

# Fastener World News

compiled by Fastener World

## - Industry Update -

### EU Launches AD Investigation Against Chinese Iron and Steel Fasteners



According to an official journal the European Commission released on December 21st, 2020, it has launched an antidumping investigation against certain imports of iron and steel fasteners from People's Republic of China. The CN codes of products involved this time include 73181290, 73181491, 73181499, 73181558, 73181568, 73181582, 73181588, ex73181595,

ex73182100, and ex73182200. A request for a hearing with the Hearing Officer must be submitted within 15 days of the date of entry into force of this official journal. The investigation is expected to come to a preliminary determination with the announcement of a provisional antidumping measure within 7 months of the date of the date of entry into force of this official journal.

### EU's Anti-dumping Investigation on Chinese Fasteners, a Window of Opportunity for Taiwan

EU has launched the AD investigation on certain fastener products imported from China, including automotive screws and construction small screws. The last time that EU whipped on China's fasteners was 5 years ago. Mr. Tu-chin Tsai (TIFI Chairman) expects an additional order value of USD 1 billion for the Taiwanese automotive fastener industry if EU does impose AD duties on Chinese fasteners. He points out that automotive screws are the main products exported to Europe, taking up over 20% of Taiwan's total export. Germany is the second largest export destination for Taiwan. Other screw products going to Europe include small screws. The U.S. remains the top export destination for Taiwan, taking up over 40% of Taiwan's total overseas sales.

President Mark Wu (QST International Corp., an automotive screw manufacturer) thinks EU's anti-dumping investigation on Chinese fasteners means an opportunity for Taiwanese fastener industry because QST now sells to Europe. Its export value of automotive screws sold to Germany amounts to USD 200 to 250 million per year, taking up 30% of its total export. Most of the products for Germany are sold from QST's headquarters in Taiwan, or manufactured by German steel plants and then supplied locally. Almost none of the products are sold from QST's plant in Xiamen City of China. It is expected that QST will be very likely to see some orders switched from China to Taiwan in the future.

### Taiwan Fastener Industry Seeks Government Help in Light of RCEP Impacts

Taiwan Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA) met with representatives from Taiwan Industrial Fasteners Institute (TIFI) and other associations at a conference discussing the RCEP impacts on industries. Before the conference, TIFI chairman Tu-Chin Tsai said in an interview that Taiwan fastener industry was ranked third in the world, but that its production value dropped from NTD 176 billion in 2018 to NTD 143 billion in 2019, and it is fairly questionable whether the value for 2020 could reach NTD 110 billion as a result of the high NTD exchange rate and other countries' high tariffs on Taiwanese fasteners.

According to Tsai, NTD appreciated by 12%-15% over the past 2 years, resulting in an annual loss of NTD 5 billion on Taiwan fastener industry. As a result, he is calling for NTD depreciation. Meanwhile, an average 5%-30% tax is imposed on Taiwanese fasteners exported to ASEAN.

He thinks that RCEP has no impact on domestic electronics, 5G and medical industries, which are strong performers in Taiwan. Taiwan fastener industry is a decent performer in aerospace, automobile and electronics, but faces tough competition coupled with negative factors in exchange rates and tariffs. "Without industrial competitiveness, we may be looking at domestic plant closures or moving overseas."

Mr. Tsai Yong-Yu, TIFI vice president and president of Jinn Her Enterprise, said the industry had already deployed in Southeast Asia as part of Taiwan government's New Southbound Policy. The branches in Southeast Asia aim to export products to high-end markets in the U.S. and Europe and bring competitiveness to the industry, but the pandemic has put a halt to export. With no improvement visible through the second quarter of 2021, he hopes the government will help in ways such as depreciating NTD.

