

# Fastener World News

*Compiled by Fastener World*



## Canadian International Trade Tribunal Amends Its Order to Exclude Certain Steel Fasteners 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 May 16, 2016, the following goods: shoulder bolts made of steel, grade 5, and zinc-plated, with a hexagonal head, an unthreaded cylindrical shoulder section ranging from 1/4 inch to 3/4 inch in diameter, and a threaded section that is smaller in diameter than the shoulder ranging from 3/8 inch to 7/8 inch in length and between 10-24 and 5/8-11 in common thread sizes.

## Groundbreaking for Würth's Central Distribution Center in China

The Würth Group continues to expand its international infrastructure in Asia. The groundbreaking at the beginning of February 2017 signaled the start of the construction works to expand the central distribution center of Würth China in Haiyan.



The 36,000-m<sup>2</sup> distribution center will replace the different warehouses, which used to be scattered all over China in the past. It is intended as a central supply hub to provide customized logistics and procurement for skilled trades and industry customers in the People's Republic of China. Construction works will last 18 months. In addition to logistics, the center will accommodate the purchasing and quality assurance functions as well as a laboratory.

This project is based on the cooperation between the Würth Group and the Haiyan Economic Development Zone. It will secure the 1,024 jobs at the Chinese Würth Line companies while also creating jobs and growth opportunities in the Haiyan region.



## Würth Invests in Logistics in Switzerland and Russia

Würth AG, one Swiss branch of the Würth Group, is investing over

EUR 10 million in modernizing the warehouse and logistics in Arlesheim. The construction work is set to be completed by the summer of 2018. In the year 2016, around 8,385 pallets, corresponding to a total weight of 4,796 tons, were shipped by the end of November. And this figure continues to grow. That is why the warehouse capacity is being increased to 17,000 items as part of the modernization process. In the future, it will be possible to process more orders in a shorter period of time. As a result, orders that are received in the warehouse late in the afternoon will be processed on the same day and customers will receive the items as early as the following day.

At the end of 2016, Würth Russia celebrated the opening of a new logistics center in St. Petersburg. The new building is 14,000 square meters in size, including a chemicals warehouse and office space. From this site, the company can supply customers all over the north-west region of the country.

## Böllhoff - an Innovative Family-owned Company for Four Generations

Today Böllhoff is a worldwide leading manufacturer, distributor and service provider of fasteners and assembly machines. In 140 years the Böllhoff Group has built up a network with 45 companies at 40 locations in 24 countries across the globe.



The family owned company with its headquarters in Bielefeld is managed in the fourth generation by Wilhelm A. Böllhoff and Michael W. Böllhoff. Dr. Carsten Löffler and Dr. Jens Bunte are two members of the Board of Directors who do not belong to the family. In 2016, Böllhoff generated a consolidated turnover of 575 million Euros and achieved an increase of 11 percent. 37 million Euros were invested, mainly in new production capacities also in the Archimedesstraße in Bielefeld, Germany. The outlook for 2017 is positive: The group turnover should exceed 600 million Euros, 50 million Euros are planned for investment and the number of employees is expected to reach 3,000. 1,300 people will then be employed in Germany.

Meanwhile, the product range has grown significantly: The original selection of standard parts was developed further. Threaded inserts, quick-release fasteners, self-piercing rivets, adhesive fasteners and precision parts made of plastic have since been added.

Today the core objective is not just offering a wide range of products; it is about supporting the customer along the whole value-added chain: Optimizing processes and reducing costs. This strengthens the customer's competitive positioning. The range of technologies and services is targeted at combining modern materials and construction methods, the economic procurement, stocking and supply as well as reducing assembly times and costs.

## Hilti Continues on Growth Track in 2016



In its  
2016  
financial

year, the Hilti Group achieved sales growth of +5.7 percent to CHF 4.6 billion in a challenging environment. In local currencies, sales were up +5.3 percent. After adjusting for the divestment of US-based solar affiliate Unirac, sales in Swiss Francs have increased by +7.1 percent.

