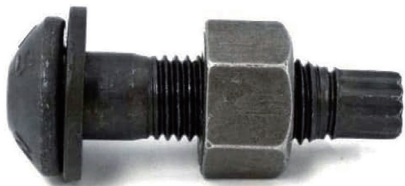


FASTENER WORLD NEWS

compiled by Fastener World

Japan Construction Industry in Shortage of High-Tension Bolt



The Japanese construction industry now faces a problem of insufficient high-tension bolts. As Tokyo Olympics infrastructure construction and urban development are underway, the industry is coming short of special steel wires, the production of which is far behind its demand and its price has risen 10% in the last 6 months. The industry is concerned that the shortage of the bolts could undermine the rising construction demand.

But why is there not enough high-tension bolts? The reason could be the limited number of suppliers. The main makers of these bolts are NIPPON STEEL & SUMIKIN Bolten Corporation and NIPPON Fastener Corporation among other Japanese suppliers. The economic crisis in 2008 led to decrease in demand which shrank Japan's domestic capacity. "Bolt makers have gradually reduced the purchase of special steel wires which are the material for high-tension bolts," said a local steel trader.

The purchase price for high-tension bolts is JPN 280,000 per ton, up JPN30,000 from spring 2018. The price has risen but it is difficult to switch source of purchase. A local distributor of high-tension bolt said, "We are most likely to see a new batch of bolts coming in from the makers near the end of 2018. Currently our plate is pretty much full by just supplying to regular customers." Construction cannot proceed if there is not enough construction bolts. The tiny bolts are stirring hefty concerns across the Japanese construction industry.

《Industry Update》

Nominations for Canadian Hardware & Housewares Industry Hall of Fame Now Open

Since 1984, the Canadian Hardware & Housewares Industry Hall of Fame award has honoured individuals who have been builders of successful enterprises in the industry, and have made outstanding contributions to the industry through their leadership and innovation. In this, the 35th year, the CHHMA is honoured to serve as the custodian of the Hall.

The award is given to an individual in recognition from his or her peers for outstanding achievement, service and contribution to the Canadian hardware and housewares industry over a long career.

Nominations for the Hall of Fame award come from the CHHMA general membership. The following criteria are taken into consideration when selecting a nominee:

- must be Canadian
- total years in the industry (minimum 15)
- examples of innovation and pioneering
- must be a builder of a successful business
- involvement in outside activities that benefit the whole industry
- can come from the retail, distribution, manufacturing or agencies sector
- personal characteristics such as ethics and integrity

The 2019 inductees will be announced in the New Year and will be inducted into the Hall of Fame during an industry luncheon held in conjunction with the annual CHHMA Spring Conference & AGM.



Asahi Kasei Plastics North America Wins SPE Automotive Innovation Award in the Chassis/Hardware Category

Asahi Kasei Plastics North America, Inc. (APNA), a global plastics compounder, has received the "Most Innovative Use of Plastics" award in the Chassis/Hardware category from the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE). This recognition was for the engineered material used in the High Strength Self-Tapping Composite Nut that was developed jointly with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) and ITW Deltar Fasteners.

The award was presented during the SPE Automotive 48th-Annual Innovation Awards Competition and Gala on November 7, 2018, in Livonia, Michigan. This competition is recognized as one of the largest of its kind in the automotive and plastics industry and is made up of dozens of OEMs, tier suppliers and polymer producers from around the world.

The award-winning composite nut, created with Asahi Kasei's Leona™ 90G55, was identified as top in the Chassis/Hardware category because it has underlined significant benefits compared to the alternative metal or polymer nuts that currently exist in the market. Asahi Kasei's innovation offers a 2.3-pound weight reduction, reduced CO2 footprint and cost savings per vehicle produced.

"It is great to be in the winning circle at SPE again" said Ramesh Iyer, President of APNA. "This award is a testimony to Asahi Kasei's values of Creativity and Challenge, as well as a supporting milestone of our company's mission statement to provide innovative plastics and services that drive growth for our employees, customers and communities".



Simpson Strong-Tie Donates to Red Cross to Help with Disaster Relief



Simpson Strong-Tie, the leader in engineered structural connectors and building solutions, donated \$30,000 to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund to assist with relief efforts for the many communities affected by Hurricane Michael in the US Atlantic

states and Central America, as well as by the earthquakes in Indonesia.

