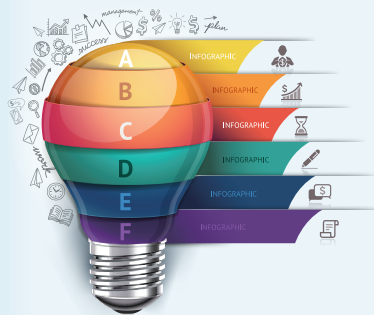




Fastener World News

compiled by Fastener World Inc.



Chinese Fastener Export Threatens Indian Counterparts



It is reported that the Indian nuts and bolts manufacturers are at a very difficult time because of an unstoppable challenge from China. Nearly 40% of the local Indian fastener market has been influenced by the dumping of cheap nuts and bolts from China. The statistics show that there were nearly 2,000 nuts and bolts manufacturers in India 3 years ago. However, the figure has dropped to 1,500 now. Some Indian companies have even been reported to leave for other industry sectors owing to their inability to compete with their Chinese counterparts.

Some members of the Indian Fastener Suppliers Association have appealed to the government and say that some appropriate measures (e.g. reasonable antidumping measures) should be adopted to prevent Chinese cheap nuts and bolts from dumping low priced nuts and bolts to India. These members also consider that antidumping is currently the best way

to deal with the problem.

During the time when several countries have turned to imposed antidumping measures to protect their own industries, such a comment or idea actually elicited consensus within the Indian nuts and bolts industry. These companies wish that through measures adopted by the government the local industry can be saved.

US Preliminary Determination on Investigation of Dual Subsidies for Steel Nails from Taiwan



After U.S. Department of Commerce (DoC) announced that countervailing did not occur in Taiwan's steel nails exported to the U.S. on Dec. 18, 2014, the Department determined that no dumping occurred in the same product. The Ministry of Economic Affairs of Taiwan expressed relief over the ruling regarding dual subsidies. Regarding this case, the Ministry said it had continued to meet and discuss with the Ministry of Finance of Taiwan and Taiwan Industrial Fasteners Institute

since the investigation started on May 30, 2014.

Taiwanese Bureau of Foreign Trade offered funds for companies to hire lawyers, and Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States also helped clarify the situation to the DoC, and Chinese National Federation of Industries as well as Taiwan Industrial Fasteners Institute helped the companies respond to the ruling. Bureau of Foreign Trade stressed that reacting to anti-dumping accusations proactively would yield better chances for positive results.

Thailand's Global Fastener Export Exceeds USD 280 Million in H1 2014



Thailand's global fastener export value in the first half of 2014 exceeded USD 280 million in total. The top 5 export destinations for Thailand's fasteners in the first half of 2014 were the U.S., Germany, Japan, Indonesia, and Malaysia. 93% of fasteners imported to Thailand were from 9 countries, 6 among which were from ASEAN and Eastern Asian countries, and 3 were from European countries. The top 5 import origins were Japan, China, Taiwan, Malaysia, and the U.S.

NFDA Collaborates with FCH Sourcing Network to Produce Fastener Distributor Index



The National Fastener Distributors Association (NFDA) is pleased to announce a new collaboration with FCH Sourcing Network (FCH) to produce the monthly Fastener Distributor Index (FDI).

The FDI allows qualified industry participants to identify the trends they are experiencing in areas such as demand, pricing, inventories and outlook, through a monthly survey. Individual responses are kept strictly confidential, and the aggregate information now is analyzed by the Profit Planning Group (the firm that produces the NFDA Compensation and Profit Reports).

You can find the FDI on the home page of www.nfda-fastener.org, with archives of past reports in the NFDA article archive. These reports are available to the public; no NFDA password is required.

Paul Tiffany, NFDA president says, "The NFDA is always seeking to provide value for its members and the industry as a whole. A North American Fastener Distributor Index, put together by the distributors themselves, is able to provide real time, accurate, and industry-specific information."

