

Compiled by Fastener World

FASTENER WORLD NEWS

Industry Update

Global Fastener Demand Projected to Grow 3% in 2017, According to Freedonia

Global industrial fastener demand will grow 3% in 2017, according to Ken Long, manager of capital goods research at the Freedonia Group. Long spoke at the inaugural Fastener Industry Summit, held June 7th in Rosemont, Illinois.

“Growth in world fastener demand in 2017 will be bolstered by a rebound in US sales,” Long said. The fastest market gains will be posted in China, India, and other developing parts of Asia, fueled by increases in durable goods production. US fastener demand, which declined in 2016, is projected to climb 2.3% in 2017.



EFC Expands Global Presence



EFC International, a leading supplier of engineered fasteners, with corporate office in St. Louis, Missouri, has announced the implementation of their worldwide globalization strategy with the opening of offices and warehouses in China, South Korea, and Germany.

Expanding its global footprint and investing in key strategic global markets, EFC ensures both supplier and customer needs are met. “EFC’s physical presence in these countries enhances our relations, providing local support and value by offering a simpler, more cost-efficient way to manage the supply chain,” said Guenter Retkowski, Vice President of International Sales.

Upholding the commitment to provide engineered solutions globally for automotive, industrial, and distribution markets, is recognized with the increased investment in these physical facilities. Through a disciplined approach and putting together an invaluable team of international employees, EFC delivers an unbeatable customer experience globally.

EFC’s robust international growth is a tribute to the EFC team and to the strong international reputation of the world-class manufacturers who they have partnered with. These partnerships ensure customers receive the high-quality service

Japan to Impose Tax on Steel Screws Imported from China

Japan Ministry of Finance reevaluated its Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) and excluded China’s steel screws from the target of 2018 preferential tariff. China’s steel screws have been entitled to zero tariff so far, but recently they have been partially excluded and subject to tax since April 2018, effective for a year. Because China is expected to be considered for 3 consecutive years as a “country of high income” just like the G7 countries, China’s steel screws may become completely excluded after April 2019. The affected products are steel screws under the HS code 7318, and the steel springs under the HS code 7320.

U.S. Finds Possible Injury From Steel Wire Rod Imports; Probe To Continue



The U.S. International Trade Commission said it had made a preliminary finding that U.S. producers were being injured by imports of carbon and alloy steel wire rod from 10 countries.

As a result, the U.S. Commerce Department will continue an investigation it launched in April into whether the product was being dumped by Belarus, Italy, South Korea, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates and Britain. The department is also examining whether imports from Italy and Turkey are being subsidized.

Gerdau Ameristeel US Inc, a subsidiary of Gerdau SA, Nucor Corp, Keystone Consolidated Industries and Charter Steel had requested the trade probe.

In 2016, the United States imported an estimated \$10.4 million of carbon and alloy steel wire rod from Belarus; \$12.2 million from Italy; \$45.6 million from Korea; \$32.3 million from Russia; \$7.1 million from South Africa; \$40.7 million from Spain; \$41.4 million from Turkey; \$55 million from Ukraine; \$7 million from the United Arab Emirates; and \$20.5 million from the United Kingdom.

they've come to expect from EFC – anywhere in the world.

Matt Dudenhoefter, President and CEO states, "EFC's focus on key attributes of Expert People, Engineering, Quality, Connections, Logistics and Local Support, Global Presence will be the driving force for the future."

EFC International is a leading supplier of specialty engineered metal, plastic, cold-formed, spring steel stampings, electrical and assembled component parts to the OEM and Distribution market places.

CITT Amends Its Order Concerning Certain Steel Fasteners Originating in or Exported from China and Taiwan



The Canadian International Trade Tribunal, pursuant to subsection 76.01(1) of the Special Import Measures Act, has conducted an interim review of its order concerning certain steel fasteners originating in or exported from the People's Republic of China and Taiwan (the subject goods) made on January 5, 2015, in the five-year Expiry Review No. RR-2014-001, continuing, with amendment, its order made on January 6, 2010, in the first five-year Expiry Review No. RR-2009-001, continuing, with amendment, its findings made on January 7, 2005, in Inquiry No. NQ 2004-005 in respect of the subject goods.

