




## ▼ EU Confirms Non-existence of AD Issues in Steel Fasteners of Thailand

 The EU Committee has recently closed the investigation on Thai stainless steel fasteners and stated there was no proof of Thai products being dumped into EU, which would be beneficial to the export of Thai stainless steel fasteners to European markets. The investigation was launched last June due to the suspicion of circumvention of China via Thailand. Stainless steel fasteners from China and Taiwan have to be charged with 11.4-27.4% and 8.8-23.6% tariff respectively according to their CIF (cost, insurance, freight) prices. The EU originally thought that this would cause the circumvention of China via Thailand before products were shipped to the EU.

## ▼ Russia Implements New Standard for Nuclear Plant Fasteners



On January 1st 2013, Russia implemented a new national standard GOST R 54786-2011 for “removable nuclear plant fasteners” in order to make consistency with other Russian standards.

It is understood that the standard was adopted by Russia for the first time, and was mainly applicable to removable fasteners in nuclear reactors, steam generators, heat exchangers, outer case of pumps, accessories, and pipe system. The standard was drafted by specialists in “Prometheus” central institute of structural materials.



## ▼ Net Profit of Fastenal in Q1 Up 9%

U.S. industrial and building hardware distributor Fastenal Co (FAST) announced its financial report, showing 9% of net profit increase in Q1 due to the increase in gross profit margin. The net profit was increased to USD 0.109 billion (about 37 cents per share) compared to USD 0.1 billion recorded during the same period last year (about 34 cents per share). The revenue was 5% up to USD 0.806 billion lower than the expected USD 0.816 billion. Fastenal had 11 retail stores opened in Q1 and reached 2,660 stores at the end of season. Moreover, it installed 4,352 new industrial automatic vending machines (25,447 sets in total). In the past year, the number of stores increased by 2% and the number of industrial automatic vending machines increased by 2.5 times.



## ▼ Elgin Fastener Group Announces Acquisition of Telefast Industries, Inc.

Elgin Fastener Group, LLC (EFG) announced it had completed the acquisition of Telefast Industries, Inc., of Berea, Ohio.

Jeff Liter, EFG CEO, commented, "Telefast is a natural fit for our acquisition strategy as they expand our manufacturing capabilities to include the cold heading of internally threaded fasteners. The addition of Telefast also offers us cross selling opportunities with customers who buy from both Telefast and our other plants. In turn, EFG is committed to growing the Telefast operation by expanding both their sales reach and their capabilities."

Founded in 1986, Telefast Industries was launched as a manufacturer of internally threaded fasteners, initially supplying the distribution industry. Today the company is a fully integrated manufacturer providing both internally and externally threaded products to many different markets, including distribution, automotive, agriculture, construction, government, and after-market/MRO.

Elgin Fastener Group is now comprised of eight leading domestic specialty fastener manufacturers (Ohio Rod Products, Leland Powell Fasteners, Chandler Products, Silo Fastener, Landreth Fastener, Quality Bolt & Screw, Northern Wire, Telefast Industries) offering a complete range of special, semi-standard, and custom fasteners in a wide variety of styles, sizes, materials, and finishes, as well as a metal finishing company (Best Metal Finishing). Elgin Fastener Group is a portfolio company of Audax Group.



### ▼ Swiss Nobel Biocare Net Profit Dropped in Q1 2013

Swiss dental implant manufacturer Nobel Biocare continues to face stringent challenges from the market. In Q1 2013 the revenue and profit both reduced, especially in European market suffering the crises. On the other hand, the business in Japan also became worse. During Jan. to Mar. 2013, the revenue of Nobel Biocare dropped by 4% to EUR0.1415 bn. The net profit in Q1 was 1% down to EUR13.3 million.



### ▼ Ministry of Finance Japan Revealed Steel Fastener Export Statistics in 2012

Export volume of steel screws in 2012 was 339,039 tons, YOY growth of 5.9%, returning to the standard before Lehman Shock, in the mean time marking the highest record since the Plaza Accord to become the 5th highest in the history. On the other hand, import volume marked an unprecedented highest record of 234,188 tons, YOY growth of 3.4%. The export/import ratio was 1.44, up 0.03 points from last year. Among 15 types of steel screws, 10 types indicated trade deficit.

