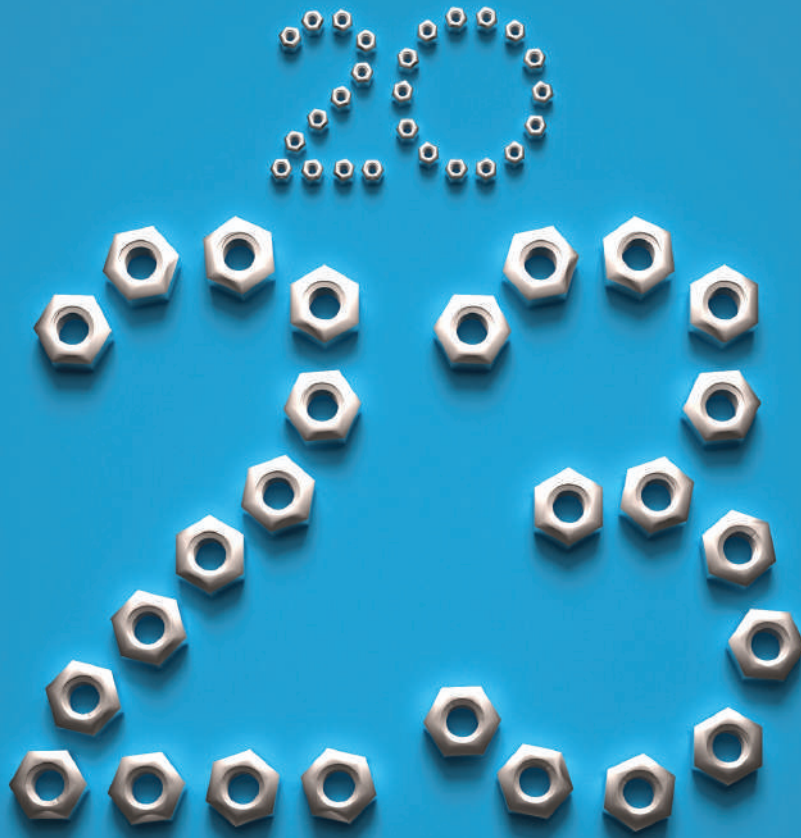


FASTENERS INDIA



MAKING A STRONG COMEBACK



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF



COVER STORY
10 PUTTING INTEGRITY
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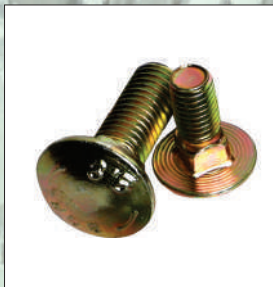
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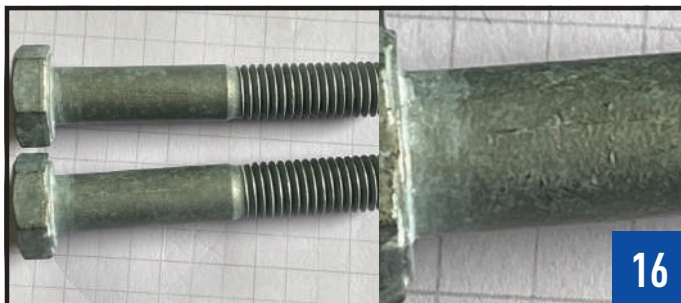
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THE INDIA SUPERPOWER STORY

The story of India as the fastest-growing economy in the world gets stronger by the day after overtaking the UK to become the fifth-largest economy in the world last year. Leading economists predict India could become the third-largest economy by 2027-28. With projected GDP growth at 6.5 percent for 2023-24, there is resilient domestic demand. Massive spending on infrastructure and the real estate markets maturing have been attracting larger shares of global investments. We have bounced back extremely well on the management of the COVID-19 crisis whereas China is stabilizing later than most others in curbing the pandemic waves.

Functioning normally as in the pre-pandemic days, there have been extremely positive events for the Indian Fastener Industry in the recent past. Fastener Fair India 2022 was a good event for the Indian Fastener Industry to converge for the first time after the pandemic. Held in October 2022, International Fastener Expo (IFE) 2022, Las Vegas, USA, was hugely successful especially for the India Pavilion under the EEPC Banner wherein, for the first time ever, the India Pavilion had 45 booths, which was a greater count than China and Taiwan Pavilion Booths. International buyers were actively considering Indian suppliers, especially in the wake of China's COVID-19 ongoing crisis and the geo-political situation in Taiwan. Fasteners Association of India (FAI) was instrumental in collaborating with EEPC for the India Pavilion in 2019 wherein the Indian Fastener Industry was projected as a United front that also did benefit from the subsidies offered by EEPC.

At FAI, we have resumed our activities with full steam starting with the re-commencement of our widely acclaimed 'Fasteners India' magazine. With a qualified and dedicated administration manager recently appointed for our offices, we have extended our reach further with many new members adding strength to our Association. We have also promoted the next Fastener Industry Meet Event to be held on February 24, 2023, in Mumbai which has already garnered an overwhelming response from the Industry with over 100 expected members. Our next primary objective is to have a CEO's conclave in the second half of 2023 that would have leading Industry players actively brainstorming to form a structured roadmap for the Indian Fastener Industry.

Fastener Fair Global at Stuttgart in March 2023 will be a landmark event for the Industry with a large number of Indian exhibitors, and it will be interesting to see the thrust in tapping potential Indian suppliers by International Buyers. Taiwan International Fastener Show (TIFS) in May 2023 and Fastener Fair Mumbai in June 2023 will also be strategic shows to watch out for by the Fastener Industry. The stage is set for the Indian Fastener Industry to gear itself in line with the Superpower India Brand Image and capitalize on the forthcoming opportunities.



Source: FAI

ABHIJAT SANGHVI
President
Fasteners Association
of India (FAI)

Our next primary objective is to have a CEO's conclave in the second half of 2023 that would have leading Industry players actively brainstorming to form a structured roadmap for the Indian Fastener Industry.

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India is also witnessing massive foreign investments. For the past three years, foreign direct investments in India have surpassed US \$50 billion annually, establishing the country as a leading global destination for such investments.

OPTIMISM LOOMS LARGE FOR INDIA

The new year has begun with a positive outlook for the Indian economy, with predictions of a robust performance. Jim Walker, a renowned economist, is highly optimistic about India and views it as a crucial driver of the expansion of the worldwide economy. Over the past decade, India, as the sixth-largest economy globally, has contributed nearly US \$1.3 trillion to the worldwide demand, he adds, supporting his claim with statistics.

India is also witnessing massive foreign investments. For the past three years, foreign direct investments in India have surpassed US \$50 billion annually, establishing the country as a leading global destination for such investments.

Given the current scenario, it is a favorable moment to relaunch the Fasteners India magazine, as industry players find themselves ready to share their accomplishments, forthcoming plans, and innovative technological advancements that have arisen during the COVID era.

The sector, like others, has picked up a considerable pace after the pandemic phase. In this issue, we have, once again made our best effort to bring to you the latest cutting-edge developments, success stories, and updates from all over the world to keep you informed on all fronts.

We would be delighted to receive your feedback. Please write to us and let us know what you would like us to include in the upcoming issues.

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PUTTING INTEGRITY AT THE FOREFRONT

Founded in 1996, SKS Fasteners Ltd has grown from its modest status to become one of the top fastener manufacturers in India, catering to OEMs and distributors globally. Its uncompromised integrity, matchless ability to manufacture high-quality fasteners, and care for the environment aid in making it stand distinguished among its peers.



Source: SKS Fasteners

SKS Fasteners Ltd's two-decade journey toward continuous progress since its inception has kept it relevant even in times of change. Ensuring high product quality with superior industry lead times, the company has steadily but consistently worked towards becoming one of India's top fastener manufacturers. Sudhanshu Bindal, Executive Director, SKS Fasteners Ltd, narrates the success story of the company, "After being conferred with many prestigious awards for his progressive outlook in

industrial development and exports, Sushil Kumar Bindal began the journey of manufacturing high-tensile fasteners with the incorporation of SKS Fasteners in 1996. The aim was to provide the customers with top-quality products with timely delivery." Demonstrating remarkable resilience in the face of umpteen challenges, SKS Fasteners has grown from a humble factory set-up to a well-renowned high-tensile fastener manufacturing company sprawled over an impressive 5,00,000 sq ft of area.

Infrastructure and clients
The company's facilities include a fleet of Forging and Thread Rolling machines and one of the largest set-ups of surface coatings facilities of Zinc Aluminum Flake Coating plants and fully automated Plating plants (SCADA). The fleet of Heat Treatment Furnaces (SCADA) is supported by a strong NABL-accredited metallurgy department. The in-house Tool Manufacturing facility adds to the complete fastener manufacturing process under one roof.



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Source: SKS Fasteners



“In light of its vast experience spanning over 20 years, SKS offers an extensive and complete the value chain from a single sound source,” shares Bindal. SKS manufactures for most of the major domestic and international OEMs and distributors. “SKS Fasteners has always been committed to the smooth supply of fasteners to its customers to meet their production goals. In the volatile market of steel, SKS stocks enough raw material for its regular customers,” he reiterates.

Getting things right

To achieve high-quality products, the raw material has



Any engineered machinery, including automobiles, be it ICE or EV, needs high-quality fasteners. It is true that some of the engine fasteners may see a decline in the future, but EVs also need many fasteners, and we see a bright future as EVs will become more affordable, which will increase automobile sales. Fastener manufacturers will not be affected by such disruptions.”

Rohan Joshi
Senior Sales Manager
SKS Fasteners Ltd

to be defect-free, and to achieve this, SKS houses multiple wire-drawing machines. It produces over 3,000 different fasteners

with a 30,000 MT annual production capacity, and its extensive range of high-tensile fasteners includes bolts, screws, studs, and fasteners as per the customer requirements,” explains Bindal.