Pursuant to paragraph 76.01(5)(b) of the Special Import Measures Act, the Canadian International Trade Tribunal hereby amends its order made on January 5, 2015, to exclude, effective the date of this order, the following goods: Squeeeeeeek No More® square-drive wood screws, manufactured by or on behalf of O'Berry Enterprises Inc. under U.S. patent Nos. 5,371,992, 5,372,466 or 6,250,186, for use in wood flooring, with scoring above the threaded portion of the screw that allows the upper portion of the screw and head to be easily broken off, 3" or 3.5" in length, of a #8 or #9 diameter, threaded in part with 8 threads per inch and in part with 9 threads per inch, with the remainder unthreaded, and covered in a Gleitmo 615 lubricant coating (or equivalent coating) and imported in packages of 500 screws or less.

The U.S. Investigating on Wire Rod Anti-dumping & Improper Subsidization

The U.S. Ministry of Commerce is investigating on carbon steel and alloy wire rods to look for signs of anti-dumping or subsidization.



The Ministry said the investigation on anti-dumping involves the wire rods from Belarus, Italy, South Korea, Russia, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine, UAE and UK; the investigation on subsidization involves those from Italy and Turkey.

Company Development

Action Fasteners Reports Rising Revenue Trend



Tim Jackson started Action Fasteners & Supply Inc. in 1994 out of his garage. Today, the wholesale fastener distribution company operates in 10,000 square feet of space and is a multimillion dollar operation.

He says the company expects to see an increase in revenue this year of between 15 percent and 20 percent over last year.

Action Fasteners had a revenue gain of 18 percent in 2016 over 2015, and had an 11 percent increase in revenue in 2015 compared with 2014. The company has 16 employees, including 4 sales representatives. Most of the company's customers are specialty contractors in the manufacturing sector.

Huttig Announces Made in the USA Fastener Selection



Huttig Building Products, Inc. (Huttig), a leading domestic distributor of millwork, building materials and wood products, is pleased to announce an agreement with American Fasteners Co. (AFC), expanding the fastener offering at Huttig.

AFC will produce collated fasteners in the Southwest United States, offered under the Huttig-Grip brand, including plastic-strip round-head framing nails as well as paper-tape metal-connector nails. This domestic production will complement Huttig's complete fastener offering, one of the most comprehensive in the country.

The AFC partnership is the result of Huttig's effort to secure more brands and broaden national offerings to enhance Huttig's role as the preferred distributor for millwork, building materials and fasteners.

Hillman Group Announces Retirement of Hillman Canada President



The Hillman Group, Inc., and The Hillman Group Canada ULC announced that the President of The Hillman Group Canada ULC, Richard Paulin, retired on July 1st, 2017. Mr. Paulin joined H. Paulin & Co., Limited in 1977 and started his career as a financial analyst. The company was family owned and operated until 1972 when it went public on the Toronto Stock Exchange. Hillman acquired H. Paulin in 2013. Richard took on the role of President of Hillman Canada at that time. Under Mr. Paulin's leadership, H. Paulin and Hillman Canada's sales grew from \$15 million to \$175 million with over 700 employees last year. Scott Ride transitioned to being Hillman Canada's President effective May 1, 2017. Mr. Ride has been with Hillman Canada for two years as Chief Operating Officer.

KLX: Seattle, WA Area Office Relocations Notice



As it completes the final phase of the integration of Herndon Products, LLC into KLX Aerospace Solutions, KLX is proud to announce that it has opened two new facilities in the Seattle, Washington area. One facility, located in Kent, Washington, is home to its Customer Support office team. The second facility, located in Everett, Washington, is home to its Warehouse and Operations team.

These locations are staffed by both KLX and legacy-Herndon personnel. KLX is very pleased to have its combined personnel working together at these locations. Its new, larger warehouse allows it to more efficiently support customers in the greater-Seattle area and beyond.