Cris Young Serves as President of WIFI Board for 2015

Cris Young of Hudson Fasteners is now the president of the WIFI Board for 2015. Returning board members are Mary "Lou" Aderman, Pam Berry, Joanne Bialas, Nancy Rich, Sara Vasichuk and Suzy Cravens. Rosa Hearn of Brighton Best joins the board and will represent WIFI at events on the west coast. Committees and chairs are: Membership - Nancy Rich, Rosa Hearn; Scholarship - Joanne Bialas; Mentoring - Mary Lou Aderman, Sara

Vasichuk; Communications - Pam Berry; Events - Suzy Cravens.

MW Industries, Inc. Announces Acquisition of Helical Products Company and Maudlin & Son Manufacturing



MW Industries, a leading provider of highly engineered springs, specialty fasteners, machined parts, and other precision components, announced the acquisition of Helical Products Company, Inc., a manufacturer of standard and custom couplings, U-Joints, and machined springs.

Located in Santa Maria, CA, Helical Products Company has served the domestic and international markets since 1961. Helical's origins began with the HELI-CAL® Flexible (Beam) Coupling, including the concept and method of producing the HELI-CAL Flexure as a single piece flexible coupling/coupler and spring. Over the years, the versatility and capabilities of the Helical product line have enabled it to become well known, and well accepted, in the global marketplace.

Bill Marcum, CEO of MW Industries, said, "Helical Products Company has an excellent reputation in the domestic and international marketplace for innovation, quality, and a true focus on the customer's needs. The company's product and workforce are highly complementary to our existing business base, and as part of the MW integrated family of companies, we believe that Helical Products is better positioned to penetrate and expand in our existing markets, including aerospace

and aviation, agriculture, medical, recreational, and other industrial markets." MW has completed a number of acquisitions to strengthen its product offerings and customer base and is currently evaluating a strong pipeline of possible transactions.

Maudlin & Son Manufacturing is a manufacturer of slotted shims, coil & flat shim stock, key stock, feeler gages, drill & threaded rod, and tool room supplies. Located near Houston in Kemah, TX, Maudlin & Son has served the domestic and international markets since 1938.

Bill Marcum, CEO of MW Industries, said, "Maudlin & Son has an excellent reputation in craftsmanship, quality and meeting the most demanding of industrial requirements. Their focus is centered on their customers, and they take great pride in their ability to provide very rapid turn-around with high precision products. The company's product and workforce are highly complementary to our existing business base, and as part of the MW integrated family of companies, we believe that Maudlin & Son is better positioned to penetrate and expand in our existing markets, including energy & oil patch, machining and various industrial markets."

U.S. Century Fasteners Launches New Sales Division for Aerospace Demands



Century Fasteners Corp.

Century Fasteners Corp. has implemented a new Distributor



Sales Division. This highly trained team was assembled in response to the Aerospace industries demands for access to aerospace inventory, comprehensive documentation and prompt service. Century Fasteners Corp. is an authorized stocking distributor for Cherry Aerospace.

Century Fasteners Corp. maintains a large inventory of high quality parts from the industry's leading manufacturers of Aerospace components. These products include Blind Bolts, Blind Rivets, Nut Plates, Inserts, Rivetless Nut Plates, Shear Pin Fasteners, Lockbolts, Collars and Insulation Tools.

All-West Fasteners Announces New President



South Seattle-based All-West Fasteners Inc. recently announced four notable changes to its organization. As an ISO 9001:2008 certified distributor, All-West Fasteners congratulates Jeremy Howard, Branch Manager, and Tony Ramage, Warehouse Supervisor, who join Paul Knutzen, Buyer and Quality Manager, as Certified Fastener Specialists. The CFS designation is achieved upon successful completion of advanced fastener training and passing the comprehensive exam administered through the Fastener Training Institute (FTI). As Quality Manager, Paul Knutzen has been instrumental in the development and continual improvement of All-West's quality system, with the team's prime goal of providing error-free services to All-West's customers.