The Heat Treatment division of the company is outfitted with cutting-edge, fully automatic Continuous Mesh Belt Hardening and Tempering programmable lines with a controlled atmosphere for the entire heat treatment cycle. Endothermic Gas Generators with an online FCS (furnace control system) that controls the over-line CP values are used to maintain the furnace

Source: SKS Fasteners





Source: SKS Fasteners

atmosphere. These furnaces are designed and calibrated on a regular basis in accordance with AMS2750D specifications and CQI guidelines.

The company has one of the largest CQI-12-compliant ZAF (zinc-aluminum flake coating) production capacities in India in surface coatings. It serves several Indian and international customers as an official licensee of the world-class coatings Geomet and Magni. In addition, the company has added a brand new, fully automated alkaline zinc and nickel plating plant with inline baking and passivation.

Inspection and testing

The company's stringent quality control, visual inspections, and modern optical sorting machines ensure that customers



In addition to the state-of-the-art production and process departments, SKS Fasteners considers integrity to be its most valuable asset. This value filters down from the top in each employee who delivers quality products to the customers."

Sudhanshu Bindal
Executive Director
SKS Fasteners Ltd

receive defect-free products. Furthermore, its testing facilities and laboratories are its most valuable assets. The process of testing, from raw material to finished product, is meticulous. The entire in-house testing facility matrix includes not only dimensional measurements using ultra-precision measuring equipment but also a full range of mechanical, chemical, metallography, torque-clamp force

analysis, and corrosion-resistance assessment facilities. Quality Management Systems are implemented at all levels in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025-2017 (NABL) standards.

Integrity tops it all

SKS ensures a smooth supply of quality products with a fleet of modern forging and thread rolling machinery, high-capacity HT plants, and the most recent surface coating plant set-up. Its expert team of metallurgy, design, quality, and sales ensures the smooth feasibility of the customer's special products, including APQP and PPAP. The company is responsible for all of its supplies.

The customer-focused sales team, backed up by the quality department, responds quickly to after-sales technical questions and concerns. "In addition to



Source: SKS Fasteners

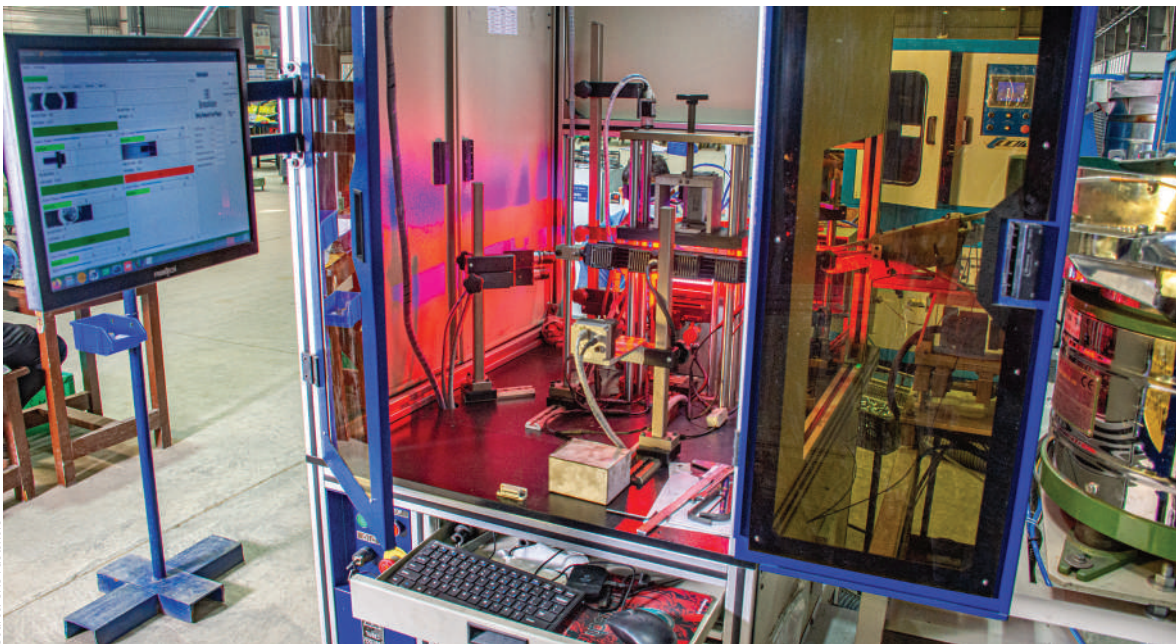


Source: SKS Fasteners

the state-of-the-art production and process departments, SKS Fasteners considers integrity to be its most valuable asset. This value filters down from the top in each employee who delivers quality products to the customers," outlines Bindal. Concerned about the environment, the company operates

an effluent treatment plant and harvests rainwater. It does not discharge any effluents from the factory and, thus, has four robust and modern effluent treatment plants, and the water after purification is used to water hundreds of plants within the factory's premises. On the rainwater harvesting

front, it has been a pioneer and has been effectively utilizing the collected water for the last 12 years, with a portion of the rainwater collected being used to recharge subterranean water and bore wells. "Apart from the robust effluent treatment plant and water harvesting," he points out, "SKS



Source: SKS Fasteners



Source: SKS Fasteners

Fasteners Ltd has been prompt in addressing the need for green energy with the installation of solar and wind power. SKS generates 860 KW from solar and 4 MW from the wind.”

Adapting to a changing market

As the Automotive industry evolves and environmental and economic pressures demand a shift toward sus-

tainable solutions and lower carbon emissions, electric vehicles represent one of the most rapidly growing markets. As many of the major systems found on traditional ICE vehicles are simply not required with EVs, the growing popularity of electric vehicles has caused significant disruption in many parts of the supply chain.

Rohan explains, “Any engi-

neered machinery, including automobiles, be it ICE or EV, needs high-quality fasteners. It is true that some of the engine fasteners may see a decline in the future, but EVs also need many fasteners, and we see a bright future as EVs will become more affordable, which will increase automobile sales. Fastener manufacturers will not be affected by such disruptions.”



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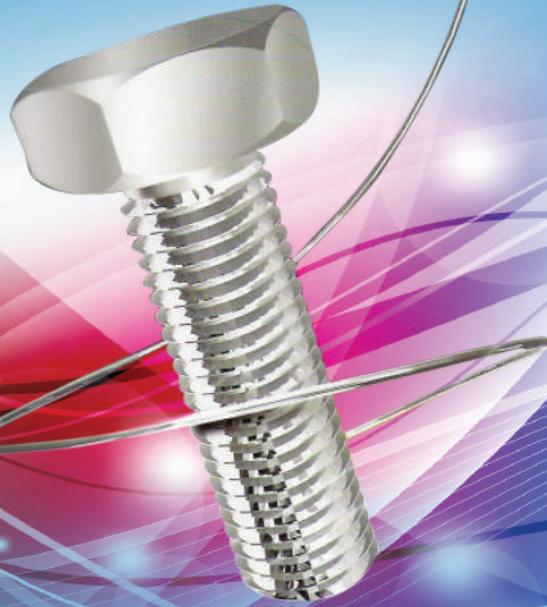


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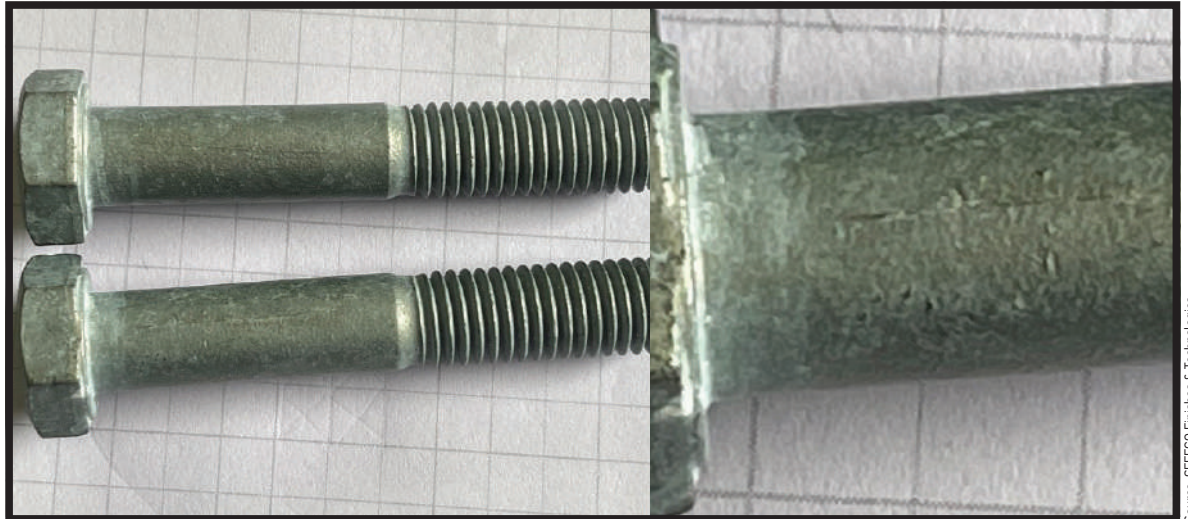
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BEATING THE RED MENACE

Learn how EFFCO Finishes and Technologies is helping the Fastener industry tackle one of its biggest troublemakers – rusting – by making use of Corundum Thin Film Coating Technology.



The above picture is after 1,200 hours SST as per ASTM117. No metal rust was observed even in cut sections. Very high cathodic protection compared to only 72 hours mentioned under ISO10683. Coating applied ECOMET Corundum by the dip spin method.

Low-carbon steels corrode in most atmospheric environments when the relative humidity exceeds sixty percent. Effective coatings used to prevent corrosion contain environmentally hazardous pigments.

Recently, EFFCO Finishes and Technologies Pvt Ltd, Pune, introduced a non-toxic and environmentally-friendly paint formulation under the trade name ECOMET corundum. It is found that the ECOMET corundum-painted bolts having scratches of 0.5 and 1 mm do not corrode whereas the bolts having a scratch of 1.5 mm corrode within 1-2 days after the scratch is made.

