

ASSOCIATION

CMCA Fastener Subdivision President Xue Kang-Sheng Continues Term & Visits AoZhan Aviation

薛康生续任中国机械通用零部件工业协会紧固件分会会长并参访奥展航空

The member assembly held in Hangzhou from March 21 to 22 saw Mr. Xue Kang-Sheng re-elected as president of the ninth council through voting, witnessed by key leadership representatives and industry professionals in attendance. He expressed deep gratitude for the support and trust bestowed by the representatives, pledging to continue guiding the fastener industry toward high-quality development. During the same period, he led a delegation from CMCA Fastener Subdivision to visit Aozhan Aviation Fasteners, gaining insights into their production quality control and manufacturing technologies. Through this exchange, they charted new development targets for the high-quality upgrade of Chinese fastener industry.

Foshan Fastener Manufacturing Industry Association Anniversary Celebration and Members' Meeting

佛山市紧固件制造行业协会周年庆典暨会员大会

On March 27, association members gathered to witness this significant event advancing Foshan's fastener industry development. President Mr. Heh Jian-Wei reviewed the resilience and innovation demonstrated by industry peers over the past year amid complex market conditions, highlighting breakthroughs in technological innovation, green transformation initiatives, supply chain collaboration, and global market expansion. Executive President Mr. Zhang Yong announced the association's annual work plan, emphasizing efforts to promote collaborative development across the fastener supply chain and strengthen partnerships with upstream and downstream sectors such as steel, automotive, and machinery manufacturing.

Hong Kong Screw & Fastener Council (HKSFC) Kicks Off New Leadership with Grand Inauguration Ceremony

香港螺丝业协会以盛大就职典礼揭开新领导层

On March 28, 2025, HKSFC held its 11th Council Inauguration Ceremony and Spring Gala, marking the official commencement of the new council. Chairman Mr. Tsui Ping Fai expressed gratitude for societal support and underscored the critical role of fasteners in modern industry. He urged members to actively integrate AI technologies into industry practices to drive innovation and emphasized the association's commitment to uniting stakeholders in elevating Hong Kong's fastener industry to new heights.



香港螺絲業協會

Hong Kong Screw & Fastener Council

MARKET WATCH: TRUMP TARIFF 2.0

China and US Reach Major Trade Breakthrough, Slash Tariffs

中美达成重大贸易突破，双方大幅削减关税

In a surprising and significant development, the United States and China announced on May 12, 2025, a major breakthrough in their ongoing trade conflict by agreeing to drastically reduce tariffs on each other's goods for an initial 90-day period. This move marks a critical step toward de-escalating a trade war that has disrupted global markets, supply chains, and economic growth.

According to a joint statement, both nations acknowledged the importance of a sustainable, long-term, and mutually beneficial economic and trade relationship. Under the agreement, the US temporarily cut its overall tariffs on Chinese goods from 145% to 30%, while China



reduced its levies on American imports from 125% to 10%. These tariff reductions have been implemented since May 14. However, certain US tariffs related to fentanyl remain in place. China also agreed to suspend or cancel several non-tariff countermeasures imposed on the US, including export restrictions on rare-earth minerals and blacklisting some American companies.

Economic pressures have mounted on both sides: the US recently experienced its first quarterly GDP contraction since 2022, and China's exports to the US sharply declined, impacting its manufacturing sector. The agreement is viewed as a "best case scenario" start to broader negotiations aimed at further tariff reductions. Both countries will continue talks through a newly established mechanism led by Chinese Vice Premier He Li-Feng and US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, with discussions alternating between China, the US, or a third country. US officials emphasized a mutual desire to avoid economic decoupling and promote balanced trade. This breakthrough signals hope for improved US-China economic relations and global market stability in the months ahead.