CEO Rick Peterson, currently

president of the Pacific-West Fastener Association, and former STAFDA president, announced the promotion of Mark Peterson to the role of All-West's President. All-West also congratulates Chris Shirley on her promotion to Vice President, Sales, as well as Bobbi Partney, Accounting Manager, for assuming the role of Secretary/Treasurer for the corporation.

All-West Fasteners has been serving industrial and electronics OEM customers from its South Seattle headquarters since 1978. During its more than three decades, All-West has remained focused on serving manufacturers as well as the military, and maintains its position as a provider of technical fastener solutions. It also serves customers in the Spokane and Boise areas from two branch locations, and aims to be recognized as the distributor of choice for electro-mechanical components, specialty hardware, and fasteners in the Pacific Northwest.

LoneStar Signs a Contract with Shell Global Solutions for Fastener Supply



The LoneStar Group, specializing in manufacturing and supplying special nuts, bolts, machined components, gaskets, and seals, has recently signed a contract with Shell Global Solutions for the supply of stud bolts and fasteners.

According to the details of the contract, LoneStar Group will be responsible for the fastener supply to activities of Shell Global Solutions in North America, Middle East, Asia,

Europe, and Australia. The contract also includes an option of 5 years extension.

Falcon Fastening Solutions Appoints New Business Development Manager



Falcon Fastening Solutions, Inc., a distributor of fasteners and other Class "C" production components used in high-volume manufacturing assembly, is pleased to announce the appointment of Steve Rimmer as Business Development Manager.

"We are excited to have Steve head up our business development efforts here at Falcon," explains Giovanni Cespedes, Vice President of Falcon Fastening Solutions. "He has years of tactical experience in distribution for the manufacturing arena as well as an impressive technical understanding of the products and services we offer. We are taking an active role in ensuring continued growth for Falcon and he will play a major role in that effort."

As Business Development Manager, Steve will actively search for and create opportunities to present Falcon's vendor managed inventory (VMI) programs and wholesale distribution capabilities to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) in the Southeast region. "

"Considering Falcon Fastening Solution's successful longevity serving various OEMs in the Carolinas, I am



honored to represent the brand," explains Mr. Rimmer. "I look forward to presenting Falcon's cost savings solutions for both the procurement and the management of class C components to some of my former customers who would greatly benefit from Falcon's expertise. I also look forward to using my experience to expand Falcon's innovative inventory solutions to other untapped markets!"

Mr. Rimmer is the former President and Owner of Steve Rimmer & Associates, LLC., an industrial distributor of CNC machinery and related tooling accessories which served the southeast for the past 15 years. Prior to this, Steve was the Southeastern Technical Sales Engineer for ASAHI Industrial Diamond Tool Corporation and FAMTEC International for 12 years. Steve holds a Bachelor's degree in Industrial Management from the University of North Carolina Charlotte.

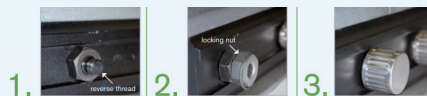
Atlantic Fasteners is All Settled in



Atlantic Fasteners settled into its new building in Agawam, MA, on November 24. The 44,500 square foot facility gives the company over twice the space of its previous building in neighboring West Springfield, and lets all three company divisions reside together. "Everything is much more efficient in that we are not wasting time walking three football fields just to talk to somebody face to face," accounting assistant Chris Damore said. "We have enough room to hold four times our current inventory and add almost

25% more office employees, so we're looking forward to growth," notes Atlantic president Tony Peterson. "I welcome our loyal customers and prospects to visit."

LB Foster to Distribute Tracksure Fastenings



Following two years of testing and research, LB Foster Co has signed an agreement to sell Tracksure's range of rail fastenings in North America. The UK firm's patented fasteners are designed to prevent nuts from loosening during vibration and settlement. Once the nut has been tightened to the accepted standards, a second nut on a left-handed thread is tightened against it to prevent movement, and a locking cover is applied over both nuts. Tracksure says the system is widely used in Europe and simple to install. Tracksure is an excellent fit with the LB Foster product offering and we are already installing Tracksure products in diamond crossings with several North American Class I railroads', said Greg Lippard, Vice-President Rail Products & Sales at LB Foster.

