

Greatest Moments to Remember:

Fastener World in 1997

The fastener industry continues to march forward every year through the acquisition of certificates, building new plants, attending exhibitions or participating in events held by associations. The year 1997 is, of course, no exception! Let's now look back at the glorious times of the fastener industry in 1997.

compiled by Fastener World

New Plants, New Certificates & Innovation Awards, New Machine Rollouts, New Joint Ventures! ***1997 was the Boom Year for Taiwan Fastener Industry***



Anchor Fasteners Acquired National Innovation Award

Besides having acquired the ISO 9002 certificate approved by the Ministry of Economic Affairs of Taiwan, back in the early days Anchor Fasteners obtained 11 patents for forging technology to reduce secondary processing procedure, lower production cost and increase production, making its product quality more stable than traditional companies. In April 1997, President Anchor T.H. Chang received the National Innovation Award representing the honor of the whole nation, and that confirms Anchor Fasteners as a technological pioneer approved by the highest administrative organization. Additionally, Anchor Fasteners invested USD 4 million in its 20,000 square meter plant in Ningbo (China) in February 1996. All of these factors laid the foundation for the company to drive anchor bolt capacity to the top of the world.



Multi-Tek Fasteners & Parts Completed New Plant

Multi-Tek was quick to complete the new plant in 1997, four years after Multi-Tek was established. The new plant doubled the manufacturing area to 1,400 square meters, and increased the capacity by 4 times to 40 million pieces. Starting from that period, Multi-Tek was able to directly deal with large orders (5,000 to 500,000 pieces) through its semi-automatic inventory rather than just transacting with distributors and large importers.



Fwu Kuang Enterprise Presented New Machine

Fwu Kuang acquired the ISO 9002 certificate in 1997 and presented a new machine in the same year that came with ground-breaking patented technology, including noise reduction device, adjustable cams, oil purification equipment, and scrap-free forming technology. The presentation attracted over a hundred participants and some of them even signed purchase contracts on the spot.



Left: Mr. Chang Yun-Te, President of Fwu Kuang Enterprise Co., Ltd.
Middle: Mr. Lin Lien-Hui, Chairman of Fwu Kuang
Right: Mr. Chang Paul, President of Multi-Tek Fasteners & Parts Manufacturer Corp.



Left: Mr. Hu Kun-Te, VP of Fwu Kuang Enterprise Co., Ltd.



Guest (Right): Mr. Wang Yung-Tiao, President of Ho Hong Works



●Linkwell



Linkwell, Cashi, Taiwan Shan Yin, Shanghai Ben Yuan and Ningbo Shye Chang were Certified to ISO 9002

Linkwell Industry Co., Ltd celebrated its 20th anniversary and the acquisition of ISO 9002 certificate in October 1997. At that time, as many as 30 foreign representatives and over 200 people from Taiwanese fastener industry came to express their congratulations. To this day, stable quality and product supply still give Linkwell a strong foothold in the global fastener industry.

Located in the heartland of technology and R&D in Taiwan, Cashi Screw Parts Co., Ltd is a designated supplier to globally renowned electronics and computer brands. It passed ISO 9002 in April 1997. It was second to none in the local Hsinchu City, thanks to its inventory of 150 million pieces of fasteners and integrated service.

Taiwan Shan Yin International Company's Malaysia plant and two sister plants (Sofasco and Sofasco Fastener) passed the ISO 9002 certification one after another. Its monthly capacity reached over 2,000 tons. 100% of its products are for export.

Following its headquarters in Taiwan, Shanghai Ben Yuan Metal Products Co., Ltd acquired ISO 9002. Notably, it is the first in Shanghai and the second in China to have acquired the certificate. It anticipates to become the largest bolt maker in China!

With an excellent management system and quality upgrade, Ningbo Shye Chang Metal Products Co., Ltd acquired ISO 9002 certificate within merely 4 months. President Lu said in an award ceremony of 100 participants that he would not pause there. Instead, he would take quality and Customers First as top priority and see China as an international market to create a win-win for Taiwan and China.