Corrosion protection mechanism

It is suggested that corundum coating functions by three mechanisms: barrier protec-

tion, galvanic protection, and the formation of corrosion inhibiting products. The coating, being the barrier, precludes water and oxygen from reaching the metal substrate. Al-oxide imparts dielectric properties to the coating, opposes the passage of corrosive species, and improves the barrier action. The barrier mechanism is effective as long as the coating is intact. When the scratch is made at the cut edges, zinc corrodes, preferentially providing sacrificial protection to the steel. The resulting product then fills the cavities in the coating and inhibits further corrosion. As the exchange current density of zinc dissolution (10^{-7} A/cm^2) is lower than that of the steel (10^{-6} A/cm^2), it begins to corrode first in case of the damage of the coating and it corrodes

more slowly than the steel, thereby protecting the steel for a longer period. This is the basis of galvanic protection of steel.

It should be noted that Zn is sufficient in the surface layer on the bolt to provide electrical contact up to the certain scratch size only. As the scratch size increases beyond a critical value, Zn is not adequate to impart sacrificial protection to the base steel.

The underlying steel gets exposed due to increased scratch size. Since Al is in oxide form, it works as the cathode with respect to the steel. Hence, the steel begins to corrode and, thereby, leads to the formation of an iron oxide i.e. red rust. The coating thickness should be increased to impart corrosion protection to the bolt if the scratch size is 1.5 to 2 mm.



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Sundram Fasteners Secures US\$ 250 Million Deal from Global Automaker



Source: Magic Wand Media

Sundram Fasteners Ltd, one of the world's largest suppliers to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) and automakers, has been awarded a US\$ 250 million (₹2043.25 crore) contract by a leading global automobile manufacturer to supply sub-assemblies for its electric vehicle (EV) platform. The contract is the largest in the Chennai-based company's 60-year history and is one of the largest won by an Indian supplier for this range of products for an EV platform.

The company intends to invest ₹200 crore to support the new orders under the six-year purchase package, which includes the supply of input and stator shaft sub-assemblies as well as drive gear sub-assemblies. The parts will be shipped from Mahindra World City (Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu) and Sri City (Tirupati district, Andhra Pradesh), and will be serviced from its warehouse in North America. With a supply of 1.5 million transmission sub-assemblies per year, the company expects annual sales to peak at US\$ 52 million in 2026.

The win demonstrates the trust and confidence that the company's clients in India and around the world have in it, and it will help to expand the company's global business as it works on its strategic roadmap for the future. The sub-assemblies will be used in EV models such as MHEV/PHEV/BEV, covering a wide range of segments such as mid-size trucks, SUVs, and sedans. The new vehicles will be launched from the North America platform in 2024. In the manufacturing of the products, the company will use special processes such as axial forming technology, which can withstand extreme temperatures and rigorous durability tests, meet high torque requirements, and operate in a silent environment.

Delighted to win the prestigious award that marks a significant milestone in the company's history, Arathi Krishna, Managing Director, Sundram Fasteners Ltd, reiterated that the US\$ 250-million supply contract, one of the largest in India, is a further testimony to the company's commitment to manufacture and supply high-quality, industry-leading products.



Commerce Ministry Releases List of Indian Goods Russia Wants to Import

The Commerce Ministry has shared a list of hundreds of goods, such as auto parts and textiles, that Russia has provided to India for imports with export promotion councils and exporters. Russia, on which western countries have imposed sanctions as a result of its invasion of Ukraine, has shared a list of hundreds of items from industries such as pharmaceuticals, textiles, auto components, and chemicals. According to industry experts, it will be difficult for Indian exporters to ship these goods to Russia due to a lack of available containers for the country.

The apparel industry has expressed interest in shipping the goods, but the auto industry appears concerned. Some exporters have contacted the Indian embassy in Moscow regarding the list. Commenting on the issue and stating that Russian buyers are inquiring about a wide range of Indian products, "Indian exporters are evaluating the proposal as they have to be careful with the sanctions, with their diversified exports basket covering the US and the European Union," said Dr Ajay Sahai, Director General & CEO, Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO). "With payment mechanisms ready to go in a few days and logistics options

opening up, we are hopeful that shipments will begin under this mechanism this month."

Axles, crankshafts, fasteners, pistons, power steering pump drive shafts, valve springs, turbochargers, oil filters/pumps, spark plugs, ignition coils, seat belts, bumpers, welding materials, bearings, breaks, sterilization equipment, and fruit & vegetable concentrates are among the items on the list. Russia has emerged as India's fifth largest trading partner during April-September this fiscal year, with a bilateral trade of US\$ 22.7 billion (US\$ 1.3 billion exports and US\$ 21.4 billion imports) during the six-month period.



Source: Magic Wand Media

Keller & Kalmbach and Mohindra Fasteners Form a Joint Venture



Source: Magic Wand Media

Keller & Kalmbach Group, a Munich-based specialist for fasteners and fixing technology, and Mohindra Fasteners Ltd, an Indian manufacturer of cold and hot forged fasteners and precision machined components for automotive and industrial applications, formed a Joint Venture (JV) known as KK Mohindra Fastenings Pvt Ltd. In addition to providing local support, the JV will seek to continuously expand its activities and implement VMI, Kanban, and other C-part management tools at Indian and international industrial plants in India, utilizing a variety of eLogistics solutions such as RFID-based Kanban systems, among others. KK Mohindra Fastenings intends to begin operations in Pune in about six months and will expand its horizons to other geographical locations in the following phase to serve customers across India.

With the newly formed JV, Dr Florian Seidl, Managing Director, Keller & Kalmbach, said, "We will combine the best of both worlds—Mohindra Fasteners' manufacturing expertise on the Indian market and Keller & Kalmbach's specialization in terms of intelligent and customized C-parts management for industrial companies." Stating that in addition to fasteners, KK Mohindra Fastenings will offer a wide range of C-parts and will always focus on efficiency, supply security, and process optimization with intelligent C-part management tools, he asserted, "With our experience in application technology, we optimize material flow and aim to build responsible partnerships with our customers in India and offer new ways of thinking in the manufacturing industry."

Emphasizing that the Indian industry is at a crossroads because customers today want to enjoy the value-added services that their counterparts in developed markets enjoy in addition to the good quality of the product, Deepak Arneja, Managing Director and CEO, Mohindra Fasteners Limited, commented, "As a fastener manufacturer, we needed a specialist who understands the industry requirements by providing world-class inventory service at an affordable price. Based in Germany, Keller & Kalmbach fits into this role perfectly. We are excited to present the new company."



India Plans to Bring 50 Products Under QCOs Next Fiscal: DPIIT



Source: Magic Wand Media

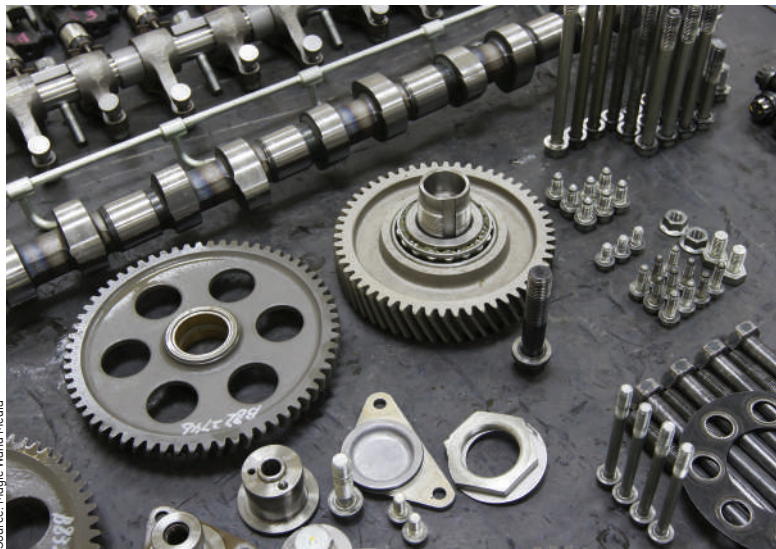
The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) is engaged with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and concerned stakeholders for the identification of products for which quality control orders (QCOs) exist. India is looking to bring as many as 50 products, such as aluminum, copper items, and household electrical appliances, under quality standards by the second quarter of 2023–24. Items cannot be produced, sold, traded, imported, or stocked unless they bear the BIS mark. DPIIT is in the process of developing QCO for various products, and these orders are issued in accordance with the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) for industries under its jurisdiction.

According to a DPIIT statement, it intends to issue approximately 50 QCOs by the second quarter of 2023–24, and in this regard, industry, apex industry associations (CII, ASSOCHAM), sectoral industry associations, respective administrative ministries, and concerned R&D institutions/organizations are asked to provide feedback on the 16 draft QCOs. Stakeholders can provide feedback on these 16 drafts to the department by December 31, 2023. The 16 draft orders cover 16 product categories, including aluminum & aluminum alloy products, bolts, nuts, fasteners, ceiling fan regulators, conduits and fittings for electrical installations, copper products, deep well hand pumps and components, drums & tins, fire extinguisher hinges, household and similar electrical appliances, laboratory glassware, solar DC cable, fire survival cable, steel wires/strands, nylon/wire ropes, wire mesh, valves & taps, and welding wires.

Previously, the department issued Quality Control Orders for a variety of products, including household refrigerating appliances, certain steel & cable items, toys, and bicycle retro-reflective devices. These orders also aid in limiting non-essential imports, and between April and November 2022, India's imports increased by 29.5 percent to US\$ 493.61 billion.



Sundram Fasteners Anticipates 8-10% Increase in Industry Growth



Source: Magic Wand Media

Sundram Fasteners Ltd, a manufacturer of high tensile fasteners for precision-driven sectors, expects the auto components industry to grow at an 8 to 10 percent rate this year, with increased domestic automotive and aftermarket demand driving this growth. Export demand is also stable, though North America, Europe, and the rest of Asia continue to face chip shortages and other supply chain issues, shares Arathi Krishna, Managing Director, Sundram Fasteners Ltd.