Tariffs Push Screw Prices Higher, Impacting Everyday Consumers and Businesses

关税推高螺丝价格，影响消费者与企业日常生活

The recent surge in tariffs on steel and aluminum imports, reinstated by the Trump administration at a 25% rate, has sharply increased the prices of screws and other industrial fasteners, affecting both manufacturers and everyday consumers. An example comes from a recent encounter at a Home Depot, where a customer wearing a T-shirt with an American flag lamented, "Screws are so expensive right now," highlighting how tariff-driven price increases are felt by ordinary Americans trying to complete simple projects like building a chicken coop. This anecdote underscores how tariffs ripple down to everyday purchases, not just large industrial buyers.

The tariffs have forced manufacturers and suppliers to either absorb higher costs or pass them on to customers, pushing up prices for construction firms and small businesses reliant on screws and bolts. Some contractors warn that rising fastener prices may delay projects or force cancellations, tightening margins in an already challenging economic environment. The Federal Reserve noted tariffs have contributed to a 0.3% rise in consumer prices this year, with many companies selectively raising prices on affected items to offset increased import costs. While tariffs aim to protect domestic industries, the unintended consequence is inflationary pressure on essential components like screws, impacting both industry and consumers alike.

South Korea's Steel Exports to U.S. Drop Nearly 19% in March 2025 Amid U.S. Tariffs

受美国关税影响，韩国3月对美钢铁出口同比下降近19%

The Korea International Trade Association (KITA) released data showing that South Korea's steel exports to the United States in March 2025 were USD 340 million, representing an 18.9% year-on-year decline. The export volume also decreased by about 14.9%. This drop was mainly due to the U.S. government's imposition of a 25% tariff on all imported steel starting March 12, which also abolished the duty-free quotas previously granted to South Korea and other countries.

Industry insiders noted that since most transactions are completed several months in advance, it is still difficult to fully assess the tariff's impact, but initial effects have already begun to appear. In response to the tariffs, South Korean steel companies plan to increase their production within the United States. Hyundai Steel announced a USD 5.8 billion investment to build its first overseas electric arc furnace steel mill in Louisiana, expected to begin operations by 2029. The U.S. tariffs have raised concerns about rising costs in construction, automotive, and manufacturing sectors, potentially affecting supply chains and product prices.



Ford Raises Prices on Mexican-Made Vehicles Amid Tariff Impact

福特因关税影响调涨墨西哥制车款价格

Ford has announced immediate price increases on three of its Mexico-produced models effective May 2, 2025. Some models will see price hikes of up to USD 2,000, marking one of the clearest examples of how US auto tariffs are affecting consumers. The price adjustments follow President Trump's imposition of a 25% tariff on imported auto parts, which Ford estimates will cost the company USD 2.5 billion annually. Ford plans to absorb USD 1.5 billion of these costs but will pass on about USD 1 billion to customers through higher vehicle prices. Spread over the 2.08 million vehicles Ford sold in the US last year, this translates to roughly USD 480 added to the price of US-built SUVs and trucks.



Ford noted the company's reliance on foreign parts, such as carpeting and fasteners not sufficiently produced in the US, that are subject to tariffs. Despite this, Ford's strong US manufacturing base limits its exposure compared to rivals like General Motors, which expects USD 4-USD 5 billion in tariff costs.

LATEST ON CBAM



ENVI Supports Major Simplification of EU CBAM

欧洲ENVI支持欧盟碳边境调整机制重大简化方案

On May 12, 2025, the European Parliament's Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Food Safety (ENVI) endorsed the European Commission's proposal to simplify the EU CBAM. This simplification package, known as 'Omnibus I,' was introduced in February 2025 to improve the efficiency and accessibility of CBAM. MEPs approved several technical clarifications aimed at streamlining the implementation of CBAM. A significant change is the introduction of a new de minimis threshold of 50 tons of CO2 emissions per year, exempting around 90% of importers (who are mostly small and medium-sized enterprises and individuals who import small quantities) from CBAM

obligations. Despite this exemption, the mechanism will continue to cover approximately 99% of CO2 emissions from imports in sectors such as iron, steel, aluminum, cement, and fertilizers.