Several states continue to work through the fallout of Hurricane Michael, with federal assistance programs for individuals declared for multiple counties across Florida, Georgia and Alabama. Hurricane Michael has been named the strongest storm in terms of maximum wind speed to strike the contiguous US since Hurricane Andrew.

In late September, a deadly earthquake and tsunami struck the Donggala Regency area of Indonesia. The quake was followed by hundreds of aftershocks, resulting in more than 2,000 deaths with 82,000 people displaced and more than 67,000 homes damaged or destroyed.

"As so many people struggle to recover from the effects of these natural disasters, we support continued relief efforts in the areas hardest hit," said Simpson Strong-Tie Chief Operating Officer Ricardo Arevalo. "We are thankful for the work the Red Cross and other relief organizations do throughout the globe to help people get back on their feet."

Ford Expedition, Lincoln Navigator SUVs Recalled Over Second-Row Seat Fastener



Ford has issued a new recall for the 2018 Expedition and Lincoln Navigator full-size SUVs over a missing J-channel reinforcement bracket. Without the fastener, the second-row seats may not be restrained in the event of a crash.

The automaker announced the recall, which affects 38,000 Expedition and Navigator models total in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Ford built affected SUVs between March 14, 2018, and Aug. 18. The recall only applies to SUVs with second-row bench seats, which did not receive the J-channel reinforcement bracket in the seat track assembly. In some cases, one or both brackets could be missing, and in a crash, the un-fastened seat could increase the risk of injury in a crash.

Ford said dealership technicians will inspect the affected SUVs to check for the J-channel brackets. If one or both parts are missing, dealers will replace the center-seat assembly at no cost to owners. The automaker added it is not aware of any injuries related to the recall, but advised owners to push the second-row seats to the furthest position away from the front cabin.

Ford said dealership technicians will inspect the affected SUVs to check for the J-channel brackets. If one or both parts are missing, dealers will replace the center-seat assembly at no cost to owners. The automaker added it is not aware of any injuries related to the recall, but advised owners to push the second-row seats to the furthest position away from the front cabin.

In addition to the Expedition and Navigator recall, Ford also announced three other campaigns for the 2018 Explorer, 2019 Ford Super Duty vehicles, and 2019 Nautilus crossover. Each recall is small in nature and affects less than 500 vehicles in total.

Hilti, Inc., Named Official Tool Provider of American Airlines Center

American Airlines Center announced a multi-year agreement with Hilti, Inc., designating the industry-leading company as the Official Tool Provider of the venue.

As home to the Dallas Mavericks, Dallas Stars and live performances, American Airlines Center undergoes a wide variety of changes to accommodate events. Hilti will provide nearly 300 tools necessary to make these transformations not only possible, but fast and easy. To increase safety and productivity, Hilti will also provide hands-on product training to current American Airlines Center operations team members.

"As the Official Tool Provider, we're confident that Hilti tools will bring a new level of efficiency to the transformations that are required at the American Airlines Center for every new game and show," said Avi Kahn, President & CEO of Hilti North America. "Our innovative tools will enable streamlined changeovers between the Mavericks' basketball court, Stars' ice hockey rink and other live events quickly."

"We are always excited to partner with quality North Texas-based companies like Hilti," American Airlines Center Chief Operating Officer and General Manager, Dave Brown said. "Safety and efficiency are immensely important when hosting the number of events, we host annually. And we are confident that Hilti is going to provide our team with the best training and equipment to get the jobs done on time and most importantly, safely."

Aerosmith Fastening Systems' Kudlak Promoted to President

Aerosmith Fastening Systems announced Don Kudlak has accepted a promotion to President, following the retirement of current President, Robert Shluzas.

Kudlak is well suited for the role after holding two important positions with the company since joining in 2005. As General Manager and Director of Product Development Don, Kudlak was one of the architects who molded Aerosmith into the industry leading specialty fastener company it is today. Producing unique, forced-entry fasteners for commercial construction, as well as Industrial/OEM accounts, allowed Aerosmith to separate itself in the market by providing innovative solutions.

