

# world. Taiwan, Turkey, and India specially set up their own pavilions, providing an important platform for industry professionals to exchange ideas and collaborate. FASTENER EXPO 2025

# Taiwanese Exhibitors Showcase Global Supply Chain Influence

**Taiwanese Fastener Stars Gather on the Grand US Stage** 

This year, Taiwanese exhibitors were led to IFE by Fastener World, the sales agent for Taiwanese booths, bringing together 60 quality Taiwanese exhibitors. The exhibitors included: Ably Screw, Aeh Fasten Industries, A-Stainless International, Bear Fastening Solutions, Bi-Mirth, Chite Enterprises, Chong Cheng Fastener, Din Ling, Dragon Iron Factory, E Chain Industrial, Evereon Industries, Falcon Fastener, Fang Sheng Screw, Feng Yi Titanium Fasteners, Fong Prean Industrial, Fong Yien Industrial, Fontec Screws, Foss Reach Manufacturing, Gofast, Homn Reen Enterprise, Hong Yuan Pm, Hsiung Jen Industrial, Hu Pao Industries, Hwa Hsing Screw, J.C. Grand, Ji Li Deng, Jin Hsiang Enterprise,

Jung Shen Technology, K. Ticho, Katsuhana Fasteners, Kingwin Precision, Kuntech International, Kwantex Research, L & W Fasteners, Link Upon, Linkwell Industry, Mao Chuan Industrial, Metal Fasteners, Mols Corporation, Pingood Enterprise, Ray Fu Enterprise, Rexlen, Rong Yih Jiang, Shaw Guang Enterprise.

Sheh Fung Screws, Shinn Rung, Sintec, Soon Port International, Spec Products, Special Rivets Corp., Sun Through Industrial, Taiwan Industrial Fasteners Institute, Taiwan Metiz Alliance, Taiwan Precision Fastener, Taiwan Shan Yin, Wattson Fastener, Wei I Industry, Yiciscrew, and Yow Chern.

The exhibits from Taiwanese companies covered high-strength screws, nuts, special fasteners, dies, equipment, and smart manufacturing solutions, showcasing Taiwan's competitive and diversified strength in the global fastener supply chain. Meanwhile, Taiwan Industrial Fasteners Institute also organized a group to exhibit, consolidating Taiwan's industry power and jointly promoting its brand image.





#### Government-Industry Collaboration: Multiple Forces Create an International Ecosystem

In addition to exhibitors, the show attracted strong attention from Taiwanese government officials and research units. Economic Development Bureau of Kaohsiung City Government, Taiwan Industrial Fasteners Institute, Industrial Technology Research Institute, and the International Trade Administration (MOEA) all sent representatives to demonstrate the determination of the government and industry to jointly expand

international markets. In the show, Fastener World's staff on-site actively interacted with local US importers, distributors, and end buyers to promote Taiwanese suppliers and successfully helped build multi-party collaboration bridges.

#### A Grand Cross-Border Industry Exchange Gala by Fastener World

Notably, Fastener World not only served as the sales agent and communication coordinator for the Taiwan region but also facilitated in-depth exchanges between National Fastener Distributors Association and Taiwan Industrial Fasteners Institute, paving the way for future collaboration between the U.S. and Taiwan. On the evening of September 15 before the show, Fastener World held a special gala dinner titled "Fastener World Night" inviting Taiwanese exhibitors and international guests to gather. The lively atmosphere enabled industry professionals from different countries to exchange experiences and explore collaboration opportunities in a relaxed setting, making it a key highlight of the show.

#### From the U.S. to the World: Taiwan Fastener Industry to Reach New Heights

Overall, IFE 2025 not only showcased the latest trends in the global fastener industry but also highlighted Taiwan's influence in the international market. Through the efforts of Fastener World and related entities, Taiwanese exhibitors not only strengthened connections with the U.S. market but also successfully expanded more potential collaboration opportunities, laying a solid foundation for future international development.

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Mark Spencer, CEO of LindFast, a well-known American fastener agent and distributor, recently engaged in discussions with Director Tai-Hsiang Liao of Kaohsiung's Economic Development Bureau, Chairman Yung-Yu Tsai of Taiwan Industrial Fasteners Institute, and representatives from the Taiwanese fastener industry. They conducted in-depth discussions on the impact of tariffs, future market demand, and the role of Taiwan's fastener industry, demonstrating a joint determination to tackle international market challenges together.