"Economic growth of 6.5 to 7 percent, EV incentives under the Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles in India (FAME) Policy, and the PLI scheme are all contributing to the growth momentum. The auto industry performed well in the first half of fiscal year 2023, and OEM indications suggest that demand will remain buoyant until the end of the year, subject to the cyclicity of the Commercial Vehicles and Tractor segments," she claims. Krishna sees the passenger vehicle (PV), multi-utility vehicle (MUV), and commercial vehicle (CV) segments as promising, and she adds that the tractor segment is having a good run for the third consecutive year now, and the OEM sales numbers are robust, but retail sales in the second quarter of FY23 appear to be subdued.

The company also expects the EV segment to grow in stages, with EV adoption already picking up in the two-wheeler and three-wheeler segments, followed by PVs showing traction. The truck segment may take some time, and it also makes sense for the truck segment to not be solely focused on electric technology, as per Krishna, who went on to state that all of the major truck manufacturers are preparing for a slew of new technologies, including diesel, LNG, CNG, biofuels, hydrogen internal combustion engines, hydrogen fuel cells, and electric vehicles.

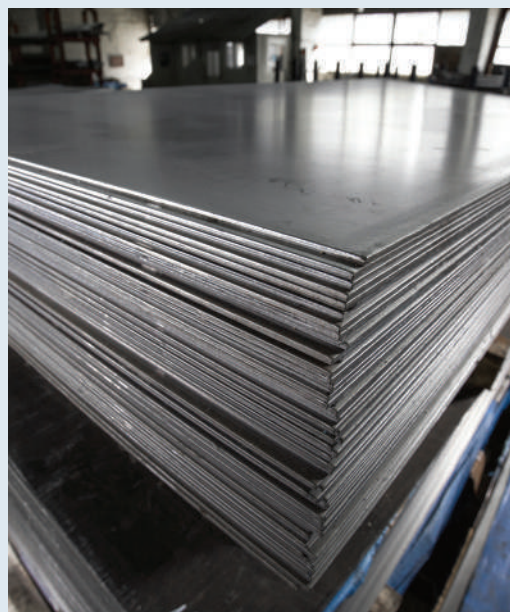
FAT

Rungta Mines Opens Wire Rod Mill at Chaliyama Steel Plant, Jharkhand

Rungta Mines Ltd, a steel industry pioneer engaged in steel, power, and value-added steel products, recently announced the commissioning of Rungta Steel Wire Rods mills at Chaliyama Steel Plant in Jharkhand to expand their product portfolio and provide their customers with a diverse range of solutions. Wire rods from Rungta Mines Ltd will be available across India, and sales of wire rods will be made available not only to wire rod traders but also to end users.

Rungta wire rods have a smooth and shiny surface and are packaged in coil bundles. Furthermore, these rods have a hot charging plant as well as an optional LRF and induction furnace route. The wire rods will be marketed to the HB Wire industry, Cable industry, Electrode manufacturers, and Special Grade end users, as well as being used in the fastener industry and for wire drawing, binding wire, barbed wire, and other applications.

FAT



Source: Magic Wand Media

Birmingham Fastener Acquires Pacific Coast Bolt

Birmingham Fastener, Birmingham, AL, USA, has announced the acquisition of Pacific Coast Bolt Corporation, based in Santa Fe Springs, CA, USA. With over 80 years of combined fastener production, this acquisition expands Birmingham Fastener's manufacturing diversity and strengthens the company's USA footprint from New York to California. Most importantly, it allows the company to add teammates to its

world-class staff, which will result in long-term benefits for customers. Pacific Coast Bolt manufactures and distributes a wide range of products to industries such as water, wastewater, chemical, refining, and construction. Birmingham Fastener and its sister companies will be able to expand their product and service offerings to their customers as a result of this partnership. Founded in 1980, Birmingham Fastener is a leading domestic manufacturer and distributor of fasteners for structural steel fabrication, metal building manufacturers, water works, OEMs, and MRO. The Birmingham Fastener family of companies consists of multiple locations across the nation to service its valued customers. Brad Tinney, President, Birmingham Fastener, commented, "This strategic initiative further complements Birmingham Fastener's made-in-America value proposition to our customers, as Pacific Coast Bolt brings a wealth of manufacturing equipment and overall fastener knowledge. We are excited to expand westward and honored to heighten the level of customer service for all our partners across America."



Field Fastener Merges with Mid-State Bolt & Nut Company



Field Fastener, Rockford, IL, USA, has merged with Mid-State Bolt & Nut Company, a full-line fastener distributor headquartered in Columbus, OH, USA. The terms of the deal were not disclosed. Mid-State Bolt & Nut Company, founded in 1946, brings value to the OEM marketplace through creative and efficient supply chain solutions for fasteners and other direct materials. This strategic partnership


will enhance both firms' combined position in North America by expanding the products, services, and geographical area in which they serve customers. Both companies become better equipped to support current and prospective customers while providing technical services to drive short- and long-term cost savings. Adam Derry, President, Field Fastener, stated, "What most impressed me was the quality of the people at Mid-State and their commitment to do whatever it takes to support the customer and one another. You can't teach this, and it very much aligns with the culture at Field. We couldn't be more excited to welcome the Mid-State team and its customer base into the Field family." Similarly, Dave Broehm, President, Mid-State Bolt & Nut Company, commented, "We've known Field and the Derry family for many years, and based on their culture, growth, and future vision, we know that our team, customers, and suppliers are in good hands by merging with Field." Broehm will step down as President, but will remain on as a consultant to assist with the transition. His two sons, Michael and Andrew, who are currently working in the family business, will remain with the company.



Semblex Licenses EJOT SpringHead® Specialty Screw Head

Semblex Corporation, Elmhurst, IL, USA, has added the EJOT SpringHead® from EJOT SE & Co. KG to its solution-focused product offering. The new licensing




deal was signed at EJOT's 2022 Licensing Meeting in Berchtesgaden, Germany. The EJOT SpringHead screw head configuration has an incorporated spring element that allows for greater clamp load retention under dynamic and thermal stress. 

Endries International Acquires Alliance Nut & Bolt, LLC

Endries International, Inc., Brillion, WI, USA, has acquired Alliance Nut & Bolt, LLC, which has locations in Salina, Kansas, and Okarche, Oklahoma, USA. Alliance, founded in 1978 by Leon and Kevin Oshman, has been committed to providing the marketplace with an unparalleled level of customer service. The major fulfillment offerings provided by Alliance Nut & Bolt include vendor managed inventory, dock-to-dock managed inventory, and kitting solutions. Rick Ambrosier, a 20-year company veteran, will continue in his role as Branch Manager. Kevin Oshman will continue to work for the company during the transition phase. Steve Endries, Chairman, Endries International, stated, "In Alliance, we are welcoming a team that took the lead from their founders regarding the high level of customer service they expect to deliver. In addition, Endries is excited to expand our footprint in the heartland of the United States and have the opportunity to meet the needs of the customers in the region." Endries is a leading distributor of fasteners and Class-C parts that serves industrial Original Equipment Manufacturers and the global industrial marketplace. 



AFC Industries Acquires Champion Bolt

AFC Industries, Fairfield, OH, USA (acquired by Bertram Capital in 2021), has acquired Champion Bolt, Erie, PA, USA. Champion, founded in 1986, specializes in custom solutions and services for OEM assembly environments. Kevin Godin, CEO, AFC, commented, "Champion Bolt has demonstrated a long-term commitment to providing excellent service to customers and deepens several unique capabilities for the AFC platform. We are happy to welcome them to the AFC family." To this, Dave Ott, President, Champion Bolt, added, "Being part of the AFC group brings several resources that will unlock additional opportunities for us with both new and existing customers. We spoke with several potential buyers and are confident the AFC culture and strategy will be the best fit for our team and our customers." AFC Industries is a dynamic organization dedicated to providing supply chain management solutions for fasteners, tooling, and assembly components to original equipment manufacturers, assembly plants, and other users of these products. 

IFE 2022 Makes Donation to Fastener Education Foundation

The 2022 International Fastener Expo (IFE), which recently took place in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA, reported that its third annual IFE Golf Tournament raised US\$1782 for the Fastener Education Foundation (FEF). The IFE golf event attracted over 145 players across 36 teams and facilitated the collection of these donations through mulligans and the Nucor-sponsored Beat the Pro contest. Excited to present this donation to the Fastener Education Foundation, Morgan Wilson,

BOSSARD


Proven Productivity

Bossard Acquires PennEngineering's® Distribution Business in Canada

The Bossard Group, Zug, Switzerland, is significantly expanding its market position in Canada as a supplier of high-quality fastening solutions. It has acquired the Canadian distribution business from Danboro, PA, USA-based PennEngineering®, an innovative manufacturer of fastening solutions. PENN Engineered Fasteners Corporation (PEF) was founded in 1970 in Concord, Ontario, Canada, and was acquired by PennEngineering in 2017. With 30 employees, the company generates yearly sales of roughly US\$25 million and provides innovative fastening solutions to industrial segments such as automotive, energy, agriculture, and appliances. Bossard and PennEngineering have a long-standing, successful collaboration that spans 22 countries in North America, Europe, and Asia. Bossard is confident that, with its global focus on creating value for its customers through engineering services and innovative logistic solutions, it will be able to unlock more development in this strategic market located in Canada's industrial epicenter. Both parties agreed not to reveal the purchase price. 

INTERNATIONAL
FASTENER
EXPO 2022



Show Director, said, "We're very fortunate to have all our supportive partners and are happy to support a great cause that continues to strengthen our industry." This financial contribution will go toward programs that provide fastener industry professionals with training, education, and professional development. The Fastener Education Foundation is a nonprofit organization. The International Fastener Expo is looking forward to next year's event (October 9-11, 2023) and will continue to support the FEF. 