### Steel in Short Supply and Strong Demand in Taiwan

Japanese steelmakers have paused taking orders and it follows that steel is in short supply and strong demand. Steel price for the first quarter of 2021 is sure to rise and is expected to continue the uptrend in the second quarter. New records have been set for 9 consecutive years for international iron ore price which has surged by 80% since 2020. Taiwan CSC's steel price is to continue the uptrend in January and the first quarter. Demand for wire rods and steel plates is strong. CSC President expects the heyday of the steel market to continue through June 2021. Downstream companies see light at the end of the tunnel with their business operation recovering.



Tycoons expects the wire rod price to continue upwards. The company's export is turning around which is expected to remain so through the second quarter and bring remarkable profits.

## Ukraine Made a Definitive Anti-dumping Duties Determination on Certain Chinese Steel Fasteners

Ukraine announced on September 26 of 2020 a definitive determination to impose anti-dumping duties on certain steel fasteners originating in China starting September 29, 2020, based on the final decision stated in document AD-465/2020/4411-03. The duty rate will be 32.47% for Haining Hisener Trade Co., Ltd. (Hisener Industrial Co., Ltd.), 38.37% for Ningbo Jinding Fastening Piece Co., Ltd., and 67.40% for other Chinese suppliers, effective for 5 years, involving product codes falling within 7318156890, 7318158290, 7318158890, 7318159590, 7318169290, and 7318169990.

Ukraine initiated an anti-dumping investigation on certain Chinese steel fasteners on December 7, 2019. May 28, 2020, Ukraine announced a preliminary affirmative determination on involved Chinese products, according to the decision stated in document AD-447/2020/4411-03, that involved products would be subject to a temporary 19.75% anti-dumping rate effective for 4 months.



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## Expansion of the Aerospace Sector: Aviation Certification EN 9100:2018 for 3d-prototyp GmbH in Switzerland

3d-prototyp GmbH, has received the official aviation certification EN 9100:2018 in Switzerland. The seal of approval is a prerequisite for supplying the aerospace industry with 3D printed components.

Although a forward-looking technology, additive manufacturing is still used very little in Switzerland. Since October 2020, 3d-prototyp GmbH has been the only 3D printing service provider in Switzerland that is certified according to EN 9100 and already has many years of experience in the production of aerospace parts using high-performance materials (Ultem TM 9085, Ultem TM 1010, Nylon 12, Nylon 12CF).

## - Companies Development -



## Elgin Expands Range of OE-Grade Fasteners for GM LS GEN III, IV and V Engines

Elgin Industries, a leading U.S.-based manufacturer of engine and chassis components, has added to its extensive range of original equipment-grade fasteners for popular General Motors LS Series engines. It is important to replace head bolts, main bearing cap bolts and other hardware after one use to prevent loss of clamp load and potential engine damage. Each Elgin fastener meets OE specifications and is machined from U.S.-grade materials to ensure superior strength and reliability.

Elgin is the premier manufacturer of push rods, rocker arms, valves, valve springs, camshafts, lifters, timing sets and other precision-engineered components for automotive, high-performance, and medium and heavy-duty engines. The company operates a state-of-the-art engineering, manufacturing and distribution complex in Elgin, Illinois.

**SIMPSON**

**Strong-Tie**

## Simpson Strong-Tie Moves Minnesota Warehouse to Larger Facility

Simpson Strong-Tie, the leader in engineered structural connectors and building solutions, announced the relocation of its warehouse facility in Eagan, MN, to Inver Grove Heights, MN, seven miles away. The warehouse has moved to a new building located at Inver Point Business Park, 8450 Courthouse Blvd., Building 1, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077.

The new building is 46,500 sq. ft. larger than the previous facility, and all 19 employees in Eagan have transferred to the new location. The company has invested in the move as a commitment to future growth and to better serve their customers with faster product delivery and Will Call access. The new location provides more dock and office space, a larger training center, more efficient order picking and enhanced warehouse safety.

## Japanese Auto Parts Maker Sankei Sets up a Core Factory in Indonesia

Sankei Co., Ltd in Mie Prefecture of Japan manufactures pins, rivets, shafts and other automotive parts. The company has already had bases in the U.S. and Shanghai for production and sales. Now the Indonesia-based plant PT. TIGA KARUNIA INDONESIA has been completed and will act as an overseas manufacturing and supply base.