In 2012, because of the boycott of Japanese goods in China due to the territorial dispute over the Diaoyu Islands, the monetary value of stainless steel fasteners exported from Japan to China plummeted by 14.6% to 55.9 billion yens. Also, the monetary value of fasteners exported from Japan to China comprised 20.8% of the total value of fasteners exported from Japan (down by 5%).

Regarding to Japan's fastener export figure with respect to the US in 2012, the monetary value of stainless steel fasteners exported from Japan to the US grew by 29.3% to 60.8 billion yens. Also, the monetary value of fasteners exported from Japan to the US comprised 22.6% of the total value of fasteners exported from Japan (up by 3.8%).

Regarding to Japan's fastener export to Thailand in 2012, the monetary value of stainless steel fasteners exported from Japan to Thailand jumped by 32% to 43.6 billion yens. Also, the value of fasteners exported from Japan to Thailand comprised 16.2% of the total value of fasteners exported from Japan (up by 3%).

### ▼ Japan Iron and Steel Production in FY2012

According to preliminary trade statistics from the Ministry of Finance, Japan customs cleared exports of iron and steel products totaled 43,417,000 tons in fiscal 2012, up 9.6% from a year ago, when they stood at the second highest level after a record 43,630,000 tons of total exports in fiscal 1999.

Among main destinations, Asia accounted for 34,592,000 tons, up 9.6% from a year ago.



Export	China	Asian NIEs	ASEAN	USA	Middle East	EU	Russia
2012	5,931,000 tons	13,184,000 tons	13,614,000 tons	2,280,000 tons	1,868,000 tons	330,000 tons	190,000 tons
YOY	-7.1%	2.3%	22.8%	9.9%	15.6%	-19.3%	-30.2%

Meanwhile, Japan's customs cleared imports of iron and steel products totaled 7,452,416 tonne in fiscal 2012, down 7.9% from a year ago, indicating preliminary trade statistics from the Ministry of Finance.

Import	China	Asian NIEs	ASEAN	Russia	EU	USA	Middle East
2012	1,155,770 tons	4,677,917 tons	112,204 tons	183,329 tons	137,571 tons	17,124 tons	1,053 tons
YOY	-16.6%	-1.3%	-31.3%	-30.2%	7.5%	6.1%	-94.1%



## ▼ Export and Import Statistics by Ministry of Finance of Japan on Stainless Steel Fasteners in January and February 2013

According to export and import statistics in January of 2013 recently disclosed by Ministry of Finance of Japan, regarding 15 kinds of stainless steel fasteners, the total export amount and value of them were 23,427 tons (a growth of about 1,500 tons or 7.1% as compared to 2012) and 19.4 billion yens (a growth of about 1.8 billion yens or 16.6% as compared to 2012); the total import amount and value of them were 23,820 tons (a growth of about 530 tons or 2.3% as compared to 2012) and 7.02 billion yens (a growth of about 0.5 billion yens or 7.7 % as compared to 2012).

Total export volume for February 2013 was 27,243 tons, YOY drop of 3.2%, and export value was 23.33 billion yens, YOY growth of 8.1%. On the other hand, import volume was 16,749 tons, up 19.2% from last year, and import value was 5.58 billion yens, up 21.9% from last year. Generally, only "export volume" shows decline whereas others show growth.

## ▼ Statistics on the Outputs of Cold Finished Steel Bars and Cold/Hot Forged Steel in Japan in 2012

According to Cold Finished Steel Bar Industrial Alliance of Japan, regarding the production output of cold finished steel bars and cold/hot forged steel in 2012, 354,176 tons of them were produced in Kanto (a drop of 3.5% as compared to 2011); 393,338 tons of them were produced in the middle region of Japan (a growth of 0.4%); 311,19 tons of them were produced in Kansai (a drop of 6.6%); total amount of them produced in Japan in 2012 was 1,058,693 tons (down by 3%).