The proposal also simplifies the authorization process for declarants, enhances emissions calculation methods, and improves the management of financial liabilities. Additionally, it strengthens measures to prevent abuse of the system, ensuring its integrity and effectiveness. Rapporteur Antonio Decaro emphasized the importance of balancing simplification with maintaining the environmental integrity of CBAM to effectively prevent carbon leakage. The full European Parliament voted on the negotiation mandate on May 22, 2025. Looking ahead, the European Commission plans to review the possibility of extending CBAM's scope to other high-risk sectors in early 2026. This ongoing development reflects the EU's commitment to driving global climate ambition and supporting a just transition to a low-carbon economy.



EU Steel Industry Urge to Prepare for CBAM to Avoid Trade Disruptions in 2026

欧盟钢铁业呼吁提前准备CBAM以防2026年贸易中断

With the EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) set to begin on January 1, 2026, European steel industry players remain unprepared for its gradual implementation, warns Alexander Julius, president of EUROMETAL, in a presentation in Milan on May 8. Although CBAM's fiscal impact will start in May 2027, companies must register on the EU platform and declare emissions from Scope 1 and 2, with Scope 3 emissions to follow. Julius highlights a major cash flow challenge: importers will pay for only 2.5% of embedded emissions in 2026, rising to 100% by 2034, meaning financial reserves must be built well in advance. The complexity and extra costs, estimated at €56 per tonne for high-emission steel, could overwhelm smaller businesses and disrupt supply chains. Stronger collaboration across the supply chain and emission surcharges in contracts are recommended. The European Commission plans to propose amendments

in late 2025, including expanding CBAM's scope downstream and anti-circumvention measures to protect EU manufacturing industries from carbon leakage through steel derivatives.



INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

Suzhou Taicang Launches High-End Aerospace Fastener Production Project

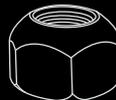
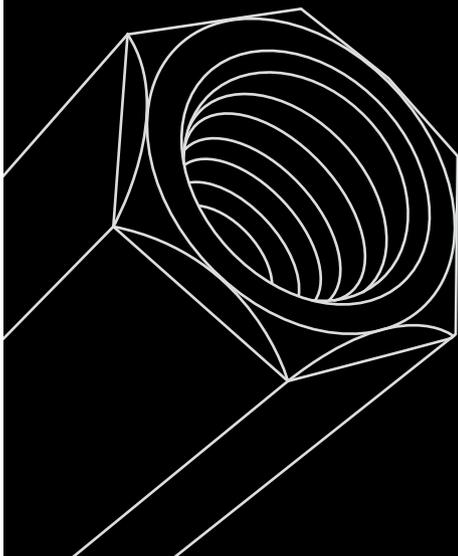
苏州太仓航空高端紧固件生产项目
正式启动

On April 26, 2025, the project officially commenced construction in Taicang, Suzhou. The project is invested and built by China Aviation Industry Standard Parts Manufacturing Co., Ltd., a subsidiary of the Aviation Industry Corporation of China. The company specializes in the development and production of high-end aerospace fasteners, providing professional connection technology solutions and integrated services for aerospace equipment construction. Once completed and fully operational, the project is expected to achieve an annual output value exceeding RMB 1 billion and generate over RMB 40 million in annual tax revenue. It is anticipated to inject new vitality into the local economy and promote the upgrade of the aerospace industry. Furthermore, the project aims to set a new benchmark for the expansion of the fastener industry in high-end fields, strengthening Taicang's position as a key hub for aerospace manufacturing.