Pivot Point Completes Factory Expansion

Pivot Point Inc., a producer of nonthreaded fastener solutions, has completed a 30,000 ft² expansion to its Hustisford, WI, USA, manufacturing facilities. This brings the total size of the manufacturing complex to nearly 100,000 ft². The general contractor, Bayland Buildings of Green Bay, WI, USA, erected a steel frame building that provides for a bigger clear span of interior space, enhancing work and traffic flow for manufacturing. According to Sol Leitzk, Owner, "We've invested heavily in equipment, especially automation so that we can have the best value proposition in quality, pricing, and lead times. This has resulted in robust, steady growth—we're practically bursting at the seams. This factory expansion will allow us to continue to add equipment and continue to grow without constraint." Furthermore, the expansion featured the installation of a 150-ft flagpole, which is believed to be one of the tallest in Wisconsin. On October 26, 2022, the company hosted Dedication Ceremony, raising the flag for the first time. Clevis Pins, Cotter Pins, Quick Release Pins and Devices, Locking Pins, and Wire-Rope Lanyards are among the Pivot Point products, as are numerous unique and highly popular proprietary items, such as the SLIC Pin™, which is a pin and cotter all in one. 




Source: KAMAX

KAMAX Regionalizes; Appoints New Management in Europe & Americas

KAMAX, Detroit, MI, USA, to push ahead with regionalization of its business units to provide greater flexibility and supply chain security in terms of markets, customers, and production, as the COVID pandemic has shown the advantages of strong regions in terms of decision-making capability and growth. The new focus of the regional management team is another important component of this strategy. KAMAX has hired two experts with extensive experience, Dr Reinhard Rupprecht as CEO of Europe and Mats Ceder as CEO of the Americas. Rupprecht, who previously held management positions at various automotive suppliers, has been in his new role since October 2022. The 53-year-old will coordinate the plants in Germany, Spain, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia, with responsibility for Sales, Supply Chain Management, and Technology. Ceder, on the other hand, has been on board since November 15, 2022, and is responsible for the business units in the USA and Mexico. His focus is on continuous improvement and lean production. "The world is changing, and as a supplier to the mobility industry and other industrial sectors, we clearly notice this. At the same time, we see the different challenges our regions are facing," explained Jörg Steins, Managing Director, KAMAX Group. "While our plants in China are just starting production and are growing strongly, we can look back on a long tradition in Europe and the USA. Regionalization helps us to be able to act faster and more independently based on the market situation." 

Nancy Rich to Retire from Mid-West Fastener Association

Mid-West Fastener Association's (MWFA) Executive Director (ED), Nancy Rich, after an unprecedented 40 years of service, working devotedly, is set to retire at the end of 2023. Rich joined the Chicago Bolt, Nut & Screw Association (CBNSA), precursor to the MWFA in 1984, after a few years of dedicated service with Cronin Fasteners. During her time with the MWFA, her contributions were incredible and vast. She helped to break the gender barrier, pioneering women to stay involved and remain active in a male-dominated industry, as well as pushing the Board of Directors to be diligent on what mattered most, education, spawning the association's mission statement 'Where education is a Priority'. Rich was instrumental in bringing together various industry associations to get the Fastener Quality Act accepted in DC, which Congress ultimately passed/signed into law. She led and guided the Board to raise and distribute over US\$ 1,000,000 to fastener members and their families, orchestrating the largest scholarship program the industry knows today. She also runs one of the largest golf outings in the industry. Rich has been a calming voice, a mentor, an influencer, and a motivator to 31 past presidents. A 2021 MWFA and IFE Hall of Fame inductee, she is not only irreplaceable but will be sorely missed by all. 



Source: MWFA

Source. American Fastener News Report



www.fastenertech.com
December 2022 Edition



Mike McNulty
VP & Editor
Fastener Technology International



Source: Magic Wand Media

Bulten Streamlines its Distribution Chain

As part of Bulten’s strategy to maintain a strong operational platform, the company has reviewed its global distribution chain. This has prompted a decision to close one of the two logistics centers in Sweden. The cost of the closure amounts to approximately SEK 1.5 million. Aiming to bring about more efficient logistics in order to reduce lead times and streamline processes while also reducing costs and environmental impact, Bulten has been reviewing its global distribution chain. The company has decided that utilizing capacity in warehouses close to production units to a greater extent will enable a more efficient supply chain. Accordingly, significant investments have been made in a new warehouse near Bulten’s factory in Germany and in a new surface treatment plant and a logistics center in Poland. The streamlining will involve the closure of Bulten’s logistics center in Gothenburg, Sweden. The goods flow that previously passed through Bulten’s logistics center in Gothenburg will now be handled by the center in Hallstahammar, Sweden, and by the above-mentioned logistics centers in Germany and Poland. Ten employees will be affected, and trade union negotiations have been initiated. The closure is planned for completion by the

end of the second quarter of 2023. “Streamlining the distribution chain will allow for better transportation flows and thereby reduce environmental impact. It will also help us reduce costs and capital tied up,” says Anders Nyström, President and CEO, Bulten.

Another step in Bulten streamlining its operation and improving profitability includes the closure of its manufacturing plant in Pembroke, UK. The closure means that 50 jobs are at risk of being eliminated. The shutdown process was announced in December, and the plan is to complete it during the second quarter of 2023. Total restructuring costs amount to approximately SEK 11 million, of which SEK 9 million was reserved for 2022. There will be additional investments totaling about SEK 12 million in connection with the closure. These primarily relate to the relocation of equipment and production to Bulten’s other manufacturing plants, along with a few new recruitments. “It is unfortunately difficult to achieve profitability with the mix of products made in Pembroke, and also volumes are relatively low. By moving the parts of production that have long-term potential to our other plants, we can achieve better efficiency and thereby higher profitability. This is in line with our strategy, which includes better utilization of our production network,” explains Nyström. The operation in Pembroke became part of Bulten Group in 2020 with the acquisition of PSM International. Fifty people are currently employed at the plant, manufacturing and purchasing fasteners for different industrial segments. Bulten’s other operations in the UK will not be affected by the closure of the Pembroke plant.



EU Provisional Agreement on CBAM to Include Fasteners

The European Parliament, Council and Commission have provisionally agreed on plans for the introduction of an EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). The agreement will need to be confirmed by EU member states and the European Parliament. Part of the EU’s ‘Fit for 55’ environmental strategy, CBAM will require importers to purchase CBAM certificates to pay the difference between the carbon cost in the country of production and the price of carbon allowances in the EU Emissions Trading System.

According to the European Parliament, “CBAM will cover iron & steel, cement, aluminium, fertilizers, and electricity, as proposed by the Commission, and be extended to hydrogen, indirect emissions under certain conditions, certain precursors, as well as some downstream products such as screws and bolts and similar articles of iron or steel.”


A transition period with a simplified CBAM is planned to commence on October 1, 2023, requiring importers to start reporting on the carbon content of imports. From then onwards, the full CBAM will be gradually phased in, in parallel with the phase-out of free allowances, until it is fully operational by 2026.



Source: Magic Wand Media

bigHead Invests to Increase Bonding Productivity

In a deal worth GB£1 million, bigHead has recently installed new, state-of-the-art machinery at its facility in Dorset, UK, which will help improve the quality of the technology it uses to make its bonding fasteners for composites. bigHead explains that the new equipment, which was custom-made by Expert Technologies Group, will help reduce the time spent on extra-machining and secondary operations, as well as lead to a 30 percent to 40 percent increase in productivity.

Indeed, the company considers long-term investment as its best strategy, adding that the new machines give it a platform to scale the business as it meets growing demand for composite panel fasteners beyond Europe, in Asia, and in the USA. 



Source: Magic Wand Media

TR Fastenings Opens New Facility in Hungary

TR Fastenings Hungary, part of Trifast Plc Group, is celebrating the opening of its new purpose-built facility in Budapest in response to years of rising demand in the region. Located in the southern suburb of Szigetszentmiklós, TR Fastenings Hungary Kft is a fastener and Cat C supplier to international OEMs and their subcontractors, not just in Hungary but also in the countries that border it. The new 3,500m² facility has 9.5 m eaves in its warehouse and is a high-capacity distribution facility designed to support TR's future European growth strategy. TR Hungary was first established in 2000 and has grown considerably in that time through rising demand from large multinational household brands, many of which TR supplies to elsewhere in the world. Hungary has historically been a lower-cost production region, but a highly skilled, available workforce made it ideal for this kind of strategic investment. Hungary has a central location in Europe with seven countries on its border, which is perfect for distribution hubs.

"Hungary has been a real success story for TR. Local infrastructure has been enhanced with a second airport and recently enhanced road networks. We are located in a fast-growing industrial park near one of our largest customers, NCR, which is just 600 meters away from us. Over time, we have built a portfolio of multinational customers that expect the same excellent service that they receive from TR globally. This includes technical and engineering

support, as well as logistics services," says Glenda Roberts, Global Projects and Marketing Director, Trifast Plc. "We're servicing major customers in each of the countries surrounding the TR Hungary operation, and, inevitably, we have had to expand again. It took several years because of the growth in Hungary to locate a new facility close to the existing site to grow into, but we are very confident in the investment. We were keen to retain trained staff, many of whom are also multilingual, so we ensured we did not move too far away. Product knowledge and an understanding of the level of service our multinational customers expect were key staff retention factors, but we wanted to go further. The new facility is a show-piece modern workplace where people have a great working environment and where customer and staff training sessions and customer site visits can also be held."

"I'm very proud of what the TR Hungary team has achieved. Moving an entire facility in a month to a new location was no mean feat, and now that we are established, we look forward to focusing on customer and staff development and growing our business in Central Europe," adds Andrew Nuttall, European Managing Director, TR Fastenings. "We were working with a blank canvas, and it enabled us to incorporate the environmental and sustainable features and benefits of a modern workplace. The facility is in a green area, with fields to the exterior, on a purpose-built estate with excellent transport links. Every feature was thoroughly researched, from the solar panels on the roof to the triple glazing. Automatic shutters on the warehouse roof windows assist in cost-effective temperature control, while electric charging units have been installed to encourage the use of electric and hybrid vehicles, including company vehicles," concludes Nuttall. 