## ▼ Korean Auto Parts Export Hiked to USD24.6 Billion in 2012

According to the data released by Korea International Trade Association (KITA), the export of Korean auto parts in 2012 reached USD24.6 billion. KITA stated that due to the global strong demand for Korean cars last year, the export of Korean auto parts was also increasing. Since the overseas factory establishment of Hyundai, Kia, and other Korean car manufacturers in 2000, the export of auto parts has been growing steadily. In 2012, top 5 largest Korean car manufacturers exported 3.17 million cars abroad (with the total value of USD4.363 billion). North America represented the biggest share of the export (17.4% up to 905,000 units over the same period.)

## ▼ Production Output of Fasteners in China in 2012 was 6.6 Million Tons

According to Fastener Sub Association of the CMCA (China General Machine Components Industry Association), the production output of fasteners in China in 2012 was 6.6 million tons and its monetary value was RMB 65 billion; the amount of fasteners exported from China in 2012 was 2.49 million tons and its value was US\$ 4.71 billion; the amount of fasteners imported into China in 2012 was 0.25 million tons and its value was US\$ 3.1 billion.



Year	Annual output (10 thousand tons)	Full-year sales (Hundred million RMB)	Total annual exports (10 thousand tons)	Annual export revenue (Hundred million US dollars)	Total annual import (10 thousand tons)	Annual import revenue (Hundred million US dollars)
2009	530	490	161.0	23.67	19.5	21.0
2010	610	600	227.2	36.56	26.3	28.7
2011	680	660	258.9	46.64	26.4	29.4
2012	660	650	249.4	47.10	25.5	31.0



### ▼ Brazil and China Looking Good Among BRICS

The fifth summit meeting of the five BRICS countries was currently held in South Africa. According to a survey, people of Brazil and China are the most optimistic about personal financial conditions and future economic outlooks; in contrast, people of India and Russia are the least optimistic.

Today, Pew Research Center disclosed the survey, which was conducted in spring last year on Brazil, China, India and Russia; however, no data was revealed on South Africa.

As Europe and the US are still in the repercussions of global financial storm, the rise of the five BRICS countries has attracted a lot of attention. In the meeting, these five countries will talk about the establishment of a new development bank, a direct challenge to the dominance of World Bank and IMF, both of which have been led by the West.

According to the survey, people of Brazil and China are the most optimistic about personal financial conditions and future economic outlooks. In the aspect of personal financial condition, Brazil ranks the top. 72% of people in Brazil think they are financially better off than five years ago. China ranks the second. 70% of people in China think they are financially better off than five years ago. India ranks the third. 50% of people in India think they are financially better off than five years ago. Russia ranks the last. Only 32% of people in Russia think they are financially better off than five years ago. In the aspect of the future economic outlook for the coming one year, Brazil ranks the top. 84% of people in Brazil think economic condition will get better; China ranks the second. 83% of people in China think economic condition will get better; India ranks the third. 45% of people in India think economic condition will get better; Russia ranks the last. only 31% of its people think economic condition will get better.

In the aspect regarding to the question "Will people of the next generation find a good job and be wealthier than their parents?", 40% and 57% of people in Brazil and China, respectively, answered yes.



### Molitec Steel Established a Subsidiary in Mexico to Produce Auto Components

On March 18, Molitec Steel announced that it established a subsidiary in Mexico to manufacture and sell auto components and steel sheets.

Data on the subsidiary in Mexico:

Name: Molitec Steel Mexico, S.A. de C.V.

Address: Aguascalientes (city), Aguascalientes (state), Mexico

Capital: 20,000 pesos

100% funded by Molitec Steel

Date of establishment: March 1, 2013

Range of business: manufacturing and sale of auto components and sale of steel sheets



### ▼ GM will Lay off 598 Workers in Its Brazilian Factory

General Motors of the US announced on the 26th that GM would lay off 598 workers working on the assembly line of its factory in Sao Jose dos Campos, Brazil. This lay-off meets the agreement reached by GM and the labor union. These people have been on a paid leave since August of the last year. According to the agreement mediated by the government, if they are not re-assigned to other jobs, they will be laid off before the deadline specified on the agreement, March 26, because the assembly line has not been operating at its full capacity. The labor union pointed out that more workers might be laid off in the future because GM planned to lay off 1,600 workers in total.