The Hilti Group has generated broad-based sales growth again in 2016. The development in North America is particularly noteworthy where Hilti showed a strong performance in a consistently dynamic construction market (+11.6% in local currencies, excluding the Unirac effect). The European region was up +6.2%, with Southern European markets displaying growing momentum. As a result of the persistent economic crisis in Brazil, the Latin American region was slightly below the previous year's performance (-1.2%). Continued sales increases were achieved in the regions of Eastern Europe / Middle East / Africa (+5.6%) and Asia/Pacific (+3.3%).

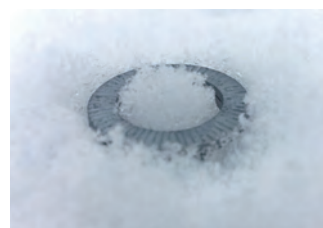
## Specializing in Fasteners for the Automotive Market, the ARaymond Network is Continuing to Invest Internationally, Notably in Mexico



With solid operations in 25 countries, spanning Europe, Asia, India, Brazil and Russia, the ARaymond Network is continuing to expand in 2017 with new investments in Morocco and

Mexico. ARaymond unveiled a new plant in Casablanca (Morocco) on January 18 and is due to open a plant in San Luis Potosi (Mexico) in April.

The company decided around ten years ago to create a global collaborative network. In 2009, the ARaymond Network acquired the US company Tinnerman Palnut Engineered Products, enabling it to consolidate its US presence. With five plants operating to date, the production process encompasses a wide range of metal and plastic parts for the North American markets: Canada, the US and Mexico. This new plant in San Luis Potosi will enable the Network to expand its business in Central American countries by producing and shipping locally. Production is set to begin in April 2017, to produce injection-molded fasteners, plastic assemblies and over-molded components.



## Extended Temperature Range for Usage of Nord-Lock Steel Washers

Nord-Lock Group is glad to inform that its steel washers have now been approved for temperatures down to -50°C. Nord-Lock washers have for long time been used in cold climate applications and now it has obtained official tests results specifying the lower limit of the temperature range.

## SFS Increased Profitability Significantly



SFS looks back on a successful year. It achieved solid organic growth of

5.9% in its core business and increased its profitability significantly to 14.4% (adjusted EBITA margin). Moreover, thanks to two acquisitions, SFS established a firm position in the growing medical device market. SFS expects sales to grow by 8–10% in the 2017 financial year.

SFS achieved solid organic growth of 5.9% in its core business in the 2016 financial year. All segments contributed to this growth. They maintained and expanded their market positions. Consolidated sales reached a record high of CHF 1,437 million. This represents an increase of 4.4% from the previous year. Currency movements had a positive effect of 0.9% on reported sales, and changes in the scope of consolidation added 1.5% to the reported sales growth. Sales were reduced by CHF 50 million (3.9%) due to the phase-out of the trading activities, a non-core activity within the Engineered Components segment.

The Swedish independent test institute Swerea Kimab has, after extended testing, concluded that mechanical properties of the Nord-Lock steel washers are the same at -50°C as at room temperature.

The performance of its steel washers at low temperatures has also been verified by TÜV according to DEF STAN 00-35 Part 3, Issue 4, which is a vibration test at temperatures down to -46°C (-50°F).



### MacLean-Fogg Component Solutions Is Named 2016 GM Supplier of the Year

MacLean-Fogg Component Solutions (MFCS) was named a GM Supplier of the Year during the General Motors 25th Annual Supplier of the Year awards ceremony held Friday, March 31, 2017 in Orlando, Florida. This is the second consecutive year MFCS has been awarded Supplier of the Year by General Motors.

GM recognized 118 of its best suppliers, representing 15 countries, that have consistently exceeded GM's expectations, created outstanding value or brought new innovations to the company. The announcement represented the most suppliers GM has recognized since debuting the Supplier of the Year event in 1992.