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Chief Quality Officer Training Conference Successfully Held in Yongnian District of China

永年区首席品质官培训大会成功举办

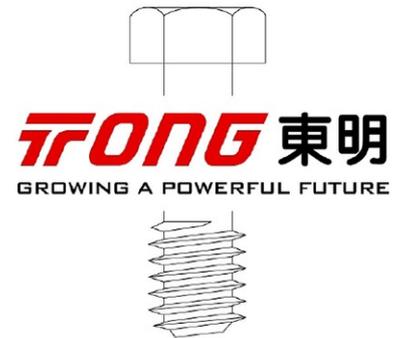
On February 15, the Yongnian District Market Supervision Bureau organized the 2025 Chief Quality Officer Training Conference, attended by over 170 quality officers. The event focused on enhancing corporate quality management capabilities. Mr. Zheng Zhongwei, head of the bureau's quality department, delivered an analysis of China's Product Quality Law, using practical cases to clarify legal responsibilities. Deputy Director Mr. Gao Deju conducted specialized training on the roles and functions of chief quality officers, sharing advanced quality management methodologies.

COMPANIES DEVELOPMENT

Tong Ming Enterprise Opens First Overseas Branch in Thailand

浙江东明在泰国设立首家海外分公司

On April 21, 2025, the company opened its first overseas branch in Bangkok, Thailand, marking a major step in its global expansion. After 300 days of preparation and cooperation between its headquarters and the Thai team, the company aims to shift from exporting products to building a global ecosystem in stainless steel fasteners. This move responds to ongoing US-China trade tensions and rising US tariffs that disrupt supply chains. By localizing production and diversifying markets, the company seeks to reduce risks from unilateral trade policies and boost its international competitiveness. The Thai branch will focus on cross-border technical collaboration, innovative logistics, and deep market development to strengthen the company's presence in Southeast Asia and the world. This strategic step lays the foundation for further global growth amid changing trade dynamics.



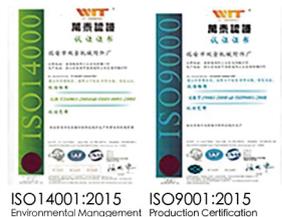
IMPORTED FROM SWITZERLAND ATMOSPHERE HEAT TREATMENT (AUSTEMPERING)

从瑞士引进国际先进的 贝氏体等温淬火设备

Double-Gold Machinery Accessory Factory founded in 1987. It is one of the earliest private enterprises engaging in production of various standard fasteners such as retaining rings for bores, E-rings, wave washers, and spring washers, etc. We have gained the certification of ISO9001:2015 International Production Management System, ROHS2.0 Environmental Protection Certification, and the certification of ISO14001:2015 Environmental Management System.

Double-Gold Factory holds the concept of innovation promoting values and always put a premium on investment and updating of equipment. Therefore, in 2008, we imported the most advanced equipment of controlled atmosphere heat treatment (Austempering) from Switzerland.

As a professional manufacturer in standard fasteners industry, we have endless pursuit of quality. We are making efforts to maintaining the highest level of raw materials selection, employee cultivation, products production and inspection. Double-Gold strives to achieve precision in every detail, and our hardworking are just for offering the ideal products to our customers.



瑞安市双金机械附件厂

RUIJIAN DOUBLE-GOLD MACHINERY ACCESSORY FACTORY

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Suzhou Fast Hardware Obtains Patent for High-Strength Automotive Bolts

江苏法思特获得汽车构件高强度紧固件螺栓专利

This innovation provides enhanced protection for fastening bolts, improving their durability and reliability in vehicle applications. The patented technology addresses common issues such as bolt loosening and corrosion, which are critical for ensuring the safety and performance of automotive assemblies. By leveraging advanced materials and precision manufacturing techniques, this new bolt offers superior mechanical strength and resistance to harsh environmental conditions. This development is expected to strengthen the company's position in the automotive fastener market and meet the increasing demand for high-quality, reliable fastening solutions in the automotive industry.