### ▼ Two Digits Growth for Bentley Motors

Luxury vehicles manufacturer, Bentley Motors has announced the global growth of 22% in 2012, delivering 8,510 cars to customers worldwide. The US is Bentley's largest global market in 2012, with 2,457 cars delivered to customers in the region, a 22% increase on 2011. China followed closely with 2,253 cars delivered, Bentley's largest ever volume in the region and a 23% increase on 2011. The Middle East region performed very well with deliveries up 44% to 815 cars. Asia Pacific also increased its deliveries by 44% to 358 cars while Japan saw exceptional growth of 73% with 190 deliveries.



## ▼ Made in the Midlands Urges Manufacturers to Expand Export Opportunities

Midlands based manufacturing network “Made in the Midlands” is urging businesses to expand their export strategies and to start thinking global. Against the backdrop of David Cameron’s recent trip to India, the network is particularly encouraging its members and other Midlands companies to seek out export opportunities to BRICs countries and regions outside the European Union.

Made in the Midlands president John Faulkner pointed out some export benefits: “Depending on the shipping density of your components the rewards are often quite attractive. Especially with emerging economies such as Brazil, it is a great time to seek out new opportunities.” Although moving into export seems to be a natural progression for any business, he also suggested, “UK companies should only seek to enter the export market when they have exhausted opportunities on their own doorstep and if the investment in export can be justified.”

Many of the network’s members are already enjoying export success to countries outside the EU. Examples include Redditch based precision engineering manufacturer Samuel Taylor Limited (STL), which achieves 85% of their turnover through export, although import duties and tariff codes can pose a challenge.

Another local firm going global is Smethwick based protective case manufacturer Zero Cases. Counting countries such as China, India, South Korea and Saudi Arabia amongst their export destinations, the company’s UK plant manager Mike Dimmack stressed, “One of the key benefits of exporting to regions outside the Euro zone is that these countries do not see any restrictions in budget and pressure on reduction of government spending.” The company currently generates 35% of its total sales through export – a number which is expected to rise to 50% by the end of the year.

In the past five years the UK has seen its exports to BRICs countries more than doubling, increasing from £12.7bn in 2007 to £27.1bn in 2012, according to the Office for National Statistics (ONS).



### ▼ Japanese Automobile Component Manufacturer to Invest in Slovakia

**R**ichard Rybnicek, the mayor of Trencin City of Slovakia, indicated that a Japanese automobile component manufacturer would invest 20 million to 30 million euros in Trencin City of Slovakia and such investment will create about 500 jobs.

### Honda of Japan Invested 6.8 Billion Yens to Erect a New Factory in Malaysia



**H**onda of Japan announced on March 13 that its new factory in Malaysia had been in operation since February. The annual production capacity of this new factory is 0.3 million cars. Also, auto parts acquisition, manufacturing and sales are consolidated in a single place -- the new factory. Land acquisition and construction expense for the new factory totaled about 6.8 billion yens.

When the factory started its operation, it employed about 1,100 people. The new factory sells its cars to the domestic market in Malaysia. Also, its painting system is highly efficient. The new factory also has exhaust emission testing facilities and a 400-meter long road for driving test.

### ▼ Japan Forming Machine Purchase Order Value Dropped to 17.7 Billion Yens in Feb.

**A**ccording to Japan Forming Machinery Association statistics, the total order value of forming machines in February dropped for the third consecutive time to 17.71 billion yens (YOY minus 39%). In addition, due to the substantial decrease in export, with regard to the domestic demand, the investment in auto-related equipment was affected and exhibited substantial drop.