### Japanese Planus Chemical Develops New Method Using the Bare Eyes and Ultraviolet Light to Inspect Thread Loosening

Planus Chemical Co., Ltd. is rolling out its new thread loosening inspection method that enables operators to correctly and easily inspect bolt and nut loosening with the bare eyes. With this method, the bolted joint is applied with two coatings of different properties, one as the top coating and the other as the bottom coating. The loosening of the bolt will make the bottom coating visible under ultraviolet light. This method is a ground-breaking technology enabling bare-eye visual inspection.

### Fabory Celebrates 70 years in Fasteners



On March 10 seventy years ago, Fabory served its first customers as a wholesale trader in fasteners.

The company now offers the highest number of fasteners of any fastener business in Europe, 90,000 and its secret may well be the way it has adapted over the years to continue to meet the needs of its customers and help make them successful.

During these 70 years of business Fabory has established a presence in 11 European countries, growing from one location in the Dutch coastal town of Scheveningen to more than 80 locations throughout Europe today. More than 1,100 team members are now serving customers with more than 200,000 different products and convenient services. These days the company doesn't just sell fasteners anymore, but all products and services closely related to fasteners as well, such as tools, safety products, industrial products, and managed inventory solutions, to meet more customers' needs.

### PennEngineering® Marks 75 Years as Innovative Leader in Fastening Technologies



PennEngineering® is celebrating 75 years in 2017 as a global leader in innovative fastening technologies

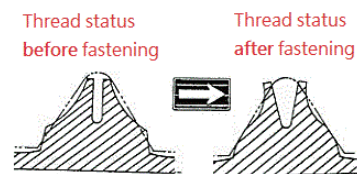
and solutions. Founded in 1942, the Company pioneered the first-ever self-clinching fastener for thin metal assemblies and has since realized dramatic growth from an increasingly diverse portfolio of fastening products and relentless focus on customers and world-class technical expertise. Strategic acquisitions over the years have further extended PennEngineering's footprint as problem-solver for an expanding universe of customer industries.

PennEngineering continues to reinforce and build leadership position with enhanced global manufacturing capabilities, ongoing new product development, focused technical services and engineering support, readily accessible online resources, and custom solutions tailored for application demands. Today, PennEngineering operates state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities and key sales offices across North America, Europe, and Asia and is supported by a worldwide technical sales network tailored to customer needs and markets.

### Anti-loosening Technology to be Used on Japanese Wood Fasteners and Hardware for the First Time

Japanese hardware developer/maker Tokunaga and Tim's co-developed new wood fasteners such as hexagonal bolts and strip bolts that utilize "non-gap thread" technology. This development is to apply the technology, which is already used in the Japanese railroad and construction industry, onto wood structures. It is the first time that the Japanese hardware and fastener industries add anti-loosening function to wood screws and bolts.





(Image courtesy of "ティムス販売")

The technology cuts out slits on the threads of a bolt to create spring effect when the bolt engages with the female threads, thus eliminating the gaps between the male and female threads and achieving complete tightness as well as strong vibration resistance.



### South Korean KPF Acquires USD300 Million Fastener Orders for a Power Plant in Indonesia and Airport in Chile

Fastener and automotive parts maker KPF acquired fastener orders for main infrastructure in Indonesia and South America. The orders are for the "thermal power plant in Java of Indonesia" and "Santiago airport in Chile". The investment value for each of these two projects is USD 150 million. The construction fastener market value in Asia and South America were KRW 5 trillion in 2016. Besides North America and Europe, KPF actively expands its business scope in Asia and South America where investments in airport, steel bridge, railroad and bay are skyrocketing.



### ECF Precision (Thailand) Targets Fastener Demand in Thailand

The growing ECF Precision (Thailand) Co., Ltd, with 80% shares owned by the Japanese Crown Fastener Group, has set up a new plant in Rojana Industrial Park in Ayutthaya, central Thailand. The plant has started producing special screws and high precision parts. Aiming at the local rising demand, the plant provides products to a broad range of customers.



### Shanghai Prime's Revenue for 2016 Sets New Record

Shanghai Prime released its revenue for the financial year ended December 31, 2016. The group's revenue reached RMB 7.645 billion, up 7%, setting a new record after the group went listed in 2006. The revenue growth was attributed to the continuous business growth in automotive fasteners.

