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## Ready for PVKhO badge, 1st Level, Type 1, 1935-1939.

In magnetic steel with bronze and silver plating, enamels. The medallion is 35.0 mm tall, 32.8 mm wide (not including the projections for chain attachment). Weighs 11.7 g with suspension, not including the screw plate. This uncommon version of the badge is not shown in the Kalistratov & Voronchenko book. It is larger than most other varieties. Note also an uncharacteristically "skinny" fuselage of the airplane of the suspension device, extended lower arms of the star, "crest" to the gas mask, and wavy edge of the searchlight beam at 11 o'clock position.

In outstanding, excellent condition. The enamel shows beautiful luster and is essentially perfect; there are just a few microscopic contact marks completely invisible without magnification. The raised details are perfect and exceptionally crisp. The silver finish is practically pristine on both sides. The suspension chains are original and complete. The screw post is full length, approx. 9.5 mm. Comes with the scarce original screw plate showing the manufacturer's logo ДТС ОАХ ОЖД ("DTS OAKh OZhD") and stamped serial number 394087.

Established in 1935, this badge was the basic qualification award of the OSOAVIAKhIM Antiaircraft and Chemical Defense program, abbreviated as ПВХО ("PVKhO") in Russian. Like the rest of the OSOAVIAKhIM organization, the program was closely curated by the military and was a part of massive preparations for the upcoming war.

Please note that the penny in our photo is for size reference.

/Similar to A. Kalistratov, V. Voronchenko, Badges of USSR Defense Societies pp. 69-74; Avers 8, p. 319, fig. 1549.b/

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**\$120.00**



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