### ▼ Japan Oshima's High-Speed Fastener Checking Device, VQ-Liner

**O**shima, a company of Japan, has developed VQ-Liner, a new smart high-speed fastener checking device, which has learning capability so as to simplify the minute adjustments of video camera. The new device may be used in the checking of head portions of small fasteners and drilling screws. Several other functions and features may also be added to the device.

### ▼ Nicher of Japan Developed Fastener Marking Sprayer

**N**icher, based in Iruma-gun of Saitama Prefecture, will start to sell its newly developed fastener marking sprayer in May of 2013. The fastener marking sprayer belongs to its marking series. In construction, workers have used a marker to put markings on bolts that are temporarily fastened. Due to the complex process, a long time ago many people expected to see a replacement for traditional markers. In use, after a resin-made adaptor is coated on a fastener, the user just has to lightly press the button of the sprayer to spray a white marking on the fastener.

### ▼ Japan Hirakata Giken's Newly Developed "NonBuren Tackgel Affixing Gel" is Highly Acclaimed

**N**onBuren Tackgel, a newly developed affixing gel provided by Hirakata Giken, a Japanese corporation whose headquarters is located in Hirakata City of Osaka, is quite effective to avoiding the toppling and displacement of machines and devices during a quake. In use, the new gel does not need any anchor bolt to affix a machine or device. It has been highly acclaimed because the toppling and displacement of machines and devices can be eliminated when a quake occurs and hence injuries to workers and people in the vicinity may be avoided. In addition, the gel may assure a place to be a safe place upon the occurrence of a quake. The previous adhesive method was vague and not precisely described; in contrast, the new gel employs a quantitative approach to commercialize the method.



## ▼ Japan Sanritsu Kikai Company's New Machinery Able to Embed Nylon Washers onto Finished Screws

The company's "NSY-YS2" machine is equipped with a special structure of continuous embedding system to embed nylon washers onto finished screws. The system is characteristic of high-speed running 3 to 4 times faster than average machines. The machine embeds washers after the rolling process; therefore, there is no need to worry about damaged or stained washers.

## ▼ JAITA Develops Micro Mechanical Bolts

JAITA co-developed one technology with one fastener manufacturer in Kanto. This technology is to place a micro mechanical unit incorporating with the mechanical structure and electronic circuit into a bolt. It can detect wirelessly the tightening and damage of a bolt after it is tightened.

JAITA stated that the technology would be applied to the important components installed in aircrafts, automobiles, and precision parts. The advancement of the management of fastener tightening is also expectable in the future.

Since 2006 JAITA has been working on the research of "a system that is able to detect the tightening and damage of a bolt" and has been trying to detect the damages of fasteners installed on satellites outside the atmosphere directly from the earth. JAITA embedded the axial force detector (MEMS) in a bolt, which could thus exam the loading of a bolt. If any detected bolt shows abnormal situations, the detector can transfer the info immediately onto the detector on a satellite and the staff on the earth can determine which bolt appears abnormal and get the related abnormal data through the monitor.



## ▼ Indian Car Market Still Stagnating

One market survey of the Indian car market demonstrates that during March to April 2013 Indian car production was only 1.2% up over the same period last year. In March 2013 the domestic production reached 1,685,355 vehicles, 8.7% down over the record of 1,845,868 vehicles in March 2012.



## ▼ Japan Taiyo Nut Mfg. Co., Ltd. Adopts Visual

## Inspection Machine For Bolts and Nuts

The machine can inspect female nuts in 360 degrees, and its hopper is replaceable. Its full automatic inspection mechanism can proactively remove incorrect parts from mixing with the products. The machine is equipped with a device to "hang" weld nuts and flange female screws and visually inspect the shape of nuts and screws from above and sideways. Moreover, a camera with a special lens is installed on the top to perform a 360 degree internal diameter inspection. There are a total of three CCD cameras, enabling the machine to perform 150 pcs/min. inspection.