### Bulten Establishes a Base in USA and Forms a Joint Venture with Ramco for Fastener Solutions for the North American Market



Bulten AB, one of the largest suppliers of fasteners to the international automotive industry, and North American fastener supplier Ramco Specialties Inc. (Ramco) announced that they have signed an agreement to form a joint venture, owned equally (50/50), for distributing fasteners to the North American automotive industry. At the same time, Bulten also sets up a subsidiary for producing externally threaded fasteners for the same market. The operations of both entities are scheduled to start in 2017. The formation of the joint venture and subsidiary will establish Bulten's FSP concept along with a manufacturing footprint in the USA, which is one of the world's largest auto market with significant potential.

The joint venture will operate under the name Ram-Bul LLC (Ram-Bul), headquartered in Ramco's new corporate headquarters in Hudson, Ohio. Ram-Bul will offer sales and distribution of fasteners for the North American market through Bulten's FSP concept. Bulten's manufacturing expertise in externally threaded fasteners, coupled with Ramco's manufacturing experience in internally threaded fasteners, will allow Ram-Bul to offer a full range of domestically manufactured fasteners in Ramco's already established infrastructure.

Bulten's new production subsidiary, Bulten North America LLC, will be set up in the same building as Ram-Bul and will thus establish its first unit for manufacturing externally threaded fasteners for the North American market.



### Hyundai Recalls Nearly 1,000,000 Cars over Faulty Seat Belts

Hyundai Motor Company announced a recall of nearly one million Sonatas and Sonata Hybrids over fears that a faulty fastener can cause front seat belts to detach in a crash. Documents show the anchor connecting the seat belt pretension to the vehicle's structure may not have been fully attached during assembly. The recall affects regular Sonatas from 2011-2014 model years, and Sonata Hybrids from 2011-2015 model years.

## Aerospace Executive in New Growth-Focused Role with KLX Aerospace Solutions

KLX Inc. announces Garry Snow as new Vice President, Global Business Development for KLX Aerospace Solutions.

In this newly-created role, former KLX Sales Director Garry Snow will work directly with the executive leadership to drive KLX strategy and new business opportunities forward.

Throughout his professional career, Garry worked with CEOs and Senior Business Leaders with multinational organizations, while developing key long-term business relationships with both customers and suppliers. In his new role, Garry will lead the development and implementation of KLX Aerospace's strategic business plan.



## Motor City Fastener and EMCO Merge to Form Motor City Industrial



Motor City Industrial, LLC ("Motor City Industrial"), has announced the acquisition of EMCO, Inc. ("EMCO"), a Charlotte, NC based industrial distribution and service business. The purchase marks the second acquisition in a strategy to combine companies with strong distribution capabilities in the industrial consumables and ancillary products sector. EMCO joins Motor City Fastener, LLC ("MCF") a Detroit based industrial distributor.

Founded in 1954, EMCO provides electrical, mechanical, fluid power, and automation products to a wide range of industries throughout the Southeast. The newly-formed partnership will allow EMCO to supplement its wider range of industrial products with MCF's expertise in the specialty fastener industry. EMCO's customers will also now have access to Motor City Industrial's supply chain management systems, including its smart inventory management system, Crib Boss®.

The acquisition of EMCO doubles the size of Motor City Industrial, whose strategy continues to focus on expanding product lines and services, adding sales resources and opening new locations throughout the Midwest and Southeast.



## Simpson Acquires Gunnebo Fastening Systems AB

Leading construction connector manufacturer Simpson Strong-Tie is pleased to announce the successful acquisition of Gunnebo Fastening Systems AB, bringing a complete line of CE-marked structural fasteners and unique fastener dimensioning software for timber applications into its already comprehensive construction products line-up.

Headquartered in Gunnebo, Sweden, the company employs 222 people in Sweden, Poland, Norway and Romania. Sales are focused primarily to the professional construction and DIY markets within the Nordic countries, Eastern Europe and Russia.