Source: NORMA Group

NORMA Group CEO Moves On

Dr Michael Schneider stepped down as CEO at NORMA Group at the end of 2022, following a mutual agreement that was reached with the supervisory board back in August when it was decided not to extend his contract, which officially expires in mid-2023. As of January 1, 2023, Miguel Ángel López Borrego is the new interim CEO, following NORMA Group's supervisory board's decision to appoint him to the role until the position of CEO has been permanently filled, which is expected to have been done by the end of 2023. Günter Hauptmann, Chairman, Supervisory Board, said that the group was extremely pleased to have Borrego fill the CEO role during this transitional period to ensure continuity of the company's management, adding: "He is exceptionally well-positioned to leverage his deep insight into NORMA Group's business model and the challenges it currently faces, enabling him to guide the company through the current turbulent economic environment in an organized and competent manner."

Borrego has been a member of the NORMA Group supervisory board since March 2021, and as CEO of Siemens SA in Madrid, he has been heading Siemens' Spanish operations since 2018 and has many years of management experience in the automotive, general industrial equipment, and new energy sectors. During the transition phase, Borrego will continue to implement ongoing improvement measures in the company together with other management board members, though his role on the supervisory board will be suspended. He said he will be working together with colleagues to stabilize profitability, compensate for inflation-driven cost increases, and enhance plant productivity. He went on to add, "With its diversified business model and strong order book, NORMA Group is in an excellent position to take advantage of growth opportunities, even in challenging times."



Heavy Duty Anchor Certification

UK Technical Assessment (UKTA) certification has been given to EJOT UK's LEIBIG Superplus BLS range of self-undercutting, heavy-duty anchors, providing assurance to users such as engineers, designers, and architects that these products fully comply with the post-Brexit standards protocol. EJOT UK worked with the British Board of Agrément to complete the independent assessment of the product, checking its performance data against British and European standards. Providing an independently assessed performance approval to complement the product's long-held European Technical Assessment (ETA), the UKTA will become increasingly important in specification decisions in projects throughout England, Scotland, and Wales as the UK adopts stand-alone standards. The company says this assessment future-proofs the Superplus BLS anchor by demonstrating its suitability for continued specification and use in light of the transition from CE marking to the UKCA mark. The anchor is widely used in nuclear power plants due to its extended seismic approvals, including those beyond the ETA. With the company continually assessing its portfolio against evolving global standards, Brian Mack, Technical Business Development Manager, EJOT UK, said, "With the widespread specification of LIEBIG Superplus BLS anchors in safety-critical applications throughout the UK, we wanted to take early action to achieve UKTA certification and give specifiers complete confidence when designing concrete applications." Superplus BLS is part of a wide range of LIEBIG and EJOT anchoring solutions that also include advanced chemical-based systems, concrete screws, and through-bolts for concrete and solid base applications.





Source: Magic Wand Media

Würth Donates €420,700 to UNICEF

Würth Group has donated €420,700 to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) towards an aid program that supports schools in Bolivia affected by climate change in order to give children access to high-quality education.

This is the fifth time the Würth Group has handed a donation check to UNICEF following the company's fundraising, RW WORKOUT Week. The donation will support the UNICEF program for resilient schools in Bolivia. Resilient schools are those that, despite adverse circumstances such as natural disasters and the effects of climate change, continue to offer children and adolescents the opportunity to receive education. In resilient schools, there is a focus on the transfer of knowledge, one subject being that of climate change. This enables pupils to engage and interact with communities and authorities on climate change and risk management in the event of natural disasters. In addition to providing access to education, resilient schools make an important contribution to community empowerment and resilience in particularly vulnerable communities. The Würth donation will benefit 700 children and adolescents in eight schools out of a total of 45 institutions enrolled in the overall project. The schools will be equipped with solar panels, ground-water pumps, and an Internet connection, and 70 teachers will be trained on climate change. The program also establishes a network of teachers to exchange best practices on natural disaster risk management. "Every child should have access to education regardless of their social background. Access to an education that does not exclude anybody and offers equal opportunities to all. Children have a right to learn. Only in this way can they understand the world, shape the future, and participate in social and political life. With our donation, we make a contribution towards this," said Carmen Würth.



Source: Magic Wand Media

Lesjöfors Acquires Dutch Spring Distributor

Beijer Alma's subsidiary Lesjöfors via Alcomex, has signed an agreement to acquire 100 percent of the shares in Amatec BV, a Dutch spring distributor. Amatec distributes stock springs and customized springs with a focus on the Dutch market. The company has high technical competence and is able to support its customers throughout the entire sourcing process, from product design to the final product. The company generates approximately €2.5 million in revenue per year and has six employees at its office and warehouse in Alphen aan den Rijn, the Netherlands. With the acquisition, Alcomex and the Lesjöfors group, strengthens the distribution capabilities of stock springs, in line with their ambition to build the leading spring, wire, and flat strip component group. Furthermore, Beijer Alma's earnings per share are expected to increase marginally as a result of the acquisition. Ola Tengroth, President, Lesjöfors, comments, "Amatec has a strong position within the Dutch spring market and through this transaction, we take a step further to accelerate the stock spring business in Europe."



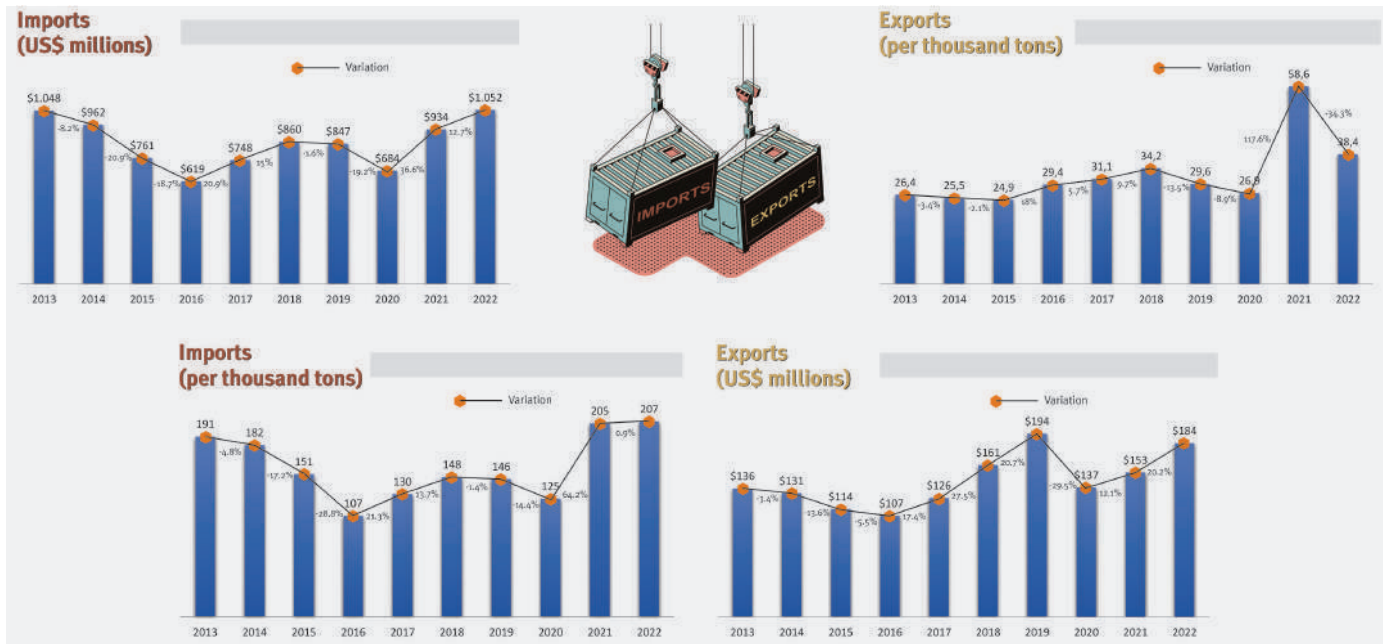
Source: Fastener + Fixing Magazine



**FASTENER
+FIXING
MAGAZINE**

Will Lowry
Editor
Fastener + Fixing Magazine

Brazil Imports Over US\$1 Billion in Fasteners



Brazil imported more than US\$ 1 billion in fasteners, which includes bolts, screws, nuts, rivets, nails, and all types of metallic fasteners; the billion-dollar barrier was only broken in 2013. In the fiscal year just ended,

2022, Brazilian customers purchased slightly more than 207,000 tons, totaling US\$ 1.052 billion (FOB price, US\$ 5.08 per kg). In 2013, the total exceeded 191 thousand tons, totaling US\$ 1.048 billion (US\$ 5.48 per kg).

Imports surpassed the 200-thousand ton barrier in both 2021 and 2022, at 205 and 207 thousand tons, respectively. On the other hand, on the export side, 38.4 thousand tons left the country last year for a total price of US\$ 184 million (US\$ 4.79 per kg). Foreign sales exceeded 26.4 thousand tons (US\$ 136 million) in 2013.