MacLean ESNA Receives Second Nadcap Accreditation



MacLean ESNA has received their second Nadcap accreditation, this time for chemical processing related to Type 1 and Type 11 passivation. This certification accompanies ESNA's

recent Nadcap accreditation for non-destructive testing received in April 2014.

ESNA can now conduct passivation for both Nitric Acid and Sodium Dichromate. This ability ensures customers that the products they order are being passivated to the highest standards. It also highlights ESNA's continued efforts for demonstrating their ongoing commitment to quality by satisfying customer requirements and industry specifications.

Teresa Melton, Quality Manager for ESNA stated, "At ESNA, we are continuing to push the bar higher and higher. The goal is to be the benchmark for all other labs in our industry."

San Shing Expects 10% Revenue Growth in 2015 with Additional New Plants



The new mold plants of the world's largest automotive nut manufacturer, San Shing Fastech, will be operational this April and May, which can help increase the monthly capacity for fasteners by 50% and can increase the monthly capacity for molds by 100%. The new plants will be the most important factor to boost the sales growth of the company this year. The company is expected to return to the normal track in Q1 this year. The artificial person forecasts that the company will show continuous growth until Q3 and the annual revenue is expected to show a growth of over 10%.

The current monthly capacity of nuts is 4,500-5,000 tons per month (about 60% of the revenue). It also



has plants located in Malaysia and Taiwan (The monthly capacity of screws of its Malaysian plant is 500-600 tons per month, while the monthly capacity of screws of its Taiwanese plant is 800 tons per month), which altogether represent about 16% of the total revenue. All of the products are supplied to car manufacturers.

The capacity expansion for fasteners will be the focus of the company and more fasteners will be shipped to car manufacturers. As the current capacity for fasteners has been fully utilized and the new fastener plants are going to be operational this April, the monthly capacity for fasteners will be increased from 800 tons per month to 1,200 tons per month. The monthly revenue contributed by the segment of molds reaches about NT\$ 40 million to 50 million. Only a small portion of the molds are for its own plants and most of the molds are sold to other companies. The new plants can double the original capacity. With the increasing demand from customers, it is expected that the new plants can contribute at least NT\$ 5-6 million of sales this year.

Sun Yi Industrial Completes Factory Relocation with Additional Facilities for Larger Sized Screws



A leading Taiwanese super long fastener manufacturer, Sun Yi Industrial Co., Ltd., has completed relocation of its new factory with continuous provision of fastener production and

service since 2015. Sun Yi is not only famous for its production of larger sized fasteners but is also reputable for its stable quality. It has over 30 years of experience in providing customers with better technologies and service.

The new factory spans the area of 9,917 sqm and will focus on the OEM and indirect trade of long fasteners exported to Europe, USA, and Japan, which are commonly used in building, automobiles, vessels, generators, and solar power sectors. Miss Wu of Sun Yi said, "It is not only about relocation but about the investment in introducing facilities producing larger sized fasteners. The outer diameter can be expanded to M28 in max. and the length can be up to 600 mm." Its new address is No. 67-2, Fu-An Rd., Fu-An Vil., Alian Dist., Kaohsiung. Tel: +886-7-633-3081 Fax: +886-7-633-3083

Sumeeko To Reach New Record of Revenue for 3rd Consecutive Year with Stabilized Order Reception



Automotive fastener maker SUMECKO Industries Co., Ltd set a new monthly record for December revenue of NTD 137 million (50% month-to-month increase and 28% year-on-year increase). The growth back on track is attributed to the alleviated congestion (driven by labor strike) at the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, as well as smooth order fulfillment and delivery. Overall, North American car market in 2015 is optimistic. With increasing clients in Europe and Asia,

Sumeeko's business in 2015 is expected to outperform last year.