Under Kudlak's leadership, Aerosmith adopted a "cross functional" management culture, whereby Aerosmith functions as a unit to deliver superior customer service, application expertise, product QC, workplace safety and employee engagement.



Intercorp Releases New Product and Submittal Catalogs

Intercorp, an importer and master distributor of professional-grade construction fasteners under the Strong-Point® and Strongcon® brands, is pleased to announce the release of their new product and submittal catalogs.

“Our product and submittal catalogs have been updated with over 40 new product offerings,” said Director of Marketing, David Harlan. “These two comprehensive catalogs, with over 700 available fasteners, give distributors, architects, engineers, specifiers, and contractors the tools they need to complete their projects from start to finish with confidence. We’re excited about the value, information and project solutions these catalogs will bring to construction professionals throughout our industry.”

PFERD Announces Successor to President

Pferd Inc., a Milwaukee-based manufacturer of abrasives, brushes, and power tools, has promoted Mariano Presas to president – Americas effective Aug. 31, 2019. He succeeds Gene Huegin, who will retire at that time.

In this newly expanded role, Presas will be responsible for operations of Pferd Canada, Pferd Inc., and Pferd Latin America. Currently Presas serves as president of Pferd Latin America. Before joining the company, he was managing director – Latin America for Dayton Superior and sales and technical services director – Mexico for Hilti.

Starting in early 2019 and throughout the year, Presas will gradually assume more responsibility and spend more time in the U.S. culminating with Huegin’s retirement.



CHHMA Member Company Hillman Canada Invests in State-of-the-art Facility



The Hillman Group, Inc. (“Hillman”), a leading solution provider to the retail hardware market and member of the CHHMA, announced on November 15th that it will relocate its Canadian National Distribution Centre and Head Office to a newly designed, 400,000 square foot facility in the Metro East Business Park in Toronto.

Now that construction of the 350-employed new facility is approaching completion, Hillman is entering the last phase of its Canadian modernization plan, consolidating seven operations around the Greater Toronto Area. Starting in early 2019, a phased move of the company’s \$200+ million Canadian business will begin in the new location.

The new facility is located at 1395 Tapscott Road, in Toronto.

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Boker's 2019 Stampings and Washers Catalog Now Available

Boker's, Inc., a manufacturer of precision metal stampings, washers, spacers and shims for over one hundred years, announces the availability of the new 2019 Stampings and Washers Catalog. This year's commemorative catalog is a combination of their stampings and washers capabilities, including a special section celebrating their 100th anniversary, featuring an overview of Boker's rich history, significant milestones and memories from employees throughout the years.

Fasteners Resource Launching New E-Commerce Website



Fasteners Resource, a proudly veteran owned company based out of Ortonville, Michigan, is excited to announce its expansion by launching a new e-commerce website, which allows clients across the United States to purchase high-quality industrial fasteners, safety products and maintenance items. This provides new and existing customers an additional ordering method that can be used at their convenience and further build upon Fasteners Resource already sterling reputation at the national level.

With more than 75,000 products in stock and ready to ship, Fasteners Resource is quickly becoming one of the most recognizable names in the industrial fastener industry. They are known for their exceptional customer service, which is spearheaded by a sales team who has worked in the industry for years. In addition, they provide customized orders, thus ensuring no matter what type of job the client brings to them, Fasteners Resource is always ready.

Bulten Awarded Further Electric Vehicle Drive Technologies FSP Contract



Bulten has strengthened its Electric Vehicle

FSP (Full Service Provider) Portfolio through the award of a further contract from a major European automotive manufacturer. The contract is initially valued at approximately EUR 5 million per annum and will launch in 2020 extending for a period of 5 years.

"The award of a second Electric Vehicle FSP contract in a short space of time confirms that the approach and expertise Bulten brings to this field is recognised and appreciated by major OEM'S within the automotive industry", commented Tommy Andersson, President and CEO of Bulten.

The main drivers in winning this award were the industry leading position Bulten has in the Electric Vehicle market along with many years' experience of meeting and exceeding customer expectations in the business of automotive fastener supply.