Stanley Black & Decker Expects Company to Double Sales in Six Years

StanleyBlack&Decker

The chief executive officer of Stanley Black & Decker Inc. said it has set an "aggressive growth goal," seeking to post \$22 billion in sales by 2022. Stanley posted revenue of \$11.4 billion in 2016. The tools and fastening systems manufacturer will achieve growth by boosting sales by 4 percent to 6 percent and adding acquisitions of between \$6 billion and \$8 billion, he said. Mergers and acquisitions "will be pursued across the segments" as part of Stanley's approach.

The drive by Stanley to double its size should not come as a surprise. Last October, it agreed to buy Newell Brands Inc.'s tools business for \$1.95 billion. In January, Stanley announced it's buying the Craftsman line of tools from Sears. Stanley posted \$2.81 billion in revenue in the first quarter, up 5 percent from the same period in 2016. Earnings more than doubled, to \$393.1 million, or \$2.59 per share.

Stanley raised its 2017 profit outlook in April, to between \$7.08 and \$7.28 per share on an improved outlook for its industrial businesses that include equipment for manufacturers, oil and gas pipeline construction and heavy construction.

Phillips Screw Company™ Revamps Their Corporate Image



The Phillips Screw Company™ has updated their corporate image with the launch of a new logo. The updated logo is a way to help customers better identify The Phillips Screw Company™ as the original inventor and licensor of the Phillips cruciform drive system.

"Our previous logo didn't truly convey our origins", stated Ken Hurley, CEO of Phillips Screw Company™. "It was time to update our image and ensure that our customers understand our brand positioning." The new logo incorporates a set of right-hand threads into the letter "P" of Phillips. Also, there is a graphic of what most would consider a Phillips cross recess head. Phillips Screw Company, Inc. is the world leader in the design of proprietary high-performance fasteners. The company was founded in 1933 and patented the Phillips drive system in 1935.

Mountz, Inc. Certified to New ISO 9001:2015 Standard



Mountz Inc., the expert in torque and fastening solutions, announced that it has successfully made the transition from ISO9001-2008 to the new ISO9001-2015 standard. The transition included several updates to the Mountz quality management system. In September 2015, the International Organization for Standardization released a new revision of the ISO 9001 standard, giving ISO 9001:2008 certified organizations three years to transition.

Mountz, Inc. is 100% focused on torque products and solutions. It is known to the industry as the premier torque tool supplier. Mountz tools comply with ISO6789:2003 and are constructed from high quality materials, engineered for reliability and safety and backed by an industry leading warranty.



Vossloh Q1 Profit Rises, EPS & Orders Down

Vossloh Group reported that its first-quarter income increased to 4.7 million euros from 3.8 million euros a year ago. Earnings per share, meanwhile, fell to 0.18 euros from 0.21 euros last year.

Consolidated EBIT significantly improved to 7.1 million euros from previous year's 2 million euros, thanks especially to a project mix with higher margins in the Fastening Systems business unit. The EBIT margin rose to 3.1 percent from 1.0 percent last year.

Revenues grew 18.2 percent to 224.3 million euros from previous year's 189.8 million euros. Revenue growth mainly reflected the acquisition of Vossloh Tie Technologies in the USA.

Looking ahead, the company continues to expect fiscal 2017 sales between 1.0 billion euros and 1.1 billion euros. The sales growth will primarily be driven by the inclusion of Vossloh Tie Technologies and increasing sales revenues in the Transportation division.

The Executive Board estimates that the company will reach an EBIT margin between 5.5 percent and 6.0 percent.

TR Fastenings Enters World of 3D Modelling with Brand New Product Animations



TR Fastenings is upgrading its online product catalogue with the introduction of exclusive new 3D models and animations to its website.

The models and animations, which allow users to move the product images around and see how they are installed and used with other materials or components, are hosted on Sketchfab which acts as an online library for 3D models and virtual reality (VR) content.

TR embarked on the project in 2016, and so far has 50 models and 10 animations online. TR will be adding new models to the site over the coming months and aim to have a 3D interactive model for each one of the 800 products categories on the website by the end of 2017.

