TiTE x IHT 2026

AI-Driven Manufacturing Enhances the Resilience of Taiwan's Hardware and Tool Industry



With the theme "TEAM TAIWAN: From Manufacturing to Co-creation | AI-Empowered · Smart Upgrades," the annual Taiwan Int'l Tools & Hardware Expo × Int'l Hardware Expo Taiwan (TiTE x IHT) once again opened its doors in grand style at the Taichung International Convention and Exhibition Center (TICEC) on Oct. 20–22. On the opening day, President Lai Ching-te, along with official representatives from the Japan DIY · HC Association and the Trade and Investment Queensland, were invited to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony. This year, a total of 450 domestic and international hardware and tool manufacturers registered to exhibit, occupying more than 1,000 booths. The event served as one of the key platforms for the surrounding hardware and tool industry clusters to showcase their continuous innovation, stable supply capabilities, and high-quality services to international buyers. As the waves of AI, smart manufacturing, and low-carbon transformation continue to sweep across global industries, Taiwan's hardware and tool manufacturers—with an annual output value of over US$3 billion—also demonstrated the perseverance and determination to keep pace with global trends.



TiTE x IHT featured 8 major exhibition zones, including: Tools and Accessories; Metalworking, Machinery & Processing; Factory Equipment and Industrial Safety; Automotive Repair and EV Applications; Fasteners & Fittings; Gardening, Agricultural and Outdoor Living; Building and Home Improvement; and Intelligent Manufacturing & Automation. The organizers particularly emphasized that the exhibition's diverse range of exhibits and its proximity to manufacturing clusters allowed buyers to "visit the exhibition in the morning and tour factories in the afternoon," enabling them to find suppliers more efficiently. Six forums focused on four key topics: market trends, collaborative material development, AI applications, and the transition to low-carbon operations.





Fastener World also attended the exhibition to distribute magazines and engage in in-depth discussions with buyers on the hardware and tools industry, helping to facilitate matches between buyers and sellers. According to observations by Fastener World's staff on-site, there were about a dozen exhibitors related to fasteners this year. Although Taichung and Changhua are home to more than 70 percent of Taiwan's hardware and tools businesses, the fact that a similar hardware and tools exhibition was being held in Taipei at the same time appeared to have some impact on visitor numbers, diverting a portion of the expected crowd. However, some exhibitors on-site noted that the nature of this exhibition aligned closely with their target customers and marketing objectives, and they maintained a positive outlook on the benefits of participating. Based on on-site observations, many exhibitors had been gradually shifting from traditional OEM manufacturing toward product design and R&D, private labeling, customized manufacturing, and digital production. They also showcased capabilities in precision machining, product reliability, smart manufacturing, automation, and joint product development with international clients.

The organizers have not yet announced details or dates for the next exhibition. Please continue to check Fastener World's website (www.fastener-world.com.tw) for updates. ■

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Article by Gang Hao Chang, Editor-in-Chief

FASTENER POLAND 2026

A Gateway to Central & Eastern Europe's Fastener Market



The 9th edition of FASTENER POLAND® took place October 14–15 at EXPO Kraków in Poland. As one of Central and Eastern Europe's key trade fairs for fasteners and fastening technologies, this year's exhibition featured standard and special fasteners, automotive and construction fastening solutions, surface treatments, assembly technologies, production equipment, and supply chain services. It brought together manufacturers, distributors, and industrial buyers from around the world for business networking and sourcing opportunities. The biggest highlight of this edition was the newly introduced Fastener Zone for Maintenance Services, dedicated to the needs of factory equipment maintenance, facility management, and MRO (Maintenance, Repair and Operations). It gave fastener suppliers an opportunity to meet new customer groups face-to-face, extending their reach beyond traditional OEM procurement channels.

This year's exhibition highlighted two important industry trends: (1) The product range spanned fasteners, pre-applied coatings, assembly equipment, surface treatments, and inventory management services, reflecting a shift from supplying individual fasteners to providing integrated application solutions. Namely, suppliers were increasingly differentiated not only by product specifications but also by the broader value they deliver. (2) The new dedicated zone opened doors to buyers involved in equipment maintenance and facility management, creating opportunities for fastener manufacturers to expand beyond OEM procurement into the MRO market.

Fastener World also exhibited there, bringing together 27 Taiwanese exhibitors: Linkwell, L & W Fasteners, Sen Chang Industrial, Special Rivets Corp, Chite Enterprises, Chien Tsai Machinery, Homn Reen Enterprise, San Yung Electric Heat Machine, Tai Huei Screw Industry, Home Soon Enterprise, Key-Use Industrial Works, Jau Yeou Industry, Boss Precision Works, Joker Industrial, Dar Yu Enterprise, Ray Fu Enterprise, Hoplite Industry, Sun Through Industrial, Mao Chuan Industrial, An Chiao Molds, Hong Sheng, C & H International, Vertex Precision Industrial, Sheng Qian, Kheiron, Taiwan Precision Fastener, and TIFI (Taiwan Industrial Fasteners Institute). In addition to distributing its publications and showcasing Taiwan's fastener supply capabilities, Fastener World actively facilitated business matching between visitors and Taiwanese exhibitors, helping build connections and foster cooperation between Polish and Taiwanese industry players.















Visitors to this show told us that, as the Russia-Ukraine war appears unlikely to end this year, their purchasing intentions remain cautious. Many are primarily attending the show to seek local agents who can provide updates on the war and market conditions, enabling them to adjust their procurement strategies in other overseas markets. Despite this cautious approach, most visitors remain optimistic about this show's future prospects and anticipate growing construction demand across Europe. As a result, many have been purchasing construction fasteners, including small screws.



UN Comtrade data show that Poland imported approximately US$1.462 billion worth of fasteners under HS 7318 (fasteners) in 2025, an increase of 8.1%. Major supplying countries and regions included Germany, China, Italy, and Taiwan, offering substantial market entry opportunities for international fastener suppliers. Fastener Poland is worth watching not only for its potential in the Polish market, but also for the opportunities it offers to establish distribution channels into other Central and Eastern European markets through local importers, distributors, and industrial buyers. Global fastener professionals and purchasing representatives are warmly invited to visit the exhibition, explore the latest technologies, discover potential suppliers, and unlock new business opportunities across Central and Eastern Europe. ■

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