

American News

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U.S. Tariffs Hiking Fastener Prices of Sherex Fastening Solutions



Facing steep tariffs imposed by U.S. President Donald Trump, fastener manufacturers and distributors are hiking prices. Sherex Fastening Solutions recently announced a price increase. “As you may be aware, the latest round of the U.S. government’s Section 232 Tariffs increased its tariff on steel and aluminum products from 25% to 50% on

June 4, 2025,” Sherex president Adam Pratt announced. “To address this, we must implement a 12% price increase on new orders to our standard, catalog parts made from non-U.S. steel and aluminum, effective August 1, 2025.” This adjustment does not apply to products made from domestic wire in its U.S. facilities.

“Please know that we have worked diligently to absorb as much of the increased costs as possible to minimize the impact on you. We will continue to monitor the tariff situation closely. Should the tariffs be modified or removed, we will promptly reassess our pricing to reflect those changes.” Buffalo, NY-based Sherex manufactures engineered fasteners, tooling and automation. The company was acquired by PennEngineering in 2024.

The Sherex announcement follows news that Brighton-Best International (BBI) also increased prices to counteract the impact of U.S. tariffs. A subsidiary of Taiwan-based Ta Chen International, BBI has over 90% of sales concentrated in the North American market. Following the price adjustment, BBI’s gross margin improved to 39% in April to May, up from 33.5% in the opening quarter of 2025, while shipments are forecasted to grow by 2-4% this year. BBI reported Q1 revenue rose 3% to NT\$5.878 billion (US\$200.8 million), with net profit after tax climbing 32% to NT\$766 million.



FINdex Nears Double-Digit Gain in Q2

After declining in the first quarter of 2025, the FIN Fastener Stock Index rose 9% in the second quarter, besting a 7.9% gain by an index of related industrial stocks. Specialty alloys supplier Carpenter Technology achieved the highest gain, growing 52.5% in stock value during Q2. Other FINdex companies recording double-digit gains included Howmet Aerospace (up 43.4%), TriMas (up 22%), Chicago Rivet (up 12.3%), Fastenal (up 11%), and

Dorman Products (up 10%). Park-Ohio lost the highest percentage of stock value during Q2, dropping 17.3%. Other fastener companies recording losses included Stanley Black & Decker (down 11.9%), Simpson Manufacturing (down 1.1%), and Tree Island Steel (down 1.1%).

During the first six months of 2025, the FINdex grew 6.1% compared to 4.9% growth by an index of related industrial stocks. Howmet Aerospace showed the strongest first-half growth, gaining 70% in share value. Chicago Rivet recorded the largest decline, falling 22.8%.



National Machinery Buys Drawing Tech



National Machinery acquired Drawing Technology Inc. (DTI), a wire drawing machinery company based in Rockford, IL. Terms of the deal were disclosed. DTI will continue operations from its Rockford facilities. Founded in 2000, DTI provides wire handling, processing and drawing equipment for the automotive, aerospace, construction, and industrial manufacturing industries. Ohio-based National Machinery, which marked its 150th anniversary in 2024, specializes in advanced cold forming technology, with facilities on four continents.





Birmingham Fastener Launches ZincFast



Birmingham Fastener launched ZincFast, a new company providing hot-dip galvanizing services. ZincFast's galvanizing process provides maintenance-free protection for fabricated steel "in even the harshest conditions." The company galvanizes a range of products, from small nuts and bolts to larger miscellaneous steel structures, and specializes in spinner batch for high-quality thread fit. Factory controlled processes allow for consistent quality and service.



Kelly Poholarz Assumes Full Ownership of Setko Fasteners & Distribution



Setko Fasteners & Distribution, Hampshire, IL, USA, announced that after more than a decade of dedication to the company, Kelly Poholarz has acquired full ownership and now serves as the sole proprietor

and CEO. Kelly has been a cornerstone of the Setko team with over 30 years in the fastener industry, guiding growth and innovation across a wide range of fastener products. This includes socket head cap screws, set screws, shoulder bolts, hex and 6-lobe keys, dowel pins and much more. Setko has expanded its specialty product offerings to include items like brass and nylon tipped set screws while also enhancing service capabilities with options such as blanket orders and custom finishes – all reinforcing their role as both a domestic and import supplier.

"I'm honored to lead Setko into its next chapter," Kelly said. "Our unwavering focus on quality, custom solutions, and personal service has defined us for many years, and I'm excited to build on that legacy." Setko Fasteners has grown into a trusted partner within the industrial fastener sector, serving North American markets with both domestic manufactured and imported products tailored to exact print specifications. As sole owner, Kelly is committed to building on Setko's strengths in customized socket products, rapid fulfillment, and client-focused supply chain solutions. With Kelly at the helm, Setko Fasteners looks forward to continuing its tradition of reliability, innovation and excellence for existing and future customers across industries.

Kelly continued, "I'm incredibly proud of my team at Setko! Their unwavering commitment to delivering exceptional service ensures that every customer receives a top-tier experience. Each member of the Setko family goes above and beyond to guarantee complete satisfaction, making customer care one of our highest priorities."



