



by Konnor Lee, Fastener World

TIFI 17th Annual Member Meeting

Chairman Chang especially referred to the "NICE" Industrial Upgrade Project for Taiwanese Fastener Industry, which was proposed by Industrial Development Bureau of MOEA (Taiwan) in order to help the industry face challenges from the emergence of the Red Supply Chain and the possible effects after the EU cancelled the antidumping measure against Chinese carbon steel screws. Through the implementation of "NICE," Taiwanese fastener industry will be guided to continuously upgrade product value, reduce material cost, and avoid abnormal price cutting competition. Chairman Chang also praised the "NICE" industrial upgrade contract signing ceremony on Dec. 14th, which was attended by 10 fastener companies and Industrial Development Bureau. He expected that the combined strength of the Government, the industry, and the academia could become a reliable force to boost the optimization of the entire industry.

Looking to the future, Chairman Chang called on the audience for reinforcing their R&D according to their core capabilities and carrying out industrial upgrade to create higher-end products such as automotive screws, aerospace products, or medical products, used to increase the added value of products and widen product range. He also expressed his special thanks to Ministry of the Interior, MOEA, TAITRA, CNFI, MIRDC, Taiwan CSC, related colleges & universities for their guidance and assistance to the fastener industry, enabling Taiwanese fastener industry to increase its competitive edge in the international market.

On Dec. 16, 2016, Taiwan Industrial Fasteners Institute (TIFI) held its 17th annual member meeting at The Grand Hi-Lai Hotel Kaohsiung. Several representatives and guests from Taiwan Fastener Trading Association (TFTA), Taiwan Fastener Association (TFA), China Steel Corp. (Taiwan CSC) were all present at this grand event. During the meeting hosted by TIFI Chairman Anchor T. H. Chang, many resolutions were unanimously agreed, showing the power of union of Taiwanese fastener industry.

TIFI Chairman Anchor T. H. Chang analyzed the fastener export of Taiwan and pointed out that in the first 10 months of 2016 the fastener export of Taiwan totaled 1.276 million tons, down 3.82% from 2015's corresponding period; if calculated by value, it totaled USD 3.146 billion, down 8.69% from 2015's corresponding period; the average unit price was USD 2.464, down 5.06% from 2015's corresponding period. Chairman Chang said that

the abovementioned declines in exports were all resulted from the global economic recession and that the continuous order intake at very low prices even in

the condition of an inferior NTD rate and the competition from China both resulted in the unclear situation of Taiwanese fastener export.



After the speech by Chairman Chang, the representative of TAITRA was invited to report the update of the current preparation for the next edition of Taiwan International Fastener Show, which has been announced to take place on April 10-12, 2018 at Kaohsiung Exhibition Center. Application forms will be soon out in the beginning of 2017. Then, MIRDC Industry Analyst Miss Kristy Chi reported "The Demand and Trend Analysis of the Fastener Market in 2017," which incisively gave a clearer insight into the future market trend in 2017. After the meeting, a welcome dinner gala was also given. All participants exchanged views on the industry together and the fellowship was strengthened as well, making a perfect closure of the annual member meeting in 2016. ■