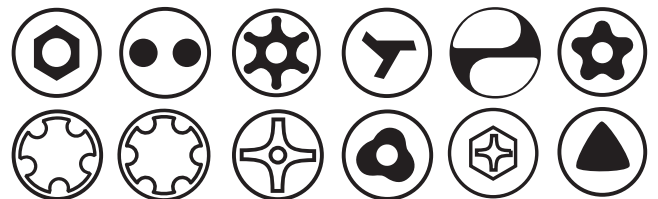
The contract is initially valued at EUR 5 million per annum and then follows the vehicles volume curve.

Deliveries are expected to start September 2020 to gradually increase up to full capacity in 2021 and continue for a period of 5 years.

Security Fasteners



Tamper Resistant Fasteners

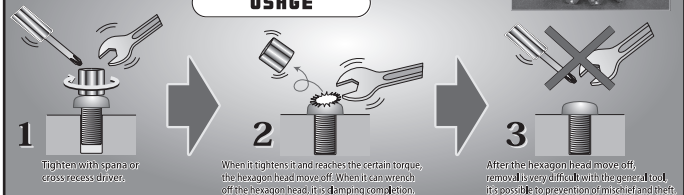


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WÜRTH GROUP

The Würth Group to Establish Asia Pacific's Largest Supply Chain Center in Haiyan (China)

On Dec. 04, the representatives from German Würth Group HQ and the company's guests from China together attended a ceremony at Haiyan Economic Development Zone for the launch of its 2nd phase of supply chain center in the greater China region.

The Würth Group has been dedicated to fastener R&D, trading and service and has been also a leading assembly technology solutions provider in the market for global customers. Its total sales in 2017 reached €12.7 billion. The project of the Würth Group's Asia Pacific's Supply Chain Center was signed and witnessed by German Chancellor and Chinese Premier in 2015 and was officially set up at Haiyan Economic Development Zone in 2016. The fastener industry in Haiyan has evolved into a very well-development supply chain and The Würth Group's project in Haiyan will specifically focus on warehousing, logistics and trade of hardware.

According to Larry Stevens, CEO of Würth China, the Würth Group chose Haiyan from more than 40 locations in China. As soon as the 2nd phase of project begins operation, various types of fasteners will be shipped from the Center to many other regions in Asia Pacific. Automated systems and paperless devices will be adopted and IoT and data intelligence will be introduced into manufacturing and operation as well to greatly enhance efficiency.

Shanghai Dragon Industrial Engineering's Explosion Venting Bolts Certified to American FM Standard

The explosion venting bolts developed by Shanghai Dragon Industrial Engineering (SDIE) passed the certification audit of American FM, a third-party inspection body. SDIE becomes the world's second and China's sole FM-certified company for its explosion venting bolts.

FM is one of the most stringent QC inspection bodies in the U.S. and represents the world's top level certification. The certificate indicates to consumers that a product or service passes the inspection under American and international standards. Acquiring the FM certificate means the performance of SDIE explosion venting bolts is approved by a renowned third-party inspection body, recognized by global clients, and that the bolts are allowed for global sales and application.

Explosion venting bolts are used in hazardous chemicals warehouses, nuclear power plants, and industries including petrochemical, electronics, new energy, medical and military, where indoors explosion is a potential threat. They are used to ensure instantaneous accurate pressure relief from explosion venting doors/windows/walls/roofs, resolving issues of inaccurate pressure relief from calcium silicate explosion venting walls/roofs.

Explosion venting bolts can release pressure by quantizing explosion venting pressure. Fire-proof construction design regulates that explosion-prone factories must have pressure relief facilities. The shank of explosion venting bolt is specially coated for chemical corrosion and rust resistance. The aluminum washer of the bolt is curved at a certain degree and attached with EPDM rubber from the bottom for water resistance. The load capacity of the bolt ranges from 30 to 70kg, adding more convenience to designing the bolt.



PSM International Wuxi China Plant Renovation Project Completed

PSM International's Wuxi China plant is working hard to expand its cold forming and machining capability and capacity in 2018. Its effort paid off by winning strategic projects from an international 1st tier Automotive supplier.