Finework (Hunan) New Energy Technology Signs Strategic Gas Turbine C-Parts Agreement with Baker Hughes

飞沃科技与贝克休斯签署燃气轮机C类零部件战略合作协议

On March 25, 2025, at the Baker Hughes Asia-Pacific Supplier Conference, Finework Technology was invited as a core supplier of gas turbines and signed a strategic collaboration agreement for gas turbine C-parts with global energy giant Baker Hughes. On March 31, Leo Di Filippo, Baker Hughes' Director of Rotating Parts Procurement, led a delegation to visit Finework and signed a procurement framework agreement. During the visit, Finework introduced the company's development and expansion plans. The delegation toured Finework's offshore hex bolt production base, aerospace industrial park, and CNAS laboratory, gaining deep insights into Finework's manufacturing strength and advanced testing capabilities. The agreements mark a milestone for Finework in the international gas turbine supply chain, positioning it for rapid growth in high-end equipment



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- ▶ Rivet Nuts
- ▶ Customized Parts via Cold Forging, CNC, Turned

Strengths:

- ✓ Producer in China
- ✓ IATF 16949 QMS certified
- ✓ PPAP package and IMDS for automotive industry
- ✓ Automatic Optical Sorting 100%
- ✓ Full range for sheet metal fasteners and 200 million stocks



manufacturing globally. Finework will supply core gas turbine components, including fasteners, to Baker Hughes worldwide. The partnership enhances Finework's global reputation and opens broad overseas markets. Finework plans to continue investing in R&D and deepen collaboration with Baker Hughes to create more successful projects in global energy equipment.

Essence Fastening Systems Reports Strong Q1 2025 Growth Driven by New Energy Vehicle Market

新能源汽车市场带动增长，超捷股份2025年第一季度业绩强劲

On April 24, 2025, Essence Fastening Systems released its Q1 financial report, showing revenue of RMB 189 million, up 38.36% year-on-year, and net profit of RMB 15.99 million, a 27.18% increase. Adjusted net profit excluding non-recurring items rose 47.22% to RMB 15.64 million. The company's main products include high-strength precision fasteners and special connectors used in automotive turbochargers, transmission parking control, exhaust systems, seats, lighting, and mirrors. In new energy vehicles, products are applied in battery trays, chassis, body, inverters, and battery swapping systems.

The company's 2024 annual report showed RMB 137 million in new revenue and RMB 212 million in orders. The company is actively developing new energy vehicle clients such as BYD, Tesla, and Xiaomi Auto, and key battery and motor system customers. Overseas expansion focuses on Mexico, targeting clients including Magna and Bosch. The company also formed a dedicated humanoid robot business team and secured commercial aerospace contracts for rocket structural parts. In 2025, the company plans to expand automotive export business, promote aerospace deliveries, and enhance profitability.



Tree Island Steel Reports Q1 2025 Revenue Decline Due to U.S. Tariffs

美国关税冲击，Tree Island Steel 公司2025年第一季度营收下滑

Tree Island Steel, a leading North American wire and fastener products manufacturer, announced a significant revenue drop in the first quarter of 2025, citing the impact of new U.S. tariffs on imported steel and wire products. The company reported that Q1 revenues fell to USD 52.4 million, down from USD 60.7 million a year earlier. Management attributed the decline to reduced demand and higher costs caused by the tariffs, which have disrupted supply chains and increased the prices of raw materials. CEO Remy Stachowiak noted that the company is working to mitigate these challenges by optimizing operations and seeking alternative supply sources. The company's outlook for the rest of 2025 remains cautious as tariff uncertainties continue to weigh on the industry.



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B&F Fastener Supply Rebrands as BFirst Industrial

B&F Fastener Supply公司更名为BFirst Industrial

B&F Fastener Supply, a Minnesota-based distributor founded in 1988, announced it has changed its name to “BFirst Industrial.” The rebranding reflects the company’s dedication to providing top-quality products and services in the fastener industry. Despite the new name, existing contracts, orders, and accounts remain unaffected. BFirst Industrial emphasized that its commitment to customer support and operational excellence continues unchanged. Over recent years, the company has expanded by acquiring firms like TPI and Northern States Supply and now operates 17 locations across Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, and the Dakotas.