Bossard China Moves to New Location



On April 25, 2017, Bossard moved its main Chinese operational unit from the Wai Gao Qiao Free Trade Zone to the Xin Zhuang Industrial Zone in Shanghai.

The move provides Bossard with 16,000 m² of space. The 5,000 m² warehouse offers room for up to 40,000 cubic meters of inventory capacity.

The new ISO17025 accredited engineering laboratory provides Bossard's customers with the opportunity to have fasteners and corresponding connections tested, thus ensuring high quality and advanced fastening technology consulting. This allows Bossard China to serve customers better with the state of the art engineering laboratory.

At the opening ceremony, Mr. Song Shixiong, Director of Economic and Technology of Minhang District, Mr. Xi Weisong, Vice General Manager of Xinzhuang Industrial Economy Development Co., Ltd., and Mr. David Dean, CEO of the Bossard Group, cut the ribbon to open the new location. Both Mr. Xi Weisong and Mr. David Dean praised the close collaboration between the local government of the Industrial Zone and Bossard. A traditional lion dance and visit to the engineering laboratory concluded a successful opening of Bossard's new location.

South Korean KPF Expands and Speeds up Development in the European Construction Fastener Market



Fastener and automotive component maker KPF signed a partnership agreement for supplying construction fasteners with a sales agent from Poland and another from Italy. The construction fasteners, which KPF will supply to the two agents, are the high value-add products that KPF has been supplying to German and Italian makers by far. KPF has made tactical preparations from R&D to marketing to tap into this market.



HWC Names Richard Megliola as President of Vertex Distribution

Vertex Distribution, a division of Houston Wire & Cable Company, announced that Richard "Rich" Megliola has been named President of Vertex Distribution. Megliola brings decades of fastener experience in sales, marketing, and operations.

Rich began his career in the fastener industry at Reynolds Fasteners, Inc. after graduating from Kean University with a degree in Marketing. At Reynolds, he helped grow sales from \$29 to \$200 million while rising to the role of Vice President of Sales & Operations. He was named President of Reynolds Fasteners' sister company Atlas Screw & Specialty Corporation after they were acquired by Heads and Threads International, LLC.

Following leadership roles with Stelfast Inc. as COO and Titan Fastener Products Inc. as EVP, Rich was named Director of Sales North America for Acument Global Technology, a division of the world's largest fastener manufacturer, Fontana Gruppo Special Fasteners, which has over \$1.2 billion in annual sales. Rich is currently serving as a Board Member on the National Fastener Distributors Association (NFDA).

Simpson Strong-Tie Expands Facilities in McKinney

SIMPSON

Strong-Tie

The McKinney Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) announced Simpson Strong-Tie will expand its existing local manufacturing and warehouse facilities, which includes a new 98,000-square-foot warehouse, training center and additional office space in McKinney. The expansion capital investment equals \$16 million.

Under the agreement with MEDC, Simpson Strong-Tie will add 22 new employees within three years. The expansion is scheduled for completion in December.

"We are proud to be part of the McKinney community for 30-plus years. It is an exciting time for us as we expand our training center, office, manufacturing and warehouse facilities. The City of McKinney and the MEDC have continued to provide assistance in the growth and expansion of Simpson Strong-Tie Inc., and we are grateful for their continued support," said Plant Manager Sheryl Wyatt.

Simpson Manufacturing Co. Inc., headquartered in Pleasanton, California, through its subsidiary, Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc., designs, engineers and is a leading manufacturer of wood construction products, including connectors, truss plates, fastening systems, fasteners, and shearwalls and concrete construction products including adhesives, specialty chemicals, mechanicals anchors, powder actuated tools and reinforcing fiber materials.

Imperial Fastener & Industrial Supply Adding \$1.5M Facility In Indiana

Imperial Fastener & Industrial Supply has announced plans to expand its operations in Evansville, IN. The company will invest \$1.5 million

to build a new warehouse and office facility that will create seven new jobs over the next two years. The new facility will be 23,700 square feet and construction will begin later in July.