In addition to premium quality nails, screws, collated fasteners, mechanical and chemical anchors and connectors, Gunnebo also brings high-level technical support, logistics support as well as a broad selection of merchandising solutions for retailers.

## Fastenal Acquires Regional Distributor



Fastenal Company announced it has signed an agreement to acquire certain assets of industrial and fastener supply distributor Manufacturer's Supply Company (Mansco). The company is headquartered in Hudsonville, Michigan and has additional facilities in Madison, Alabama and McAllen, Texas. The agreement includes several conditions to close, and was closed by the end of March.

Mol has operated the business for the past twenty-five years. The company focuses on fastener products, with a particularly strong market position with commercial furniture OEMs. As such, this acquisition gives Fastenal a presence in a market where it has not meaningfully contributed in the past, while providing Mansco with additional tools with which to service its customer base.

## Lindstrom Acquires Hodell-Natco's Packaged Fastener Business



Lindstrom, LLC announced the acquisition of the packaged fastener business of Hodell-Natco Industries, a leading distributor of fasteners and related products with six branches throughout the United States. The company's packaging business is based in Cleveland, Ohio and provides over 23,000 packaged products to fastener distributor customers. In conjunction with the acquisition, Lindstrom is pleased to announce that a new distribution center opened in Cleveland in April 2017.

## AFC Holdings Acquiring R&E Fasteners



Bridgeville-based AFC Holdings is acquiring R&E Fasteners Inc., a distributor of fasteners, electrical products and industrial supplies based in Reno, Nev.

AFC, which assembles many small but crucial parts like bolts, screws and springs

that manufacturers need to build products, will stretch its portfolio westward with the deal, as R&E, who employs 20 and has a facility in Las Vegas, primarily serves customers in Nevada and Northern California. Financials of the deal were not disclosed.

## Stanley Black & Decker Completes Acquisition of Newell Brands' Tools Business

### StanleyBlack&Decker

Stanley  
Black &

Decker, an S&P 500 global diversified industrial company, announced that it has successfully completed its acquisition of the Tools business of Newell Brands ("Newell Tools") for \$1.95 billion in cash. This transaction was originally announced on October 12, 2016.

Stanley Black & Decker's President and Chief Executive Officer, James M. Loree commented, "With the completion of the Newell Tools acquisition, we have further bolstered our presence in the global tools industry. The addition of the extraordinary Irwin® and Lenox® brands extends our reach into the plumbing and electrical trades and adds complementary products to our hand tool and power tool accessories businesses, allowing us to provide our customers and consumers with a more comprehensive, best-in-class offering. We welcome the associates of Newell Tools to Stanley Black & Decker and look forward to a seamless integration process."

## Westinox Assets Taken Over by Elcee Belux

On Friday, March 24th, 2017 Elcee Belux bvba has acquired all the activities, names, customers and assets from Westinox International.

As a part of the International Elcee Group (founded in 1923) with headquarters in Dordrecht, Netherlands, Elcee Belux bvba operates in four segments: Casting & Forgings, Plain Bearings, Lifting Equipment and Fasteners.

As a result of the continuing globalization of the market, the sales performance of Westinox stagnated over the course of last years. This resulted in the opportunity to grow together through the acquisition in the larger Elcee Group.



## NORMA Group Acquires Majority Stake in Manufacturer of Joining Products in China

NORMA Group signed a purchase agreement to acquire 80 percent of the shares in Fengfan Fastener (Shaoxing) Co., Ltd. ("Fengfan"), based in Shaoxing City, China, on March 28, 2017. The details of the agreement are confidential and will not be published. The transaction is expected to close in the second quarter of 2017. Founded in 1988, Fengfan manufactures joining products made of stainless steel, nylon and specialty materials. Its portfolio includes cable ties and fastening elements, for example.

"With the acquisition of Fengfan, we are expanding our product portfolio and our position in the Chinese market," says Werner Deggim, CEO of NORMA Group. With around 190 employees, Fengfan supplies to customers in the shipbuilding and heavy industries as well as to manufacturers of transport vehicles. Its products are marketed on the domestic Chinese market and exported to other countries. Its preliminary annual sales amounted to around EUR 15 million in 2016. Fengfan has a production and sales site in Shaoxing City in the Zhejiang Province.