Howmet Aerospace Positioned to Benefit from US-China Trade Deal

Howmet Aerospace公司将受益于美中贸易协议

Howmet Aerospace is well positioned to benefit from the recently announced US-China trade agreement, which aims to reduce tariffs and ease the trade tensions that have affected global supply chains and manufacturing costs. The aerospace sector, a critical market for Howmet, stands to gain as tariffs on key raw materials and finished aerospace components are lowered. Howmet, a leading manufacturer of advanced metal parts used in aircraft engines and structures, could see increased demand and improved profit margins as a result of reduced costs and expanded export opportunities. Industry analysts emphasize that the easing of trade barriers is expected to facilitate smoother cross-border transactions and reduce expenses for manufacturers like Howmet. The positive outlook reflects broader optimism about the easing of trade barriers and renewed growth prospects in aerospace manufacturing.



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JIS Single Nuts



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Slotted Hex Nuts



Hex Nuts

Thin Nuts
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Square Nuts
Lug Nuts
Non-Standard Nuts



ACQUISITIONS

Misumi Group Acquires Fictiv for USD 350 Million to Expand Digital Manufacturing Services

日本三住集团以3.5亿美元收购Fictiv，扩展数位制造服务

On April 17, 2025, Tokyo-based Misumi Group Inc. announced the acquisition of San Francisco-headquartered Fictiv Inc. in a USD 350 million all-cash deal. Fictiv, founded in 2013, provides on-demand procurement services for custom mechanical components to the U.S. manufacturing industry and operates in the U.S., China, India, and Mexico with about 400 employees and a global network of 250 manufacturing partners. Misumi said the acquisition will enhance its digital services and expand its customer base by integrating Fictiv's advanced technology and supply chain innovation. This move aims to elevate Misumi's value proposition from traditional production equipment to upstream product development in the value chain. Misumi's U.S. presence includes a supplier network with manufacturing and distribution centers. Fictiv's CEO Dave Evans called the deal a milestone, highlighting the shared vision to make a manufacturing platform that is smarter, faster, and more scalable.



MISUMI
Your Time, Our Priority



Portland Bolt Acquires Vermont Supplier Applied Bolting Technology

Portland Bolt收购佛蒙特供应商 Applied Bolting Technology

In late April 2025, Portland Bolt & Manufacturing Co., a leading fastener supplier based in Oregon, announced the acquisition of Vermont-based Applied Bolting Technology. Applied Bolting is renowned for its industry-leading direct tension indicating washers, which are critical components in structural and industrial bolting applications. Portland Bolt's CEO Blake Ray expressed enthusiasm about the acquisition, highlighting that Applied Bolting's innovative products, strong customer relationships, and commitment to industry education complement Portland Bolt's existing business. The acquisition is expected to enhance Portland Bolt's product offerings, expand its geographic reach, and strengthen its manufacturing capabilities. John Cummings, President of Applied Bolting, added that the combined strengths of both companies will enable them to grow their market presence and continue delivering high-performance bolting solutions globally. This acquisition follows Portland Bolt's earlier purchase of Southern Anchor Bolt in South Carolina, reflecting the company's strategic efforts to broaden its portfolio and footprint in the fastener industry. ■

compiled by Fastener World

AKF FASTENERS AKF®



Construction in 2014



Construction in 2019



Production workshop



Factory packaging



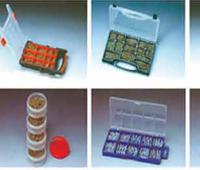
Test equipment



Warehouse



Anchors



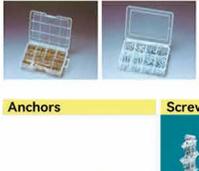
Screws



Bolts



Bolts



Bolts

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