SHORTTAKES

- ① SPAX and TRUFAST hired Ryan Edwards as director of sales – Mass Timber for North America. Based in Coeur d'Alene, ID, his career spans two decades in construction, including mass timber. "Mass timber represents the future of sustainable construction," stated Edwards. "SPAX's proven fastener technology and TRUFAST's building envelope innovations provide a complete, performance-driven package for modern mass timber projects." Ohio-based SPAX and TRUFAST are part of Altenloh, Brinck & Co US — a division of the German-based company that manufactures and distributes engineered fasteners for the residential and commercial building material industries.
- ② Eight months after acquiring Bristol Machine Co., Industrial Threaded Products (ITP) relocated BMC to its facility in Rancho Cucamonga, CA, from nearby Ontario, CA. Founded in 1975, BMC manufactures and distributes fastening systems and industrial products for the construction, marine, and power (solar, wind energy, pole-line) industries. Products include fastening systems, concrete anchors, anchor bolts, clevis assemblies, full threaded rods, and TC bolts. Founded in 1979 by Ron Futrell, ITP supplies fasteners to commercial manufacturers and construction wholesale distributors.
- ③ AFC Industries hired Brandi Lynn Miller as director of customer solutions. She will manage the company's VMI programs. Based in Chicago, Miller has experience in project management, procurement and engineering with Optimas Solutions, Axiom Packaging and StretchTech. Cincinnati-based AFC provides supply chain management for fasteners, tooling and assembly components to OEMs. AFC services include VMI, stock and release programs, light assembly, kitting and private labeling.
- ④ Crouch Sales Co. launched a new website with a new company logo. "Our updated platform simplifies the process of placing orders and requesting quotes, ensuring a user-friendly interaction," the company stated on LinkedIn. Founded in 1966, Crouch Sales is a family-owned fastener distributor with a Texas-based warehouse of bolts, nuts, screws, and anchors.
- ⑤ LoneStar Group hired Matt Hull as business development manager to support AmeriBolt, LoneStar Fasteners Houston, and LoneStar Sealing Technologies. His career includes nearly two decades at Fastenal, where he served in leadership roles. Based in Virginia, Hull will focus on quick-turn solutions across custom fasteners, precision gaskets, and engineered components — all manufactured and distributed through LoneStar's facilities.



- ⑥ ND Industries, Inc. hired fastener veteran Ryan Grew as business development manager. Prior experience includes working for EFC International, Big Bolt, Optimas Solutions, Stanley Engineered Fastening, and Fastenal. Founded in 1955, Detroit-based ND Industries manufactures adhesives, sealants and thread-locking technologies for fasteners and assemblies. Acquired by H.B. Fuller in 2024, ND Industries has 13 U.S. divisions plus facilities in Taiwan, China and Turkey.

LindFast Solutions Group Appoints CEO and CCO



Mike



Steve

LindFast Solutions Group (LSG), Blaine, MN, USA, a Nautic Partners LLC portfolio company named Mike Spencer as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Steve Dean as Chief Commercial Officer (CCO). LSG is a master distributor of standard and specialty fasteners and tapes with specialty manufacturing capabilities, servicing a broad base of national, regional and local distribution customers in North America.

Brainard Rivet Upgrades Packaging Line



Brainard Rivet, Girard, OH, USA, reports, "We've upgraded our packaging process with a fully automated, start-to-finish system—and the results speak for themselves. From forming and sealing boxes to automated filling and palletizing, the system eliminates manual steps and cuts hours. It's more efficient, more organized and safer for our team." A full update is available online at the Brainard Rivet website blog.

Camcar Innovations® in Partnership with Mule Technology



Camcar Innovations® announced a strategic partnership with Mule Technology™, for a major step forward in a shared mission to modernize and streamline the fastener manufacturing industry.

The collaboration joins Camcar's expertise in advanced fastening solutions and global reach with Mule's retrofittable hardware, purpose-built to optimize and simplify fastener production. Delivered technologies will drive gains in efficiency, scalability and operational accessibility.

Dianna Barnes Joins Auto Bolt USA as Sales Operations & Marketing Manager



Cold-heading bolt manufacturer, Auto Bolt USA, Cleveland, OH, USA, announced the appointment of Dianna Barnes, CFS, as its new Sales Operations & Marketing Manager. With over seven years of experience in the fastener industry and over a decade of customer relationship expertise, Barnes brings a wealth of industry knowledge and a strong customer-centric approach to the Auto Bolt team. She will lead key initiatives to enhance customer experience, streamline sales operations and expand marketing outreach.

Huyett Boosts Capabilities with Two New Swiss Lathes

Huyett expanded manufacturing operations with two state-of-the-art Swiss lathes. This increases Huyett's capacity for producing precision, tight-tolerance, custom fasteners and components. The lathes feature multi-turret tool positions for milling, tapping, drilling, slotting, threading, knurling, end slits, hex heads, etc., on both ends. ■