●Ningbo Shye Chang



●Cashi



●Shan Yin

Sofasco Industry (M) Sdn. Bhd. in Malaysia gaining ISO 9002 accreditation. Taiwan Shan Yin's sister companies, Sofasco Fastener Inc., have been certified in Sep.1997. Taiwan Shan Yin for 12 years has adhered to ISO 9002.

ahead. Besides, we are co-listing our company stock to the TSE Market."



●Shanghai Ben Yuan



TQC Fasteners Industrial Corp. Boosted Capacity

Located in the heartland (Gangshan District of Kaohsiung City) of Taiwan's fastener industry, TQC specializes in producing small screws. This company was once a newcomer but grew rapidly, completing the second plant in 1997 and boosted the capacity by 60% to 10,000 tons. It is not a company that you can neglect.



Acknowledgment

China Dongguang Kaiyang Metal Machinery Co., Ltd., established in 1994, is a joint venture by four Taiwanese companies. They are Biing Feng Enterprise Co., Ltd., Hsien Sun Industry Co., Ltd., Gain Hope Industries Inc., and



4 Taiwanese Fastener Companies Set up a Joint Venture in China

Fastener Magazine reported a joint venture called China Dongguang Kaiyang Metal Machinery Co., Ltd in China in 1994 established by 4 Taiwanese fastener companies: Biing Feng Enterprise, Hsien Sun Industry, Gain Hope Industries, Kang Cheng Enterprise. The joint venture spanned 8,000 square meters producing nuts, tools/dies and machine parts in Dongguang economic development zone, the area with the fastest growth in China at the time.

Luchu Shin Yee Works Acquired TÜV Certificate

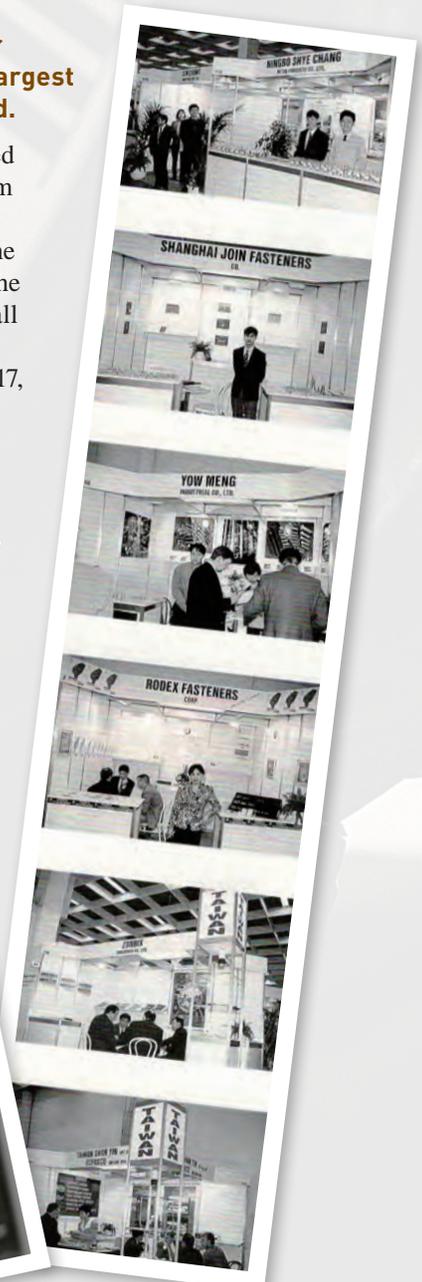
After acquiring the ISO 9002 certificate in 1994, Luchu Shin Yee was fast to pass the certification by TÜV Rheinland in 1977. This pushed the company to the international stage and facilitated its goal to become both localized and international.



Exhibition Attendance and Sales Expansion in Full Swing; Multiple Exhibitions Scaled up

International Hardware Fair Cologne 1997 Became the Largest Hardware Show in the World.