Besides production expansion, it also built new room for Laboratory, CMM and optical inspection. It had upgraded its Lab to improve the raw material chemical analysis and mechanical properties test. A new coordinate measuring machine has been purchased for the room to measure precision parts and its dimensional layouts. In this room, it also equipped it with machine capable of evaluating surface roughness and contour. The optical inspection room had space to further expand its capacity by adding new equipment. This expansion project was completed in Oct 2018.

PSM's Wuxi plant will continue to expand its capability and capacity in order for the company to serve customers well and fulfill customers demand for quality, quantity and diversity of parts. Once the expansion project is completed, together with its sister company in Pembroke UK, it is capable of serving in global footprint on its cold formed products.

Japanese Nitto Seiko Opens 2nd Plant of the Indonesia Subsidiary to Expand Local Automotive Sales

Nitto Seiko invested IDR 700 million and opened the Indonesia subsidiary "NAI" with 30 employees in 1985. As the Indonesian economy had a stable growth in the past few years, NAI posted robust sales growth. Afterwards, Nitto Seiko announced it took over the fastener business



of PT Isogai Indonesia and started partial production while finishing up the factory interiors. Then in this September, Nitto Seiko held an opening ceremony for the new factory. The president of Nitto Seiko said in a ceremony, "Today NAI has well over 300 employees and becomes a role model for other overseas subsidiaries." NAI targets the automotive industry and will expand local sales in Bekasi by supplying special cold forged pressed parts and bolts.



Honda Recalls Minivan Over Sliding Door Problem

Honda is recalling 122,000 minivans worldwide because the sliding doors can open while the vans are moving. The recall covers Odyssey vans from 2018 and 2019.

Honda says some parts in the power door rear latches can stick and stop the doors from fastening securely. The company says it has no reports of injuries.

Dealers will replace the latches, but currently they have only a limited parts supply. Honda expects to have more parts by late December. If dealers can't get repair kits, owners will have the option of temporarily disabling the power sliding door until parts are available. Manual door operation would still be possible.

Honda says owners should take their vans to a dealer as soon as they get recall letters that will be mailed in late December. Most of the recalled vehicles are in the U.S. and Canada.

Walton Plans to Increase Fastener Production In Response to Growing Demand

The Bangladesh-based multinational electronics and electrical company Walton has recently planned to increase its fastener production in anticipation of further growing demand for locally made fasteners.



According to a press release, Walton will install advanced machines at its fastener manufacturing facility in Gazipur, and aims to triple the production capacity. The workforce of the factory will be also expanded.

Earlier, a major portion of the local demand for fasteners were met by imported items, which led to the country spending a lot of foreign currency to pay import bills. Moreover, both importers and end-users had to wait for months to get the imported items. However, this import dependency has since been reduced following the start of Walton's local production of fasteners in 2017.

Walton has already begun supplying a large volume of fasteners to various local manufacturing industries including furniture, bicycle, motorcycle, and home and kitchen appliance manufacturing units. Moreover, Walton has already discussed the export of its fasteners to other overseas companies.

《Industry Update》

bsi. David Briggs Appointed as New BSI Deputy Chair of FME/9 (Fasteners)

David Briggs, Head of Global Quality & Technical Information @Cooper & Turner, has been appointed as the new BSI Deputy Chair of FME/9 (Fasteners).

David's new prestigious and important function is on behalf of the UK National Standards Body (NSB).

His role is to support the needs of business and industry in respect of voluntary standards, ensuring open public consultation and full stakeholder engagement, in line with the principles of the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

The consensus process lies at the heart of BSI's work and David's position is key to ensuring an effective and efficient delivery from the BSI committee network.



HAI Announces Launch of Spring 2019 Training Schedule

**HARDWARE
ASSOCIATION
IRELAND**

After a highly successful Autumn, with more courses, topics and participants than ever before, HAI is pleased to launch its Spring 2019 training schedule with classroom-based courses tailored specifically to the needs of hardware retailers, merchants, agri-businesses and suppliers.

Thanks to continued feedback from members and training attendees the schedule comprises all of HAI's most popular and successful courses and workshops including Credit Control, Stock Control and Digital Marketing and Social Media, along with the return of newer courses like Merchandising Techniques and Leadership and Communication Skills.