Spencer stated that tariffs have indeed slowed the market pace in recent years, but thanks to LindFast's diversified business structure, the company can effectively spread risk through various product lines and market distributions, thereby reducing the impact. He specifically pointed out that the aerospace industry will be the most promising market in the future. In addition, stainless steel fasteners, construction fasteners, and high-end Hyper Steel products are also key focus areas for the group. When discussing Taiwan's competitive advantages over Chinese peers, Spencer emphasized, "The biggest advantage of Taiwanese suppliers lies in their high quality and precision. Our customers who require extremely low tolerance products can always rely on Taiwanese suppliers to meet their needs." He added that maintaining long-term, open communication with Taiwanese fastener experts is an important part of LindFast's procurement strategy.

Regarding market demand forecasting, Spencer revealed that LindFast has implemented software platforms for information transfer and integration, enabling them to quickly know "what products are needed and in what quantities" to respond timely to customer demands. Director Tai-Hsiang Liao responded that Kaohsiung, as a major hub of Taiwan's fastener industry with a complete supply chain and diversified products, is actively considering how to assist firms in

resource integration to build a joint platform, thereby responding more efficiently to the U.S. market needs and providing one-stop comprehensive services.

James Lee, General Manager of Chiang Shin Fasteners Industries, also shared experience of LindFast's long-term collaboration with Taiwan. He pointed out that the group's brands require both imperial and metric products, applied in industries such as automotive and railway. Currently, about 40% of the group's products come from Taiwan, with the remainder sourced from China and Southeast Asia. He emphasized that Taiwanese suppliers' advantages in special products and technical quality remain a key reason for LindFast's continuous partnership. James further explained that previously each brand managed procurement independently, but under the current CEO's leadership, they are moving towards centralized management, consolidating procurement forecasts for the next one to two quarters, then uploading them to a platform for purchasing managers' use. If Taiwanese suppliers actively collaborate, it will help improve efficiency and deepen collaboration.

Addressing external concerns about geopolitical risks, James expressed optimism. He said that fasteners are a rigid demand that will not disappear due to environmental challenges but will continue to grow with the flourishing of U.S. industries such as construction, oil rigs, and automobiles, along with the promotion of the "Made in America" policy. He acknowledged that the biggest current challenge is that rising tariffs require buyers to manage cash flow more cautiously, but he still believes the market's "explosive demand" will return soon. He stated, "I encourage Taiwanese partners not to be pessimistic during short-term market downturns. When demand recovers, everyone will be very busy again."





Overall, this exchange highlighted the close collaboration between LindFast and Taiwanese firms. Whether it is high-quality products, precise market forecasting, or digitized integration of procurement platforms, both sides demonstrate strong complementarity and confidence in ongoing collaboration. As international market demand gradually recovers, Taiwan's strategic position in the global fastener supply chain will continue to be recognized and strengthened.



# Taiwan-U.S. Fastener Industry Exchange at IFE: Tariff Challenges & Tech Collaboration

On September 17, the newly appointed President of National Fastener Distributors Association (NFDA), Ed Smith, and Vice President Melissa Patel met with representatives from Taiwan fastener industry as well as the Kaohsiung City Government and Taiwanese trade organizations. The meeting took place at the Taiwan Pavilion specially set up by the Taiwan Industrial Fasteners Institute (TIFI) at the IFE show, where diverse exchanges were held. They discussed U.S. market demands, Taiwan-U.S. collaboration, tariff policy impacts, and prospects for future bilateral industry collaboration. Before the exchange meeting, prominent figures from Taiwan and the U.S. from government and industryincluding Director Mr. Tai-Hsiang Liao of Economic Development Bureau of Kaohsiung City Government, Chairman Mr. Yung-Yu Tsai of TIFI, NFDA President Ed Smith, NFDA Vice President Melissa Patel, and IFE Executive Vice President Karalynn Sprouse—gathered in front of the Taiwan Pavilion to hold a lively ribbon-cutting ceremony. Witnessed by many exhibitors and visitors, the event underscored hopes for closer and stronger collaboration between Taiwan and U.S. fastener industries in the future.

In the post-ceremony exchange, Ed Smith expressed that domestic U.S. facilities remain insufficient for full self-supply, leading to strong dependence on the Taiwan supply chain. He emphasized Taiwan's advantage in the U.S. market based on quality and craftsmanship. However, he also noted that under tariff policy impacts, companies must find ways to reduce production costs to offset profit losses. Melissa Patel pointed out that beyond technical advantages, U.S. partners are more concerned about how Taiwanese suppliers can shorten delivery times to improve efficiency.