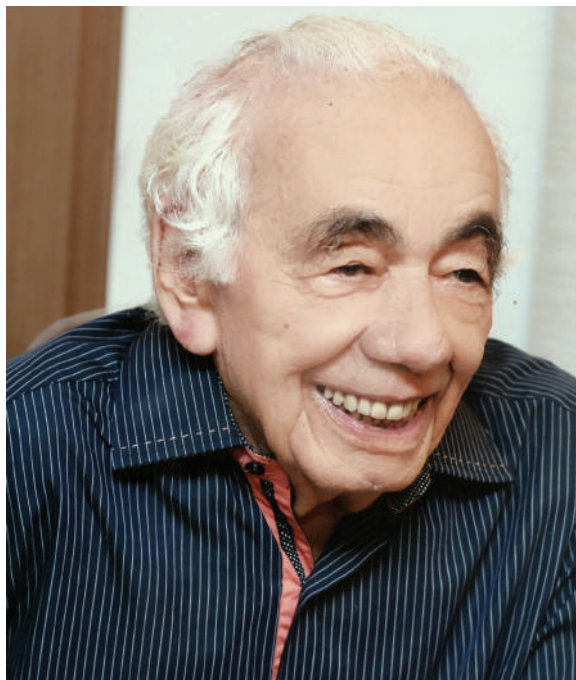
Brazilian Automotive Sector Rises, Still Falls Below 2019

	Year	Vehicles	Motorcycles
	2019	2,944,9	1,107,7
	2020	2,014,1	961,986
	2021	2,248,3	1,195,1
	2022	2,369,8	1,413,2


Brazilian local production on four wheels is still slipping. One of the most important metallic fastener destinies, automotive manufacturers of cars, buses, and trucks, has not been able to recover performance levels such as those seen in 2019, the last cycle of 12 months prior to

the effects of COVID-19 on the global scenario. In terms of passengers and commercial vehicles, the previous year ended with a 5.4 percent increase, totaling 2,369,659 units produced, slightly higher than the 2,248,253 assembled in 2021. However, the 2022 output represented approximately 75 percent of the 2019 output of 2,944,988. Except for 2020, when 961,986 units were produced, Brazilian motorcycle production has been consistently positive. In 2019, the sector sold 1,107,758 motorcycles, with the sector still reeling from the effects of the 2016-2017 recession. The 2022 results were good, with 1,413,222, just below the 1,517,662 in 2014.






Dragão dos Parafusos Founder Passes Away

Dragão dos Parafusos, one of the largest and most traditional fasteners and tool resellers in Brazil's Northeast region, and with strong performance and leadership in business involving bolts, screws, nuts, and tools, lost its leader on January 23, 2023, in the Fortaleza State Capital City of Ceará. Founded in 1957 by Álvaro Bezerra Machado, the Dragão now employs 135 people across six stores. 

South Korean Company 3VIEW Grants SouthWind Exclusivity

3VIEW, a South Korean-based manufacturer of process monitors for use in cold-forming processes, MES (Machine Execution System) and APS (Advanced Planning and Scheduling) systems for use in Industry 4.0, signed a contract with the Brazilian company SouthWind (SW) for exclusive commercial representation covering Brazil and Argentina. "In the industrial

market, especially in the bolts/screws and auto parts cold forging sectors, 3View is the Asian leader in high-end MachineView™ force monitors, strongly advancing FactoryView™ systems when it comes to monitoring partial or total industrial plants in their 4.0 manufacturing processes," says J Graef, CEO, SW. "With this, through SouthWind, 3VIEW marks its process of advancement in process monitoring and control technology in the main markets of South America." 



Source: Revista do Parafuso
(The Fastener Brazil Magazine)

REVISTA DO PARAFUSO



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China Fastener Info-organized 22nd Fastener Trade Rescheduled for October 2023



Source: China Fastener Info

The China Fastener Info-organized 22nd Fastener Trade Show Suzhou has been rescheduled for October 25-27, 2023, at Suzhou International Expo Center (SIEC), Jiangsu Province, China. The 2023 edition will be a grand festival for global fastener suppliers

and buyers, occupying halls D1 and E1, with a total exhibition area of 12,000 sq mt and 400 exhibiting companies. The exhibition is expected to attract 12,000 buyers and visitors from China and the rest of the world for annual procurement and negotiation.

The exhibit profile will include six product categories from the entire fastener supply chain, including fasteners, tools, equipment, molds, surface treatment, and raw materials. Meishan CRRC Fastening System, Zhejiang Huayuan Auto Technology, Aozhan Industrial, Jiashan Yongxin Fastener, Zhejiang Sanlin Hardware Products, Sijin Intelligent Forming Machinery, Zhejiang Yeswin Machinery, Zhejiang Wanying Henghui Thread Technology, and other well-known Chinese fastener and auxiliary companies have confirmed their participation as exhibitors.

The 'Fastener Application Forum', which will feature a series of insightful topics presented by leaders and experts in fastener application fields, will shed light on advanced technology applications, providing attendees with a unique opportunity to acquire knowledge and share information.



Yongnian Fastener Export Earnings Rise by 70.8% in 2022



Source: Magic Wand Media

Yongnian, as a renowned fastener production and distribution base in China, has the reputation of 'Fastener Capital of China'. The fastener industry is one of the top 10 characteristic industries in Hebei Province, and the annual production and sales of Yongnian account for 55 percent of the national market share. Yongnian fastener companies have been heavily involved in overseas markets in recent years, and their products are exported to over 110 countries and regions, including the United States, Japan, Egypt, and Dubai. Yongnian now has 476 fastener enterprises with independent export rights and more than 50 export-oriented backbone enterprises. Furthermore, five major fastener companies have established overseas warehouses.

In 2022, Yongnian fastener export earnings grew by 70.8 percent year-on-year to about US\$ 158.6 million, bucking the trend of a global slowdown. The annual output of fasteners in Yongnian reached 5.6 million tons in 2022, with an output value of ¥ 38.5 billion. Since December 2022, the Yongnian local government has been organizing business delegations for Yongnian fastener companies to attend international exhibitions. Through onsite participation or exhibition representative service, the exhibiting companies have received a large number of overseas orders.



China Fastener Imports Decrease & Exports Increase in 2022



Source: Magic Wand Media

China's fastener (iron or steel) imports fell 12.89 percent year-on-year to US\$ 2.85 billion in 2022, with a total import volume of 2,68,378 tons, down by 12.88 percent year-on-year, as per the statistics of China Customs. China's top three fastener imports in 2022 were: Other screws and bolts, with tensile strength ≥ 800 MPa;

nuts; and other screws and bolts, with tensile strength < 800 MPa. The import value and import quantity were: US\$ 0.92 billion and 1,34,617 tons; US\$ 0.54 billion and 44,655 tons; and US\$ 0.42 and 31,635 tons, respectively. On the contrary, China's fastener (iron or steel) exports increased by 20.42 percent to US\$ 11.17 billion in 2022, with a total export volume of 3,918,028 tons, a 4.02 percent increase year-on-year. China's top 3 fastener exports in 2022 were: Other screws and bolts, with tensile strength < 800 MPa; nuts; self-tapping screws. The import value and import quantity were: US\$ 3.7 billion and 1,248,091 tons; US\$ 1.9 billion and 698,782 tons; and US\$ 1.3 billion and 458,014 tons, respectively.



Source: ChinaFastener Magazine



Alice Hu
Editor
china fastener info



www.chinafastenerinfo.net



Source: Wyser International

Wyser International Has Extensive Plans for Europe

Wyser International, a specialized exporter and trader of automotive fasteners and OEM special fasteners, plans to kick-start an overseas sales campaign in the European market in spring 2023 to capitalize on opportunities presented by Fastener Fair Global in Stuttgart. The best thing about this reputable fastener trader in southern Taiwan is that their products are developed and tailored to the needs of their customers. "We mostly sell to North America and Europe. Europe represents 35 percent of our revenues, so this shows how much we care about the European market. We will be showcasing customized products, including screws, bolts, nuts, punched parts, cast parts, machined parts, wire forms, tubings, and spacers that we supply to automakers and other OEM industrial markets," stated Thomas Kan, President, Wyser International.

"We look forward to working with specialized distributors, and we are glad to help them know about our products and distribute them to various industries," he explained. "The reason that we attend this show is to have a look around the local market and visit old friends. We don't have a set target. We just want to promote our service and Europe will see us and quality products proudly manufactured in Taiwan."

The EU has been updating quality regulations and adding complicated requirements; to meet these demands, the company employs automated optical sorting equipment coupled with manual inspection to check final products. A QC unit and equipment, such as coordinate measuring machines, salt spray testers, roughness/flatness/hardness testers, torsional strength testers, plating thickness testers, gauges, and optical comparators, have been added. Layers of checks ensure that European clients' requests are met. "We have a complete lineup of inspection equipment, 10 specialized product quality engineers, and inspection personnel. We have a very good reputation for quality," commented Kan. Wyser has had devoted clients for the past 30 years. Even during the global recession last year, the company maintained sales growth, with over 90 percent of orders coming from high-end American and European markets, demonstrating that its service is trusted internationally.



Jau Yeou Industry Eyes to Expand Sales in Europe in 2023

Jau Yeou Industry, a major manufacturer of low carbon small steel screws and one of the Taiwan's top ten screw companies, plans to expand sales in Europe in 2023, with Fastener Fair Global (Stuttgart) serving as a critical stop in line with its continued progress and the reopening of the market. In 2021, the company's revenue increased by 20.5 percent to NT\$ 3.3 billion, with Europe accounting for 60 percent of the total. This is the largest fastener exhibition in which the company has participated since the travel restrictions were implemented in 2020. It aspires to find new potential customers in Europe by providing consistent quality and delivery, as well as product customization services.

In addition to promoting long screws and drywall screws, the company will exhibit construction and automotive fasteners at the Stuttgart show, with at least 15 types developed and mass-produced. It has high quality because it has mastered the forming technology of solder joints (rings). Furthermore, the company has revealed that their composite screws are being developed and that prototypes have been successfully made. It also bought a lot of machines to keep up with the demand for collated screws. Interior parts and welding screws are the primary focus of automotive fasteners. The majority of the company's interior parts are small screws, such as thread-forming screws, tapping screws, and trilobular thread screws, which are in line with the company's expertise in construction parts, in which they have over 40 years of experience, and the materials are sourced from Taiwan CSC while maintaining quality.



Source: Jau Yeou

Excel Components Mfg Showcases Customized Non-Standard Parts at Fastener Fair Stuttgart

Source: Excel Components Mfg



Excel Components Mfg, Taiwan-based precision machining specialist, eyes European automakers and related companies looking for a reliable source of purchase. Established in 1978, the company has a long history of nearly 45 years of sales to more than 50 countries, and it has made many investments and structural improvements in the automotive field due to their long experience in the industrial field. Many international certificates have been obtained, including IATF 16949:2016, which is preferred by the automotive supply chain and was obtained in 2021, as well as RoHS and REACH certificates for European environmental requirements, and the ISO 9001:2015 certificate. The company is qualified for the APQP (Advance Product Quality Planning) standard and can provide PPAP and IMDS, which is in line with their continuous updating of their production processes to meet the stringent European quality, environmental,

and cleanliness requirements, making it a must-visit sourcing target for European companies.