After the hugely successful level of attendance in Autumn it is encouraging to see the number of employers and managers in the sector becoming more involved in investing in their business's and employees' future by investing in training and development. Training in soft-skills like Sales and Customer Service and more practical skills like Digital Marketing and Merchandising are key in helping developing businesses in the sector compete against online and offline challenges to trade.

For more info please visit <https://hardwareassociation.ie>.

Jiangsu Fastener Association Established in November 2018

On November 28, 2018, The Fastener Subdivision of Jiangsu Province Machinery Association was established and held its first annual member meeting and association establishment at Changshu City International Hotel. President of Changshu City Standards Factory Yong-Fong Chiang was elected as the 1st Chairman.



Chiang said, "I will lead all member fastener enterprises in our province to reinforce their presence in the advanced domestic and international markets. In the domestic market, we'll aim at expanding business reach to higher value added industries such as aerospace, railway, hi-tech building, automotive, medical, etc., while in the international market, we'll focus on diversifying our product categories at higher application level, such as developing high-strength special materials and increasing the technical level and added value of our exported products. Meanwhile, the fastener industry in China should continue its road to the advancement of the entire supply chain and make effort to improve itself with growing orders and demand for hi-tech fasteners, in order to strengthen its fastener R&D capabilities and quality level, as well as accelerate technology upgrade to outpace other domestic and overseas leading companies."

《Acquisitions》

**Bossard Takes a Stake in 3d-prototyp GmbH**

The Bossard Group strengthens its competency in additive manufacturing by acquiring a 49 percent stake in the company 3d-prototyp GmbH in Stans. It is intended to increase this share to 100 percent within the next three years. The acquisition is part of a long-term strategy under which Bossard intends to establish itself in the future market of 3D printing. As part of this strategic orientation, Bossard was already able to announce partnerships with three manufactures of 3D printers in spring 2018; the Bossard Group took over the representation and distributorship of these companies for the Swiss market.

3d-prototyp GmbH has made a name for itself in the additive manufacturing of complex plastic parts and models. The company has competency across the entire design process; from the draft, via 3D visualization up to the completed 3D plastic model. 3d-prototyp GmbH also has extensive experience in the 3D scanning of free-form surfaces and complex geometries.

With its acquisition in 3d-prototyp GmbH, Bossard gains additional practical know-how in the additive manufacturing of plastic applications as a development partner and contract manufacturer. Bossard, as a competence center, wants to support customers from the design phase all the way to the production of parts and to advise them on the selection of equipment and associated manufacturing technologies. Over the next few years, it is intended to make further targeted investments in the expansion of design and engineering.

Bossard believes that 3D printing has a future in various areas of manufacturing, including the manufacture of prototypes, components with complex geometries, multi-part assemblies and also parts where weight reduction plays a significant role, such as in the automotive and aerospace industries. Last but not least, new materials are increasingly being used with 3D printing, and the associated challenges are of interest to Bossard as a global supplier of fastening solutions.

Bossard Expands in China

The Bossard Group is strengthening its market position in China as a supplier of high-quality fastening solutions. It is taking over the business of Linquan Precision Co. Ltd., Suzhou, which generates annual sales of around CHF 8 million with 28 employees. Bossard is already present in the Chinese market at 12 sites with a total of some 280 employees. This acquisition complements the product range with fastening solutions for application in demanding industries. The parties have agreed to keep the acquisition price confidential.

The company Linquan Precision has longstanding experience in fastening technology. Bossard strengthens with this acquisition the position in the applications for ultra-thin and ultra-light sheet metal fastenings. The customers of Linquan Precision are engaged in the industries such as the electronics, tele- and data-communication, automotive, as well as the medical equipment.

This orientation toward demanding industries corresponds with the Bossard Group's strategy of focusing increasingly on high-quality engineered and branded products. Various acquisitions over the last few years have enabled the company to implement this strategy. With this latest acquisition, Bossard not only consolidates its market position in one of the world's most important economy but also strengthens its longstanding business relationship with PennEngineering (PEM). PEM is the world's leading manufacturer of self-clinching fasteners.

Gardner Denver Acquires Canadian Company**Gardner Denver**

Gardner Denver Holdings Inc. announced Tuesday it has acquired a Canadian company through a cash acquisition. Gardner Denver Holdings is a Milwaukee-based global provider of mission-critical flow control and compression equipment. It has purchased DV Systems Inc., which is based in Barrie, Ontario.