## ▼ Japan Tohnichi Mfg. Co., Ltd. Developed 3 Types of "STC2 Series" Digital Torque Drivers

"STC2 Series" is already on sale. It includes the following features:

1. Equipped with a multi-function LED ring to notify of torque status during assembly, and whether or not the status is appropriate during inspection.
2. Wider application range in torque management and inspection.
3. Verticle invert function of the torque display offers more convenience in performing sophisticated fastening and assembly.
4. Easy to manage data with the use of a computer.
5. Corresponding to ESD. Compatible to IEC61340-5-1: 2007.
6. Applicable to torque management of small steel screws within M2 to M5.

### ▼ Say Goodbye to Cross-Threaded Screws

**W**hen assembling screws, there are often problems with starting the thread, resulting in the so-called 'cross-thread'. This results in damage to or even the destruction of the receiving thread. Loss of production and significant post-processing costs are the result.

Böllhoff Fastening introduced a technical solution. Originally developed for the automotive industry, Navitight can solve the problem efficiently. An undersized thread at the lead of the screw guides the main thread into its correct position, avoiding the dreaded cross thread.

This reliable screwing method has a hexagon flange head and is available in M5 to M14 diameters. Other head styles and diameters are available on request.

### ▼ Stainless Steel Price in Asia Continues to Slide

**S**tainless steel price in Asia continues to slide because of less demand for it. On March 22, the price of 304/2B2mm stainless steel cold roll continued to slide from the previous US\$ 2,600 to 2,700 per ton, to US\$ 2,580 to 2,650 per ton.

Stainless steel price in Taiwan is US\$ 2,650 per ton and stainless steel price in Korea is US\$ 2,650 to 2,700 per ton (the actual stainless steel selling price in Korea is in the range from US\$ 2,580 to 2,650). Though nickel price has exhibited a slight increase after March 15, steelmakers do not want to increase their prices because they want to keep order sizes up as it approaches the end of March. Therefore, in the near future, stainless steel price in Asia will remain low.



### ▼ Volkswagen Planning to Set Up Plants in Taiwan May Benefit CSC and Chun Yu

**G**erman car manufacturer Volkswagen plans to set up plants in Taiwan, heightening the expectation of increasing demand for sheetmetals and fasteners. If the investment gets the governmental approval, it is expected that several sheetmetals and fasteners manufacturers, which have been currently supplying materials directly/indirectly to Volkswagen, will be the largest beneficiaries. Taiwan CSC stated that it continues to supply 800,000 metric tons of automotive sheetmetals (including hot-rolled, acid pickling, cold-rolled, hot-dip galvanized steel rolls) each year. 40% of the amount is for domestic sales while the other 60% is for foreign car manufacturers like Volkswagen. It added, with the expansion of the business in foreign automotive markets, CSC is also active in developing the markets in China, Southeast Asia, North America, and Europe. It is expected that the growth this year will be 10-20%. China Steel Global Trading Corp., a family of Taiwan CSC Group, said over 100,000 metric tons of automotive parts it exports are shipped to Volkswagen plants in Germany, Brazil, and Mexico. General Manager Han of Boltun Corporation with the annual capacity up to 100,000 metric tons said that 60-70% of the demand of Volkswagen Shanghai for auto fasteners is supplied by Boltun factory in Xiamen and they are the largest supplier of Volkswagen. Regarding the news of Volkswagen considering setting up plants in Taiwan, Han said it is true but the government should provide a better environment for investment. They are contacting Volkswagen for the supply, and it is possible that they can grasp the chance; Chun Yu also said, over 30% of their products are for cars and are mostly exported to car manufacturers in Europe and the U.S. They welcome Volkswagen to set up plants in Taiwan and can supply them materials soon; San Shing Fastech said 80% of its products are exported to Volkswagen, Ford, Volvo, and Chrysler. If Volkswagen really comes, it is a chance for it; Jinn Her said, the monthly fastener production is 6,000 metric tons per month, and 10% of the amount is automotive alloy fasteners. In order to increase the quality, currently it invested NTD 0.2 billion to set up a plant with the monthly capacity of 5,000 metric tons of spheroidized wires.

