, because prices were sky high.

However the antique markets on these items are plunged nowadays. During my holidays I visited for fun an antique shop along the road. My attention was triggered by a Dutch *contra-bak* barometer, which had a price which was affordable for a technical retired man like me. Finally, some weeks later I bought it, but after I had done some research in my library of clocks and barometer books, which I collected over the years and a research on internet. After days you find your way in all types of auction houses. Which resulted in more barometers and clocks. These are the toys like slide rules for men of my age.

**Compass and stabbers**

The search for information is also a course in many types of unknown and special items. During this research I found by accident an auction of a set of compass and stabbers. See the figure below.

I have included the accompanying text:

Old Monitoring Equipments

11th - 17th century, Persia. A precious set of observational instruments used in astronomy, stars and the planets. An old group dating back to the 11th and 12th centuries, through which the mathematical and engineering theories adopted in astronomy and observations are

proven. It is complementary to the various astronomical instruments, such as the astrolabe, clock, compass, telescope, stellar and geographical sphere. Including compasses of different sizes, rulers, triangles, and a protractor made of steel.



Well I am not sure if the name *monitoring equipment* is correct, but that is what alpha-people (instead of technical beta-people) think it is. And can somebody confirm the explanation? I can't. Based on this text, the guessed auction price was between € 4000.00 and € 6000.00. The final selling price is unknown to me.

Lesson learned

A description with a range of interesting technical words can boost the price, but it is questionable if it sells.