Chairman Yung-Yu Tsai suggested considering establishing large warehouses in Taiwan to allow clients to place orders in advance for direct delivery, thus reducing tariff-impact costs and speeding up shipment flow. Yung-Hsiang Lai, President of MIRDC, said Taiwan is actively introducing AI to help companies improve manufacturing efficiency and reduce waste. Director Tai-Hsiang Liao noted that local governments in Taiwan help industries by expanding markets, providing financial loans, and employee training, with plans to continuously adapt strategies to meet North American market demand. He invited U.S. industry representatives to participate in the Taiwan International Fastener Show 2026 in Kaohsiung to deepen bilateral exchange and collaboration.

Future participation of Taiwan industry representatives in the NFDA annual meeting and related seminars was also discussed. Ed Smith responded that he is very willing to submit this suggestion for discussion at the next NFDA board meeting. Melissa Patel emphasized that Taiwan has always been an important partner for U.S. businesses and will remain the preferred partner going forward. Director Tai-Hsiang Liao stated that Taiwan-U.S. industry exchanges will continue to be promoted toward efficient production and innovative development. The Taiwan-U.S. bilateral exchange meeting held at the Taiwan Pavilion at IFE was an unprecedented success, not only enhancing mutual understanding between Taiwan and the U.S., but also marking a milestone for deeper collaboration in the Taiwan-U.S. fastener industry.









### \* TAIWAN











## TIFI and BBI Join Hands, Signing MOU to Build Supply Chain Alliance



On September 18, Taiwan Industrial Fasteners Institute (TIFI), together with Fastener World and several Taiwanese fastener firms, visited the well-known U.S. fastener distributor BBI (Brighton-Best International) to deepen industrial chain exchanges and collaboration between both sides. In the morning, the delegation visited Ta Chen International's warehouse and office in the U.S., as well as BBI's warehouse, and attended a presentation on industry and business strategy delivered by BBI General Manager Jun Xu.

Before the presentation, remarks were given by Director Tai-Hsiang Liao of Kaohsiung's Economic Development Bureau, TIFI Chairman Yung-Yu Tsai, and Jun Xu. Director Liao noted that this was the first time Kaohsiung City Government joined TIFI to participate in the IFE show and visit Ta Chen International and BBI. He expressed the government's hope to promptly understand and assist industry players in overcoming challenges, promote the transformation and international linkage of Taiwan's fastener industry, strengthen collaboration with distributors, and build a more diverse and stable supply chain. Chairman Tsai emphasized the significant role of Taiwanese businesses in the Asian market but pointed out that facing strong price competition from Indian firms, Taiwanese firms must break away from a mindset of going at it alone and enhance competitiveness through collaboration and









integration. Jun Xu pointed out that while manufacturers face market and customer pressures, distributors like BBI can flexibly adjust by switching suppliers and marketing channels while benefiting from U.S. tariff policies, and highlighted BBI's competitive advantage in its large inventory.

In his presentation, Jun Xu detailed that BBI specializes in the complex and diverse socket fastener market, offering about 6,000 product specifications to meet different customer needs. After being acquired in 2008 by an investment group led by Ta Chen International, BBI expanded through acquisitions, including Porteous Fastener in 2013, Australia's EZ Sockets in 2015, and IRONCLAD Performance Wear and Vertex Distribution in 2021, strengthening its business scale and inventory advantages. BBI operates with 80% of its business online, improving customer inquiry and service efficiency, enabling distributors to quickly respond to orders, with about 95% of orders shipped within one day. Regarding U.S. steel and aluminum tariffs, Jun Xu believes that investing in highly complex critical fasteners increases irreplaceability and competitiveness despite tariff impacts. BBI leverages this opportunity with its ample inventory and operational flexibility to maintain control in competition. Currently, BBI holds about 60-70% market share in U.S. distribution channels, with annual revenue near USD 3 billion and serving 3,000 to 4,000 customers. Its main products are medium- and low-carbon steel fasteners, with high-end fasteners maintaining a stable share.









Near midday, TIFI and BBI formally signed an MOU, symbolizing closer collaboration and concluding the visit on a high note. Director Liao pointed out that following the recent U.S. Federal Reserve rate cut, economic growth is expected to continue, and rising demand in U.S. construction, automobile, and public infrastructure will drive fastener market development. Kaohsiung Government and TIFI will jointly support industry players in expanding R&D and sales channels, further deepening Taiwan-U.S. fastener collaboration.

This trip not only strengthened industrial chain interaction but also provided forward-looking strategic insights for Taiwanese fastener firms. It demonstrated that under fierce global competition and tariff policies, enhancing channel integration and collaboration is a key objective for the industry. Taiwan's fastener industry will continue to deepen international collaboration, strengthen brand and supply chain competitiveness, and promote stable industry growth.