Haggard & Stocking acquired Imperial Fastener in the fall of 2016. Imperial Fastener and Industrial Supply distributes fastening products and industrial supplies, servicing the production, maintenance and construction industries.



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Fasteners Plus International Commemorates Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



Fasteners Plus International, a Chicago based fasteners distributor, has recently celebrated a ribbon cutting ceremony after moving their office to Mokena, IL from Glenview, IL. The ceremony was on June 8th.

Fasteners Plus International has moved to a larger facility with an aim to expand their business and to support the south Chicago suburbs with their fastener requirements. During the event Troy Griffiths, President of the Mokena Chamber of Commerce presented a plaque to Trevor Olsen, owner of Fasteners Plus International.

The larger facility of Fasteners Plus International will provide a comprehensive range of industrial and commercial fasteners. They supply all kinds of standard, metric and custom fasteners to their clients. With their wide range of fastener inventory, they are supporting the needs of various industries like automotive, marine, construction, and more.

Fasteners Plus International, a Chicago based fasteners distributor, has recently celebrated a ribbon cutting ceremony after moving

Association

NEVIB Holds Business Visit to Jeveka and a Successful General Members Meeting



On May 9, 2017, more than 20 participants from almost all NEVIB member firms were present for a company visit to a

member company Jeveka in Almere-Poort. The visitors received interesting information and a tour from sister and brother Stephanie Veltkamp and Adriaan Veltkamp, 3rd generation owners / management of this beautiful family business. The current very modern housing was a significant expansion of surface and facilities to meet rapidly and adequately the growing demand of the many thousands of customers at home and abroad. After the company visit, NEVIB members met at the nearby Harbor House restaurant for the annual general meeting.

Shanghai Yuanmao Fastener Co., Ltd

EXPERT IN FASTENING SERVICE



Merger & Acquisitions

Arrow Fastener Co., LLC Acquired by Hangzhou GreatStar Industrial Co., Ltd.

Hangzhou GreatStar Industrial Co., Ltd, a leading global developer, manufacturer and supplier of hand and power tools, announced that it has entered into an agreement to acquire Arrow Fastener Co., LLC (“Arrow”) from its parent company Masco Corporation.

GreatStar, based in Hangzhou, China, is one of the largest hand tool manufacturers in Asia, specializing in designing and manufacturing high quality products for DIY, professional and industrial markets globally. Arrow, based in Saddle Brook, NJ, is the leading manufacturer of staple guns and heavy duty staples in North America.

“As an iconic American tool brand, Arrow products are ‘must-have’ items for many retailers in North America and elsewhere and represent an important addition to GreatStar’s global product portfolio. Arrow’s sales and marketing capabilities and strong market position combined with GreatStar’s manufacturing expertise, innovation pipeline and global reach will deliver more products, more innovation and more value to our customers around the world,” said GreatStar Chairman and CEO Champin Chou.

Novaria Group Completes Purchase of Space-Lok, Inc.



Novaria Group announced it has acquired aerospace industry leader Space-Lok, Inc., which will now fall under Novaria Fastening Systems, the company’s collection of aerospace fastener suppliers to aerospace manufacturers across the country.

Space-Lok focuses on the design, development and manufacture of high-quality internally and externally threaded fasteners and component mechanisms for all sectors of the aerospace industry. Headquartered in the Los Angeles area, Space-Lok’s facility houses a full range of state-of-the-art manufacturing equipment complemented by an advanced, on-site testing laboratory. Space-Lok’s manufacturing facility possesses CNC machining, hot and cold forging, thread rolling, grinding, EDM machining, tapping and tool making.

“Novaria Fastening Systems has seen exponential growth through increased business and strategic acquisitions,” said Earl Larkin, executive vice chairman of Novaria Group. “Space-Lok will continue that growth trajectory and will maintain its current team members.”



巨星科技 Hangzhou Great Star Industrial



Professional in manufacturing threaded rods and anchor bolts, full-line hardware and fastener exporter



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Indutrade Acquires Young Black Ltd



Indutrade entered into an agreement with the intention to acquire all of the shares in Young Black Industrial Stapling Ltd, with annual sales of approximately GBP 10 million.