The company will be back at the Fastener Fair Stuttgart in 2023 to showcase customized non-standard parts, because customized production is their strength. It can provide customers with product design and development services that meet Europe's high-quality requirements, as well as evaluation, feedback, and corrective mechanisms, as well as the development of new products that customers truly require, using the aforementioned APQP standard process. Products from the company can be used in a variety of industries, including machinery, automotive, electronics, telecommunications, drones, and so on, and customized products can be produced based on customer designs.



Boltun Plans a New Plant in Guiren, Taiwan, to Increase Capacity

Boltun supplies automotive fasteners and components to ODM companies, with 70 percent of its automotive fasteners used on conventional cars and 30 percent on EVs. Given that the conventional car has reached maturity, the company has shifted its focus to the EV industry in recent years in order to meet EV orders and expand capacity. VP, Sales, Boltun, stated that the company plans to build a 160,100 sq mt plant in Tainan City, Taiwan. The company planned to spend NT\$ 1.7 billion on this investment, but instead chose to rent the land, which cost NT\$ 871 million. According to the VP, purchasing land is a large expense, but by switching to rental, Boltun can increase capacity and flexibility in using the budget. The company sees EVs as the driving force behind growth in 2023, so it intends to adjust capacity accordingly.



Source: Boltun

China Steel Corp Announces Q1 2023 Price Adjustments


China Steel Corp, the largest integrated steel maker in Taiwan, has announced the latest price adjustments for steel products. The price of wire rod (including low carbon, medium-to-high carbon, cold forged, and low alloy) that is most relevant to fastener manufacturers will be reduced by NT\$ 1,500 (approximately US\$ 48.7) per metric ton. However, the cost of automotive materials will rise by NT\$ 500 (approximately US\$ 16.23) per metric ton. The average price adjustment for all steel products will be -0.83 percent.



Source: China Steel



Chian Yung Corporation to Showcase High-Quality Products and Services at Fastener Fair Global

Chian Yung Corporation is prepared to showcase its high-quality products and services at Fastener Fair Global in Stuttgart, Germany, in 2023. It specializes in the manufacturing of carbon steel/stainless steel/copper/aluminum SEMS screws in sizes #0-1/2" (M1.4-M12) and lengths 1/8"-4" (3mm-108mm), as well as SEMS screws with electroplating, coating, and related post-production processes. The company's nearly 5,000 sq mt plant in Benjhou Industrial Park in Gangshan, Kaohsiung, is fully equipped with automated production lines and quality control equipment to meet the needs of customers from all over the world, with its products primarily exported to European and US markets. Chian Yung's SEMS screws are extremely easy to use and apply and have earned the favor and trust of their customers. Approximately 70 percent of its manufacturing capacity is destined for the European (30 percent) and American (40 percent) markets. Chian Yung, founded in 1987, has been serving customers all over the world for over 30 years. It not only has sufficient manufacturing experience but also understands the characteristics of screws and washers very well. Its stringent production capability and quality management enabled it to obtain ISO 9001:2000 certification in 2000 and IATF 16949 certification in 2015. Its products are widely used in the automotive, electronics, computer, and electrical industries, and can be customized to meet the needs of its customers. 



Joker Industrial Presents Full-range ETA Seismic C1&C2 Approval Anchor Bolt




Source: Joker International

Joker Industrial, an industry-leading anchor bolt developer and designer offering one-stop solution services ranging from order taking to design and manufacturing, will introduce a new product to replace conventional anchor bolts at Fastener Fair Global. The company's expertise lies in its understanding of various environments and regulations in various countries, allowing them to design customized anchor bolts for clients. It has a lab to provide test data and welcomes customers with special design requests or those who can collaborate to develop products to create one-of-a-kind anchor bolts. The company is full steam ahead with its investment in acquiring a C2 certificate, and their M8, 10, 12, and 14 cement anchors will get the certificate before the Stuttgart show. Cement is available in a variety of materials, and different countries use different materials. Furthermore, cement contains impurities such as stones, quartz, lime, rebar, and so on. As a result, this type of anchor bolt employs a patented triple thread structure, with high and low threads capable of dealing with a wide range of materials and impurities. In other words, it is a 'universal' anchor bolt that is used in a variety of cement environments across the globe, and the special grooves on the tip conserve the users' strength. Moreover, the ETA document states that its load capacity is more than double the industry standard. This anchor bolt will require less of it to create enough load capacity on the same cement plate, lowering carbon emissions and protecting the environment. In addition to the existing carbon steel anchor bolt, the company plans to introduce a stainless steel bi-metal anchor bolt with the same structural design in March 2023, with the same strong performance as its carbon steel counterpart, according to lab test data. 


Source: Chian Yung

SUMEEKO to Acquire MMG's Shares by July 2023

SUMEEKO, Taiwanese automotive parts and fastener company, announced on November 16, 2022, that it will acquire the remaining 49 percent of Max Mothes GmbH (MMG), a subsidiary of CS Beteiligungs GmbH, for €6.24 million in cash. The process is expected to be completed in July 2023, after which MMG will be completely owned by SUMEEKO. MMG is back on track with profits in 2021 thanks to orders from European automakers after a 2.5-year adjustment period. SUMEEKO previously purchased 51 percent of the shares of MMG, a Tier 1 supplier to German automakers, for €6.5 million in July 2018. SUMEEKO can tap into the supply chains of Ford, Benz, BMA, Volkswagen, Bosch, and Siemens by fully acquiring MMG shares. 

Sheh Fung Screws Opens its First Overseas Operation

Sheh Fung Screws, replicating its digital and automated transformation experience in Taiwan, will establish its Group's first overseas manufacturing operation in Tinh Binh Thuận (Vietnam) to fulfill global manufacturing, reinforce international market expansion, and satisfy further business reach in Europe and America. The Taiwan-based company will invest NT\$ 0.7 billion in establishing the phase-1 plant, which is expected to begin trial production after Q4 2023 and officially begin mass production by Q1 2024 at the earliest. The groundbreaking ceremony, which was witnessed by prominent guests and local officials, was hosted by Terry Tu, President, and Kent Chen, General Manager, of the company.

The new plant's construction will be completed in two phases. The phase-1 plant will manufacture medium-to-short-length tapping, drilling, and coated screws. The monthly capacity is expected to be around 800 tons (NT\$ 670 million). Sheh Fung will also make appropriate adjustments between the order intake of its plants in Vietnam and Taiwan in the future to maximize investment efficacy. 



Source: Fasteners World Inc.

www.fastener-world.com.tw



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Kadimi Group manufactures a wide range of flat thread rolling and form rolling dies and alloy and non-alloy CHQ wire for fastener manufacturers. With authenticity and sincerity as its core ethics for building long-term customer relationships, it has been expanding its footprint in a wide range of industries across the globe.



Source: Kadimi Group



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Founded in 1977, Kadimi Group has been a leading fastener and cold-forging supplier for 40 years. "When we started the business, India produced few fasteners, and the market was small. Hence, not many suppliers were interested. Kadimi then began representing global manufacturers in India," shares

Sahil Nath, Managing Director, Kadimi Tool.

The Group companies that began as joint ventures are now completely family-owned. "In 1987, we started manufacturing flat thread rolling dies and gradually expanded our product range to cover the full range of flat dies through Kadimi Tool. In 2013,

we started manufacturing cold heading wire for the fastener and cold forging industry through Kadimi Special Steels," he adds.

Banking on a diverse portfolio

The Group has two production plants in Gurgaon and Chennai. "Our facilities use top-notch equipment and

The market is changing due to the shift to EVs from ICE (Internal Combustion Engine) vehicles. We expect this to reduce the demand for certain types of fasteners. However, the overall demand for fasteners will increase as growth in other industries compensates.

processes. We manufacture thread rolling dies in-house, including heat treatment and surface treatments. This boosts our competitiveness, quality, and lead times," Nath says. "We have fully automatic pickling plants and US-made spheroidizing/annealing furnaces for CHQ wire," he adds. The company has sales offices in the US, Europe, and Hong Kong and exports to over 40 countries through a large distributor network.

Expansion and market knowledge

Kadimi is expanding its production range to meet customer demands and serve new industries. In alloy and non-alloy CHQ wire, its size range is 2.00-32.00 mm, but it plans to expand to under 2.00 mm. The company offers regrinding for thread rolling dies and local stocking through distributors or warehouses in key markets like the US and Europe.


The company's slogan 'Business growth is a function of your sincerity to your customer' truly reflects its values and the people involved embody these values in their ethical behavior. "Customers look at three factors: price, quality, and delivery. We also help our customers develop more complex parts for their customers. To meet urgent requests, we recently started our 'Express Production Line' for thread rolling dies. At this plant, we produce the dies in less than 2 weeks. This has



Source: Kadimi Group

Our manufacturing facilities have been heavily upgraded. We have local offices in key markets, including the US and Germany. Our European headquarters is in Barcelona, Spain. We want to grow our sales team and set up production sites where needed."

Sahil Nath
Managing Director
Kadimi Tool

been really appreciated by the customers," Nath explains elaborating on the company's customer services. 



Source: Kadimi Group



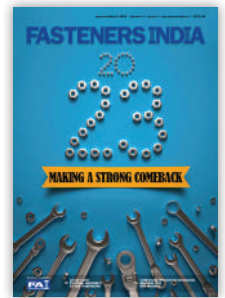
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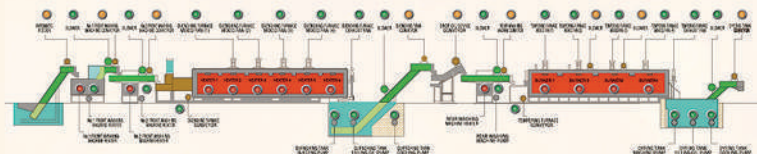


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