## Audax Private Equity Announces the Acquisition of Fastener Distribution Holdings

Audax Private Equity ("Audax") announced it has partnered with management to acquire Fastener Distribution Holdings, LLC ("FDH") from Housatonic Partners. Terms of the transaction were not disclosed.



FDH, headquartered in Marina del Rey, CA, is a leading distributor of aerospace fasteners and other c-class components to commercial and defense aircraft manufacturers, subcontractors, and component distributors through its Arlington International Aviation Products ("AIAP") and Aircraft Fasteners International ("AFI") divisions.

## SouthernCarlson Acquires Fastening Distributor River City Building Supply

SouthernCarlson has announced the addition of Sacramento, CA-based River City Building Supply, Inc. The acquisition was finalized on March 31, expanding the organization's Northern California footprint and service capabilities. River City Building Supply is a distributor of fasteners, fastening equipment and other critical construction supplies featuring brands such as Simpson Strong-Tie, Paslode, Hitachi, DeWalt, Makita, Senco, Hitachi, Rolair, Grabber, Klein Dayton Superior and many others. SouthernCarlson is a national distributor of construction and packaging fasteners, tools, machines and supplies. SouthernCarlson employs over 900 people and serves customers across the country and internationally from over 150 locations. The terms of the transaction were not disclosed.



## Hague Move Will Mean Expansion and Jobs

Hague Fasteners is moving its business operations to a new manufacturing facility. The total investment will approach seven figures. Jon and Claire Hague, the husband-and-wife team have sealed a deal on the purchase of a new manufacturing site at the end of January. It is just two miles from the existing factory. A significant redevelopment of the



new facility is underway that will see Hague Fasteners relocate in the second quarter of 2017. The new site is almost three times the size of the existing operation. The expansion will also create a number of new jobs in the local area. Mr. Hague said "We had reached capacity and were keeping an eye out for a suitable shell to move to". The move to the new factory enables a doubling of production capacity.

Hague supplies components for prestigious oil and gas, transport and infrastructure projects. It has won orders in Asia, Australasia, Europe and the Middle East in recent years. International sales now account for about 50 per cent of its business. Hague Fasteners manufactures high quality fasteners, concentrating on non-standard sizes and exotic materials.

## Affordable Fastener Supply Company (AFSCO) Moved Into a Larger Warehouse



Affordable Fastener Supply Company (AFSCO), a company engaged in the manufacturing and distribution of corrosion resistant fasteners, announced that they have moved into a larger warehouse to facilitate and accommodate company growth.

John Tyler, a warehouse and shipping coordinator stated, "Moving into this warehouse space has allowed us to become a more efficient organization, because from a logistical standpoint, we have more area to fabricate and package shipments." The company looks forward to additional growth and expansion.

Growing from humble beginnings in 2005, AFSCO is a small, minority-owned business that prides itself on supplying quality and affordable stainless steel and exotic alloy hardware to their clients.

## Nord-Lock Group – the First to Introduce Lifetime Warranty

**NORD-LOCK  
GROUP**

The Nord-Lock Group is proud to be the first bolting solutions partner to offer a full lifecycle warranty across all of its technologies.

That means the entire lifetime of the bolted connection for Nord-Lock wedge-locking washers and for Superbolt multi-jackbolt tensioners. 10 years/10,000 hours for Expander Systems pivot technology. And 3 years/10,000 cycles for Boltight tensioning tools.

The Nord-Lock Group was first to develop the wedge-locking washer. The first to develop the multi-jackbolt tensioner. The first to make pivot repairs with line boring and welding obsolete. And the first to unite the industry's most advanced bolting solutions into one comprehensive offer. Now they are first with a lifetime guarantee – reflecting their commitment to being number one, right down to the warranty. ■

**Petual**

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Thumb Screw

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Steel Bin



Anti-oil Machine



Loader