Young Black is a technology sales company selling a wide range of fastening products, pneumatic tools, compressors, hoses and couplings to British industry and construction companies.

Possession is expected to take place in mid July 2017. The company will be part of Indutrade's Special Products business area.

The acquisition is expected to have a marginally positive impact on Indutrade's earnings per share.

Neschroef Acquires CP Tech to Broaden High-end Engineering Know-how



NEDSCHROEF

With the acquisition, Neschroef intends to further develop from a specialist manufacturer of fasteners to a high-end engineering company capable of engaging in the development of early-stage automotive projects working jointly with OEMs.

Koninklijke Neschroef Holding B.V. (Neschroef), one of the world's largest fasteners manufacturers, has signed an agreement to acquire CP Tech GmbH, a leading component manufacturer and engineering service provider. CP Tech, established in 2006 and located in Büren, Germany, employs 175 experts in advanced engineering offering complete solutions to many of the world's most prestigious car manufacturers.

Today's automotive industry is rapidly changing in adapting to global trends and customers' needs such as connectivity, sustainability and autonomous driving. This requires new vehicle concepts and incorporation of innovative product functionality at an early stage into the designing and manufacturing process. As a leading fasteners partner for future mobility, Neschroef focuses on the growing demand for special fasteners and other complex engineering parts used in cars powered by traditional fuel and electricity.

Completion of the transaction is subject to the required approvals and merger clearance.



NORMA Group Successfully Completes Acquisition of Fengfan

NORMA Group, a global market leader in engineered joining technology, has successfully completed the acquisition of Fengfan Fastener Co., Ltd. ("Fengfan"). Fengfan, headquartered in Shaoxing City, China, produces joining

products made of stainless steel and plastic as well as specialty textiles. Following NORMA Group's signing of the purchase agreement on March 28, 2017, for 80 percent of Fengfan's shares, the authorities have now approved the acquisition.

"We are consistently advancing our international expansion. After having acquired and successfully integrated companies in Malaysia and Australia, we are now strengthening our presence in the important growth market of China with the majority stake in Fengfan," says Werner Deggim, CEO of NORMA Group.

Fengfan was consolidated in the second quarter of 2017. Fengfan markets its products in the Chinese market and exports to other countries. Their approximately 190 employees produce cable ties, fastening elements and specially coated, fire-resistant textiles. Many of Fengfan's customers come from shipbuilding and heavy industry.

MW Industries Buys Threaded Inserts Maker Tri-Star



MW Industries Inc., manufacturer of engineered springs, specialty fasteners, machined parts and other metal components, has purchased Tri-Star Industries Inc., which makes threaded inserts for plastics. The deal was announced July 13. Terms were not disclosed.

MW Industries, or MWI, claims to be the largest and most diversified U.S. specialty spring and fastener manufacturer. Tri-Star, in Berlin, Conn., was founded in 1991. Tri-Star makes standard and custom threaded inserts in brass, steel, aluminum and stainless steel, for plastics.

MWI has made a series of acquisitions in recent years — USA Fastener Group Inc., Servometer and BellowsTech, Helical Products Co. Inc., Maudlin & Son Manufacturing, High-Performance Fastening Systems, Futuristics Components and Mohawk Spring.

Bolts & Nuts Buys Macon Business to Expand in Georgia



Bolts & Nuts Corp., a Chattanooga-based industrial distribution firm, has acquired Industrial Fastening of Macon, Ga., to help expand its business in Georgia. The purchase follows the acquisition last year of U.S. Nut & Bolt in Louisville, and the opening by the distributor of new facilities in the Carolinas, Kentucky and Nebraska over the past three years. Bolts & Nuts now serves customers in more than 40 states, Mexico and Europe.

As with its other locations in Tennessee, Kentucky, Georgia, North Carolina, Nebraska and Illinois, the Macon facility will continue to be a full stocking location to distribute fastener, specialty, and MRO parts to manufacturers in Georgia. Bolts & Nuts specializes in offering customized vendor managed inventory programs.