Systems is a leading manufacturer of rotary screw and piston compressors and associated aftermarket parts. DV Systems will be part of Gardner Denver's Industrials Segment.

"DV Systems is a Canadian market-leader with a history of innovative products, strong talent and excellent customer relationships," said Vicente Reynal, Gardner Denver's CEO, in a statement. "This transaction is aligned with our strategy of leveraging core, mission critical technologies in attractive markets to drive ongoing profitable growth."

"We are very excited for DV Systems to be part of the Gardner Denver family," said Bogdan Markiel, DV Systems' CEO, in a statement. "As part of Gardner Denver, DV Systems will be well-positioned to expand into new markets and expand the product portfolio that has made us a leader in the Canadian market."

**Nucor Acquires Precision Castings Company in Mexico**

Nucor Corporation announced that it is acquiring Corporacion POK, S.A. de C.V. (POK), a fully integrated precision castings company with a facility in Guadalajara, Mexico. POK produces complex castings and precision machined products used by the oil and gas, mining and sugar processing industries.

POK produces a wide array of precision castings using steel, bronze, iron and specialty exotic alloys. Founded in 1894, POK has a long operating history and strong management team, which is a natural fit for Nucor's existing cold finish businesses and complements Nucor's acquisition of a cold finish facility in Monterrey last year. The acquisition of POK will enable Nucor to broaden its current product offerings and gives the company the opportunity to increase sales into new and existing markets. POK currently employs 425 people at its Guadalajara production facility.

In addition to the Nucor ATP Mexico cold finish facility in Monterrey, Nucor's current Mexican operations include several sheet steel processing facilities as part of its Steel Technologies joint venture with Mitsui & Co., as well as a steel sales office. Nucor is also building a galvanizing line with its joint venture partner, JFE Steel Corporation of Japan, to serve the Mexican automotive market.



Endries International Announces Acquisition by MSD Partners



Endries International, a leading distributor of fasteners and related production components, today announced that MSD Partners, L.P., along with Endries management, has acquired Endries from Nautic Partners, a middle market private equity firm. Endries will continue to be led by CEO Steve Endries and his executive team. Terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

Founded in 1970, Endries is a leading distributor of fasteners and Class-C parts serving industrial Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) worldwide. From its headquarters in Brillion, WI and distribution centers worldwide, Endries provides over 500,000 SKUs to its customer base. Endries operates primarily through a Vendor Managed Inventory model, managing C-part categories for its customers across diverse industrial end markets. Endries partners with OEM customers through robust replenishment systems that provide products and support services which are critical to maintaining the manufacturing process.

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Calsonic Kansei and Magneti Marelli to Create a Leading Independent Automotive Components Supplier

Fiat Chrysler Automobiles N.V. (“FCA”) (NYSE: FCAU/MTA: FCA) announces that it has entered into a definitive agreement (the “Transaction”) to sell its automotive components business Magneti Marelli S.p.A. (“Magneti Marelli”) to CK Holdings Co., Ltd. (“CK Holdings”), a holding company of Calsonic Kansei Corporation (“Calsonic Kansei”), a leading Japanese automotive component supplier. Following the closing of the Transaction, CK Holdings will be renamed as Magneti Marelli CK Holdings*. The combined businesses of Calsonic Kansei and Magneti Marelli will create the world’s 7th largest global independent automotive components supplier based on total revenues.

The agreement represents a transaction value of EUR 6.2 billion. The Transaction is expected to close in the first half of 2019 and is subject to regulatory approvals and other customary closing conditions.

The Transaction represents a unique opportunity to combine two successful businesses to create one of the leading global independent automotive components suppliers, with combined revenues of EUR 15.2 billion (JPY 1,975 billion¹). The combination is a decisive step towards both companies’ strategic ambition to become a leading globally-diversified tier-one supplier.

The combined company will be well positioned to serve its customers around the world due to its enhanced scale, financial strength and the highly complementary nature of its combined product lines and geographic footprint. The new entity will operate out of nearly 200 facilities and R&D centers across Europe, Japan, the Americas, and Asia Pacific.