The show at that time gathered as many as 3,482 exhibitors from 55 countries, among which 100 exhibitors were first-timers to the show. The show scaled up and the organizer had to use the new Hall #9. Of all the exhibitors, local German companies reached 1,317, taking up 38%, and the others were 2,165 overseas companies. We can tell this show had an ideal proportion of domestic and overseas exhibitors and was an important show with ideal domestic/foreign exhibitor proportions and a high level of global participation. Taiwanese exhibitors were Rodex Fasteners, Zonbix, and Taiwan Shan Yin that are still very active to this day.



day worth celebrating for Fastener friendly screw business people from all part in this double happiness feast in the Norman Huang is in charge and has

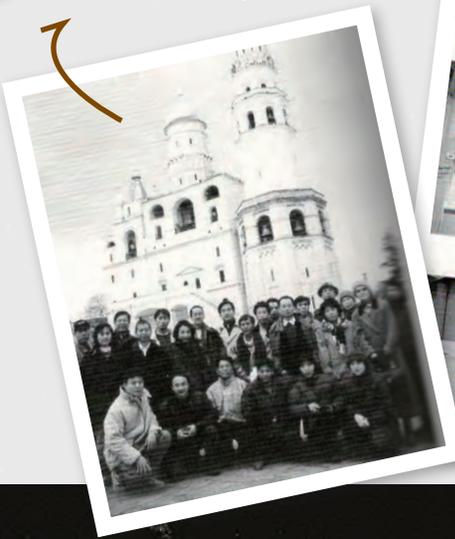


Middle: Mr. Norman Huang

company to understand Taiwan factory offer services like purchase, inspectio which will not conflict with original se help each other.", he continued, " American Maclean Fastener Co. p...in

Fastener Source Inc. Became the Taiwan Office for a Renowned U.S. Automotive Fastener Brand

Fastener Source Inc., a fastener trader, celebrated in July 1997 for becoming the office for Mclean Fastener in Taiwan. Mclean Fastener is a reputable screw and nut maker in the U.S. Back in 1997, a lot of overseas companies set up purchasing offices in Taiwan, and this tells that Taiwan's fasteners has a strong foothold in the world market in terms of quality.



17th NIFS Columbus

NIFS Columbus was the largest fastener show in the U.S in 1977, using 655 booths and attracting 450 exhibitors as well as over 3,500 total participants. It was the time when

the U.S. was about to implement FQA and the U.S. government announced A2LA as the approved certification organization. Many Taiwanese fastener companies including Tong Hwei Enterprise had already acquired the A2LA certificate in advanced and wanted to tap into U.S. market through NIFS Columbus.



Japan DIY Hardware Show Scaled up Again Taiwan was the Largest Exhibitor Group

Japan DIY Hardware Show 1997 arranged 1,814 booths and attracted 613 exhibitors in total, significantly up by 15.6%. The number of halls used increased from 5 to 6 and the show saw a significant increase in scale. Of all the 89 exhibitors, 48 were hardware companies from Taiwan, which showed the importance of this show to Taiwanese hardware companies at that time. The exhibitors were Rodex Fasteners, J.C. Grand, and Youn Turn Hardware.



Wire Tokyo 1997 Attracted Many Overseas Machinery Plants to Exhibit

Even though the Japanese market was less open than other countries were, Wire Tokyo 1997 still attracted well-known machinery companies like WAFIOS and Hatebur to exhibit. It gathered a total of 150 exhibitors from 17 countries and 12,000 buyers from 32 countries to participate.



TFTCA Held a Large Assembly in 1997

Taiwan Fastener Trading Companies Association (TFTCA) held a large assembly in 1997 with a concurrent fastener technical seminar. The assembly gathered 40 member companies.

The president of Linkwell Industry Co., Ltd was the chairman of the association at the time, and he arranged tours in Malaysia and China for the members. This first large assembly of the association came to a perfect close with a finger guessing game.



Editor's Note: 1977 was a critical year when Taiwan fastener industry exerted its might overseas. Many Taiwanese companies acquired international certificates or headed out to China, Southeast Asia and other overseas markets to set up plants. Exactly 20 years from now, this year is already a total different year from 1997. Now the investment environment in Taiwan seems to have turned less friendly to business owners. The give-and-take between corporations and the environmental impact assessment organizations, as well as the "One Fixed Day Off and One Flexible Rest Day" policy for the working class both create quite significant pressure on business owners. In the triangular relationship among the government, corporations and the general public, not only the policy-makers but also all the people of the country should think realistically and rationally regarding the development and investment of the country and industry