Prospecting this year, Sumeeko says current order visibility extends to over 5 months, and that overall business condition is picking up momentum. Sumeeko analyzes that North American car market looks optimistic and will grow, judging from the fact that 60% of its (OEM) clients are from North America. Although recent European market is volatile on the whole, it is not pessimistic since Sumeeko's European orders are still growing in number and new clients and orders are still coming in.

In addition, Sumeeko is expanding deployment in Southeast Asia and China, and thinks it can maintain growth status for the year. Another growth momentum for Sumeeko is the new plant in Pintung (of Southern Taiwan). Sumeeko says the plant is going through application procedure and is possible to be operational this year. The effect of capacity expansion will be more evident in Q3.

In Sumeeko's plan, the new plant aims to reclaim outsourced production to lower production cost, and capacity will gradually increase starting in the second half of the year. The goal is to double the current Kaohsiung-based plant's capacity by 2016. By then, Sumeeko's total capacity will grow from the current 1,000-1,100 tons per month, to 2,000-2,200 tons per month.

Sumeeko's business momentum this year is expected to come from the growth in North American car market. Coupled with increase in GM's new orders, as well as new car model (Model X) delivery of electric car client TELS, revenue this year is expected to grow another 20%. Full year revenue is



expected to grow from last year's NTD 128 million to NTD 150 million. Full year EPS is expected to reach NTD 7 and set a new record for the third consecutive year.

Sumeeko produces fasteners and components, 70% of which are supplied to OEMs. Most of its clients are multi-national car brands, in which GM is the largest client, followed by Toyota, Chrysler, Nissan, Honda, Suzuki, BMW, Volkswagen, etc. Tier 1 assembly plant Bosch is its client, too. In terms of regional market performance, North America, Europe, and China respectively represent 60%, 30%, and 5% of revenue, with the remaining percentage represented by other regions.

Bossard Completes Acquisition Fastener Business of Italian Forind Avio Elettronica S.p.a.

BOSSARD

The Bossard Group strengthens its market position in Italy: It has acquired the fastening solutions division of the activity portfolio of the company Forind Avio Elettronica S.p.a. which yields an annual turnover of CHF 6 million and employs 10 people. The parties have agreed to keep the acquisition price confidential.

The Bossard Group has in recent years invested considerable resources in acquisitions to develop targeted individual markets or to strengthen market presence. The most recent examples of this are the acquisition of the US provider Aero-Space Southwest Inc. which has been completed at the beginning of January this year. In this context, the acquisition of the Norwegian company Torp Fasteners,

announced in mid-December 2014, should also be mentioned. The acquisition of the fastening solutions division from the portfolio of Forind Avio Elettronica S.p.a. should now help towards consolidating the market position of the group in Italy. Bossard is already present in Italy with a branch office in Legnano, near Milan, with more than 20 employees.

Forind Avio Elettronica S.p.a. is well established in Italy as a provider of high-quality fastening solutions of internationally recognized brands. After its inception in 1968, the company, domiciled in Cassina de' Pecchi on the eastern periphery of Milan, became recognized as a supplier to the demanding aerospace industry. It has gradually established a foothold in other sectors of the economy thanks to its proven know-how in terms of reliability, precision and efficiency of the solutions offered. Today, these include various industries, in particular the medical sector as well as the telecoms and electronics sector.

Forind Avio Elettronica S.p.a. has the technical expertise to assist customers with complex fastening solutions from design to project execution. The acquisition of Forind Avio Elettronica S.p.a. fastening solutions division will, subject to the usual completion conditions, has been effective in February 2015.

Japanese Tahara Sets up Vietnam Branch for Global Business

To promote global sales business, Tahara Co., Ltd. set up a branch in Vietnam named "Tahara Vietnam Co., Ltd.," which manufactures and supplies industrial fasteners, joints, and parts to cope with wider demand. Address:

Type-D-Rental Factory, Long Duc In-Park; Tel: +84-6-1320-1009.