Sankei has a complete line of part formers to manufacture various automotive precision parts. The Indonesia-based plant along with its other overseas bases will become a core factory outside Japan in the future to provide the world market with high quality and low-cost products.





## Announces Accufast, Inc. as Official Master Distributor for Western Canada

Goebel Fasteners, Inc. announces a new and exciting partnership with Accufast, Inc. as their official master distributor for Western Canada. The two companies entered into an agreement that sees Accufast, Inc. become the exclusive master distributor for Goebel Fasteners, Inc. M-Grip™ Lockbolt System and entire blind fastening product lines across Western Canada which by definition includes the four provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan.

“Accufast is an industry leader who provides extensive knowledge about blind fastening systems and the proper tooling to ensure the best parts are used in every application,” said Marcel Goebel, CEO of the Goebel Group.

Murray Mathers, President of Accufast, Inc. was equally pleased stating, “Over the last few years our inventory has grown significantly, and by partnering with Goebel to look after western Canadian distribution, we will be able to better fill client’s needs from our recently acquired much larger Edmonton warehouse facility and provide even faster access to the extensive range of fasteners, cordless tools, and unique products such as the all new stainless M-Grip.”



## AIS Receives Reward for Outstanding Quality

AIS-All Integrated Solutions, an MSC Company, proudly announces its recent award for Outstanding Quality. It was awarded at the Motus Annual 2020 Suppliers Conference. The award recognizes AIS for shipping over 10,000,000 pieces with zero defects. AIS was the only supplier to receive this award in 2020. Everyone from AIS’ quality, warehouse, sales, and account executive teams worked together to provide exceptional service to Motus---they deserve all the credit for the award.

“We are extremely proud of our entire team. They have truly come together to make sure our customers receive the highest quality services and products. Earning this award is confirmation that AIS’ focus on quality, company culture, and employee training is paying off for our customers,” stated Nick Ruetz, president of AIS-All Integrated Solutions.



## Double Coiled Spring Washers for Railway Track With Dörken® Coating System Approved by DB

Another positive result out of the great cooperation between Growermetal and Dörken®: DB (Deutsche Bahn) has recently approved the Delta-Protekt® KL100 coating on Growermetal’s patented Double Coiled Spring Washers, produced according to UIC 864-3. These washers are widely used for railway applications, to fix the rail to the railroad ties. The partial serrations on the bearing surfaces of the washer prevent the loosening of the bolt and the risk of breakage. Railway washers are frequently exposed to challenging weather conditions. For this reason Growermetal supplies its Double Coiled Spring Washers coated with the high-performing Dörken® coating system Delta-Protekt® KL100 able to reach outstanding anti-corrosion performances with over 720 hours in neutral salt spray test according to ISO 9227, without adhesion issues during operational stress or reduction in anti-loosening performance.

## Yushung Metal Products Co., Ltd. 宇声金属制品有限公司

● 100% raw materials purchased from ISO certified manufacturers ● 360 days shelf life of the products ● All logistics services provided

### Bronze Fastener Manufacturing Expert



Material: Cu5, Silicon Bronze, Phosphor Bronze, Aluminium Bronze, Brass, Monel, Copper, etc.



Main Products: Wood Screw, Machine Screw, Nail, Bolt, Stud, Washer, Nut, Threaded Rod.



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## Japanese Yahata Neji Establishes New Heat Treatment Technology Utilizing Water Vapor

Yahata Neji Corporation teamed with Shibaura Institute of Technology and successfully developed a heat treatment technology using water vapor which can simultaneously achieve high strength and high corrosion resistance on fasteners, such as aluminum screws and special parts. With this technology, it'll require only one process to form uniform coating on target objects (with or without complex shapes) by exposing them in high-temperature and high-pressure water vapor, while achieving the same level of corrosion resistance as acquired from anodizing treatment. The company will optimize the technology through multiple processing tests and is looking to complete the mass production system in two years.