Anderson Manufacturing Acquired by Turnaround Financing Firm



Anderson Manufacturing, a family-owned specialty fastener business for nearly 40 years, is launching a new chapter with its July 17, 2017 acquisition

by the principals of Big Shoulders Capital.

David Muslin and Todd DiBenedetto, principals of Big Shoulders Capital, have purchased Anderson and reorganized the management team to position the company for strong growth in the specialty and complex cold-formed fastener business. They have brought back a long-time executive to lead the business as the new president. Tim Cash brings more than 20 years of experience with the company to his new position.

Anderson also has plans to grow by entering new markets and by making strategic acquisitions. “Anderson was linked to Rockford Products, which has since gone out of business. Now, we intend to invest in Anderson and return it to its position as one of the leading specialty fastener manufacturers in the nation,” said David Muslin.



The Watermill Group Acquires Cooper & Turner in Significant Cross-Border Deal

The Watermill Group, a strategy-driven private investment firm, has completed the cross-border acquisition of Andaray (Holdings) Limited and its direct and indirect subsidiaries (“Cooper & Turner”), a UK-based global manufacturer and distributor of high-strength, large diameter industrial fastener systems. Market leading organizations in wind energy, construction, OEM, rail and tunnelling turn to Cooper & Turner as one of the leading suppliers of fasteners for can't-fail fastening applications and extreme environments, when the highest quality products are vital.

Headquartered in Sheffield, England, Cooper & Turner serves a global customer base with strategically positioned manufacturing and distribution operations across the European Union, China and the US. This global network enables Cooper & Turner to offer a seamless, one-stop shop solution for the manufacture and distribution of industrial fasteners that meet the highest levels of quality. The company will continue to deliver the same trusted and high-quality experience across existing product lines, manufacturing sites and distribution operations as the business also pursues new product, service and market opportunities around the world.

The acquisition of Cooper & Turner deepens Watermill's presence in the UK, and adds to a portfolio of other holdings across North America.



Kyocera Has Acquired 100% Ownership of Senco, a U.S.-based Manufacturer of Fastening Tools and

Fasteners

Kyocera Corporation announced that it has acquired 100% ownership of fastener and tool manufacturer Senco Holdings, Inc. (CEO: Benjamin Johansen), based in Cincinnati, Ohio, as of August 7. The enterprise has been renamed Kyocera Senco Industrial Tools, Inc.

Senco, established in 1948, is a leader in creating fasteners and power fastening tools for residential, commercial, manufacturing and construction applications. Senco is renowned for its excellent product quality and diverse line, which includes pneumatic and electric nailers, staplers, screw systems and compressors, as well as nails, staples, screws and specialty fasteners. SENCO's manufacturing and marketing are concentrated in the U.S. and Europe, with products sold in more than 40 countries worldwide.

Kyocera entered the industrial tools market in the 1970s with a line of high-speed metal processing tools, and has steadily expanded into precision tools for electronics, aerospace, automotive, medical and woodworking applications. Kyocera's 2011 acquisition of the Unimerco Group in Europe (now Kyocera Unimerco) added a fastening tool product line that promises excellent synergies with Senco's longstanding expertise in the fastening tools and fasteners market. With the acquisition of Senco, Kyocera plans to increase its sales of fastening tools and fasteners to JPY40 billion (about USD361 million) by the fiscal year ending March 31, 2021.



Bufab Has Acquired Thunderbolts Group Limited

Bufab, through its subsidiary Montrose Holdings Ltd, signed an agreement to acquire 100 percent of the shares in the privately-owned company Thunderbolts Group Limited, in Southampton in the United Kingdom. The acquisition will be completed with immediate effect, and will be reported in Bufab's segment International.

Thunderbolts was founded in 1991 and has through steady growth developed into a significant supplier to the construction, manufacturing, marine and healthcare industries in the south of England. The company had net sales in 2016 of GBP 2.9 million, good profitability and 19 employees. Thunderbolts is expected to contribute marginally to Bufab's earnings per share from the third quarter of 2017.

Bufab expects to book acquisition related costs amounting to approximately SEK 5 million in the second quarter of 2017.