### ▼ Rodex Expects Larger Profit in Q1 and Remains Fair Order Acceptance

**S**tainless steel fastener manufacturer Rodex saw a stable profit from its Taiwan plant in Q1 2013. Pushed by the positive growth of its Thai plant, Rodex expects that the profit will exceed Q4 last year. Considering Q2, the order acceptance of Rodex in April was very similar to that in March. However, due to the stainless steel market being stagnant and the European market showing limited bounceback, the order status of Rodex has not been fully taken. But the order acceptance in Q2 is quite likely to remain the same level as in Q1.





### ▼ To Chun Zu, as of Now, an Order Takes About 6 Months to Deliver

The revenue of Chun Zu, a fastener forming machine manufacturer, in the first two months of 2013 was NT\$ 251 million, a drop of 18.34% as compared to the same period in 2012. The drop was mainly because of fewer workdays in February. As of now, an order takes about 6 months to deliver. In addition, the monetary value of orders received by the firm from Germany, Poland, Czech Republic, India and Southeast Asia has been enough. Also, its orders placed from China have picked up.

As demand for fasteners increases, demand for its forming machines increases too. To the company, delivery of an order usually takes three to six months. The company indicated that the increase in demand will be reflected in its revenue in the second half of the year. Because the number of workdays will resume to normal in the second quarter, its revenue will pick up.

### ▼ San Shing: Small Growth in Q1 Output; Capacity Utilization Rate Over 80% in Q1; Q2 Orders will Remain Stable

Orders received by San Shing Fastech Corp., which is a screw and bolt manufacturer, in March were quite stable and its output in Q1 would exhibit a small growth as compared to Q4 of 2012. As of now, relevant signs have indicated that the monetary value of orders placed to the company in Q2 will be close to that in Q1 and its capacity utilization rate will remain at more than 80% in Q1. Its revenue earned in the first two months of 2013 was NT\$ 886 million, an increase of 3.95% as compared to 2012.

Mainly because of fewer workdays, its revenue generated in February was NT\$ 411 million, a monthly decline of 13.72% as compared to the previous month (an annual decline of 3.95% as compared to the same month of 2012). In Q1, because Christmas and New Year holidays were over in the US, Europe and other countries, the value of orders received by the company was slightly more than that in Q4 of 2012 and its capacity utilization rate was more than 80%.

In prospect of Q2, the monetary value of its orders is expected to be close to that in Q1 and its capacity utilization rate will be more than 80%. Because China Steel will increase its steel product prices, the company will increase the prices of its fastener products slightly. In conclusion, the company's operations and revenue will remain stable in Q2 of 2013.

### ▼ China Steelmaking Industry Lost About RMB 30 Billion in 2012

Chiao-Huei Sun, the deputy chief of the National Key Laboratories of China, said the steelmaking industry of China has been losing money because the steel production capacity in China has far exceeded the actual production output and the meager profits of the steelmaking industry has been eaten away by the expensive imported iron ore; in 2012, the steelmaking industry of China lost a total amount of RMB 28.92 billion yens (7.39 times increase as compared to the loss in 2011).

Factors that such loss may be attributable to may include the sluggish global economy, the sluggish economic condition in China, less demand for steel and the drop in steel price.



### ▼ Wang Invited to Share Overseas Investment Experience

“To invest in Thailand is like tasting a cup of sour & spicy soup. Every flavor mixes together,” said President Wen-Shen Wang of Chiao Pao Metal Co., Ltd. on the seminar of overseas Taiwanese investors' experience sharing given by Thai-Taiwan Business Association on May 6.

Having invested abroad for over 20-30 years, most of Taiwanese industries are successful. Accordingly, 6 successful Taiwanese investors were invited to share their experiences in investing another countries including local regulations, culture, business opportunities, and risks, which could reinforce the interaction between companies investing abroad and domestic industries as well as offer correct overseas investment info to domestic companies.

Wang pointed that currently Thailand is very attractive to Taiwanese investors and several Taiwan business groups or societies have been established in Thailand, providing more supports than last year. However, the challenges still exist including the impact of international oil price on Thai energy supply, flood, and inflation. He added that Taiwanese investors who want to invest Thailand should focus more on the political development of Thailand in the future. ■