## vossloh Vossloh Supplies Fastening Systems for New Heavy-haul Line in Mongolia

Vossloh won the first contract for the supply of rail fastening systems for a heavy-haul line in Mongolia. The roughly 270 km long line will connect the Tavan Tolgoi with Gashuun Sukhait port at the Chinese border. After its completion, about 30 million tonnes of goods, primarily raw materials for steel production, will be transported on the new rail link each year – with significant environmental advantages compared with the current road haulage. The deliveries of the fastening systems started some time ago, and an approximately 70 km long section has already been completed. Under the current plans, construction work will be completed by the end of 2021.



## BBI Appoints Scott Gibson to Proferred Global Sales and Product Director

BBI/Proferred is pleased to announce the appointment of Scott Gibson to the position of Proferred Global Sales and Product Director. Scott will direct Proferred's sales efforts with its building and drywall customers. He will also support customers on a global level, work with buying groups, and on its tradeshows.



## APEX TOOL Names Bob Heisner as Chief Marketing Officer

Sparks, MD. – Apex Tool Group (ATG) recently announced the appointment of Bob H. Heisner to SVP and Chief Marketing Officer. In this position, Bob will lead the further development of all ATG hand tool and power tool brands – which include GEARWRENCH®, APEX®, Crescent®, Weller®, Cleco®, and SATA® – while continuing to sharply accelerate ATG's e-commerce capabilities. As a member of the Executive Leadership Team (ELT), Bob will report directly to Jim Roberts, Chief Executive Officer, ATG, and be based in the company's Lexington, SC, office.

Since joining ATG in July 2016 as VP Marketing – Global Power Tools, Bob has helped champion the company's Marketing Build and Transform initiative for the past several years. Prior to joining ATG, Bob led the development of some of the industry's leading brands, including: DeWalt Accessories, Kwikset Locks, Hennessy Tools (a division of Danaher), Lenox Industrial Tools, and Rubbermaid Commercial Products.



## PRECISION TECHNOLOGIES

## Mate Precision Tooling Announces Corporate Name Change to Mate Precision Technologies

Mate Precision Tooling, a global leader in sheet metal fabrication products and solutions, announced that it is changing its corporate name to Mate Precision Technologies. The name change reflects the company's broader commitment to metalworking and using its expertise to drive innovations to shape the future of factory productivity. Firmly committed to its existing product lines, the name change allows for the expansion into the metal cutting and machining industry with the release of a major new product line in 2021. The new name is effective September 1, 2020, and will be implemented across the company's product and services through 2021.



**- Acquisitions -**



**S.W. Anderson Company Acquires OEM Fastening Systems**



S.W. Anderson Company, a specialty and class C component distributor, has acquired OEM Fastening Systems, a specialty fastener distributor in Lawrenceville, Georgia. "We're

excited to welcome the OEM Fastening Systems employees to the S.W. Anderson family" stated Jim Degnan, president of S.W. Anderson. "OEM's reputation in the southeast U.S. as a customer-focused product expert aligns closely with S.W. Anderson's value proposition. We look forward to working with our new team members to extend our products and services to OEM's customer base."

Tom Smith, president and owner of OEM Fastening Systems, said "combining our reputation for excellent products and services with S.W. Anderson's manufacturer relationships and knowledge base will give OEM customers a powerful partner — one with local, personalized service, and high-tech products from international manufacturers."

OEM Fastening Systems was started in 1969 as a specialty fastener distributor. OEM assists design and manufacturing engineers in the automotive, appliance, outdoor power equipment, and other markets with fasteners, tooling, and tooling repairs. Founded in 1926 and headquartered in Downers Grove, Illinois, S.W. Anderson Company supplies specialty and standard fasteners, hardware, slides, and manufacturing components for the industrial manufacturing market. The company provides services to tier manufacturers and OEMs in automotive, commercial vehicle, consumer goods, aerospace, and food & beverage industries, amongst others and has seven sales offices/distribution centers with over 35 technical sales professionals throughout the US.