Japanese Santop Starts Retail in Bangkok

Santop Co., Ltd. invested THB 2 million (JPY 7 million) to establish the branch Santop (Thailand) Co., Ltd. in Bangkok and has employed 3 Thai people with excellent Japanese language skill since October 2013, preparing to purchase bolts and nuts from local manufacturers and start a Japanese style retail business with punctual delivery. Santop's advantage in Thailand is its punctual delivery system which is commonplace in Japan. The company's president says Thai people like to take things slowly and are less punctual. Therefore, Santop is planning to utilize Japan's delivery know-how as a blue ocean in its Thailand business.

Malaysian Chin Well Holdings Berhad Expands to DIY Fastener Market



Chin Well Holdings Berhad wishes to seize the growth potential of the global fastener market in one hand with its comprehensive range of products, and wishes to increase its investment in hi-tech manufacturing lines in another hand to lift production volume. These machines installed in Malaysia and Vietnam have been operational at the end of 2014 to increase production volume and satisfy customers' demands. In addition, the Group wishes to enlarge the current market and penetrate other new market sectors, which also include the reinforcement of its customer base. As a result, the



Group takes its European partners for DIY fasteners into account to ensure it has potential markets in hand. At the current stage, the Group is putting much effort in acquiring European certifications, so that their fasteners can be approved for use in building applications in the euro zone.

Japanese Tohnichi Acquires Patent for Axial Force Stabilizer



Tohnichi Mfg.'s axial force stabilizer "Fcon" has acquired the European patent after it was previously certified by Japanese Patent Office (Patent Registration Number 5308608). The company will start overseas deployment for the product. "Fcon" was first released in May 2013. Up till now "Fcon" has been sold for over 1,300 cartons (each containing ten 90-gram bottles). The product is also available in 18-liter bucket for sale. It is primarily supplied to transportation-related applications such as the automotive, motorcycle, and railroad industries, and is also supplied to F1 race cars.

Nature Trading's COVENTYA® Solution- the Best Choice to Prevent Environmental Pollution



Nature Trading offers a variety of chemical products/facilities and non-ferrous metal for electroplating engineering. It points out that in the early time Taiwanese fastener industry used to use alkaline solutions with cyanogen for electroplating. However, in China and Europe, companies have turned to use alkaline solutions without cyanogen, which can not only maintain a certain level of quality after electroplating, but can also save the cost in the long term (though the cost may be a little higher in the short term). About 70-80% of the automotive industries in Europe use COVENTYA®, which are widely admired by many electroplating plants. Many Taiwanese electroplating plants would like to change the public perception that the electroplating industry causes heavy pollution, so such a solution can be one of the good choices to save energy and reduce carbon emission. COVENTYA® solution can not only be used in the fastener industry, but can be also widely used in other industrial applications.

Bolts Installed on SF Bay Bridge May Not Have to Be Replaced



According to a report published by the Toll Bridge Program Oversight Committee, over 2,000 pieces of bolts and nuts installed on the East section of the newly built SF Bay Bridge may not to be replaced. After a report about 32 pieces of bolts and nuts installed on the Bridge that were suspected to break, the safety of the

other 2,200 bolts installed on the same bridge also became a problem in question.

The construction of the East section of Bay Bridge cost USD 6.4 billion. The 2,200 pieces of bolts concerned are used to connect the bridge towers with the main bridge construction, which can prevent the bridge from swaying too much in the earthquake. This report also indicates that if further protective measures are done to the galvanized steel fasteners, there will be no safety problem. With concerns on the quake-resistant bolts, California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has made the additional expenditure of US\$20 million for strengthening the quake-resistance of the bridge structure.

KLX Inc. Begins Trading on NASDAQ Under Ticker Symbol "KLXI"



KLX Inc. ("KLX") (NASDAQ: KLXI), the world's leading distributor and value added service provider of aerospace fasteners and consumables, and a provider of services and products for the oil and gas industry, begins regular way trading following its spin-off from B/E Aerospace, Inc. (NASDAQ: BEAV). Starting on December 17, 2014, KLX common stock has been traded on NASDAQ under the ticker symbol "KLXI". KLX serves its customers in demanding environments that face high cost of downtime and require dependable, high quality just-in-time customer support.