**Avantus Aerospace Acquires California Screw Products**

Avantus Aerospace, a global leader of C-Class and Composite parts for the aerospace and defense industry, is pleased to announce the acquisition of California Screw Products ("CalScrew") in Paramount, California.

CalScrew manufactures unique, high-strength fasteners for commercial and military aerospace applications and has a natural fit with other companies within the Avantus group, including FTC (Fastener Technology Corp), acquired in December 2019, and FIT (Fastener Innovation Technology), acquired in September 2020. CalScrew, founded in 1984, has built a strong reputation as an innovative and reliable



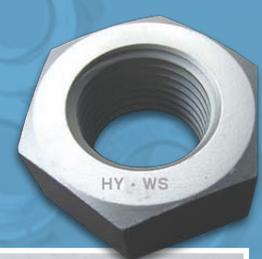
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**HY · WS**



supplier of difficult-to-manufacture 'standards' serving more than 45 aircraft platforms. Some customer relationships span multiple decades, such as those with Boeing (including BDSI), Incora (Wesco), Honeywell, Collins, Pratt & Whitney, GE, Airbus and Lockheed Martin. The existing management teams will continue to operate and grow the business under the guidance of Fastener President Dennis Suedkamp, and Director of Business Development Larry Valeriano. Larry was formerly the President of CalScrew.



## L&W Supply Acquires Assets of Drywall Supply Inc.

L&W Supply Corporation, a leading distributor of top-quality building materials and specialty products in the United States, announced that it acquired the assets of Drywall Supply Inc. ("DSI"), a building materials distributor with locations in the north and western suburbs of Denver, Colorado. Founded in 1996, DSI focused on residential and commercial markets, providing drywall, acoustical ceilings, insulation, steel stud and related products. The acquisition includes three DSI branches in Loveland, Lafayette and Golden, Colorado, that will remain open.

The Drywall Supply team has a long history of providing contractor customers with the support and expertise they need. As part of L&W Supply, they will join a company committed to being the go-to partner for contractors nationwide, recognized for an unparalleled level of service and top-quality products.

## - Association Events -

### Taiwan Industrial Fasteners Institute Re-elects Mr. Tu-Chin Tsai as Chairman

TIFI held a member representatives assembly on December 11, 2020, where the association re-elected the next directors and supervisors. Mr. Tu-Chin Tsai was elected Chairman. Three other representatives elected as vice chairmen were Mr. Tsai Yong-Yu from Jinn Her Enterprise, Miss Ann Hong from Shih Hsang Ywa Industrial, Mr. Sun Tea-Ren from Jau Yeou Industry. Mr. Simon Lin from Fong Prean Industrial was elected convener of the board of directors and supervisors.



### CMCA 2020 Board of Directors Meeting and Members Assembly in Shanghai

China General Machine Components Industry Association (CMCA) held its 7th Board of Directors meeting and members assembly on November 3-4, 2020 in Shanghai. Nearly 200 directors, member representatives, and invited guests attended the assembly, which was hosted by Chairman FONG Guan.

The BoD meeting took place on November 3, 2020, which included the discussion on members assembly agenda, the annual report of missions completed by CMCA in 2019, the recognition of CMCA Technological Innovation Award Recipients, etc. Directors of the meeting also approved that XUAN Bi-Hua would take the position as the new Chairman after the closure of the members assembly.

Chairman FONG gave his opening speech in the members assembly on November 4, 2020. He pointed out that "the assembly was held in a very challenging year, but our industry still performed quite well over the year. However, the basic problems in the industry still exist and the world is suffering the severe pandemic, so we cannot underestimate the influences these problems may cause to our industry. I hope that in the new year all of us can achieve better results."

The "CMCA Technological Innovation Award" was also presented to 125 products in the event.

With the effort of directors as well as the enthusiastic participation of CMCA member representatives, invited guests, and relevant companies, the 7th CMCA BoD meeting and members assembly both came to a perfect closure with a big success. □

