



Brazilian News

Compiled by Fastener World

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Dr. Roberto Garcia



Mr. Rodrigo Fantinel



Mr. Gilberto Alves

Already It's Time to Look at the 40th Senafor

Held in Porto Alegre, RS, Brazil, the international seminar Senafor covered topics on cold and hot forging involving research and development of manufacturing process using flat and long metals. Much discussed there was the development and production of fasteners, as well as failure solutions.

For nearly 40 years, Senafor has had meetings and lectures by university students, teachers as well as industry professionals involved in cold or hot forging processes.

The 39th edition of the event highlighted the lecture by Dr. Roberto Garcia, a Brazilian expert of fastener tightening systems who was there to show the importance of using screws, bolts, nuts and so on, in several applications such as trucks, cars or dental fastener systems.

Suspensys is a Brazilian manufacturer of suspensions and axles for trucks, buses, agricultural machines. Suspensys attended the event with a lecture by General Manager, Rodrigo Fantinel. He showed examples of how the company avoided firing employees during the recent recession, reorganized production, innovation and created new products and solutions.

A few weeks after that lecture, President of Brazilian unit of Mercedes-Benz, Philipp Schiemer told in an interview that the sales of trucks and buses were 170,000 units in 2011, with a fall to 50 thousand in 2015.

The slides presented by Fantinel showed how dim the scenario was, in which Suspensys's revenue fell from US\$ 260 million (EBITDA) in 2011 to US\$ 76 million in 2015. However, in 2019 he estimated to close with US\$ 223 million, with prediction to grow 10% more to the end of 2020.

One lecture on FEM (Finite Element Method) by engineers Gilberto Alves (Fey - Fastener Industry) and Alexandro Moraes (AM. Metal Consulting), presented a successful study using simulation software to solve a problem involving a flanged-head Philips screw produced by Fey. That screw had internal longitudinal discontinuity throughout the body and premature failure of the Philips slit forming tool. As a result, the transformation sequence design has been modified based on the improvements identified using the Simufact Forming software in the simulation, resulting in a final geometry free of internal discontinuities and an approximately 15-fold increase in tool life.



Dr. Gerhard Arfmann



Is It Possible to Break the Mark of Four Million Vehicles in Automotive Production in 2019?

Considering the results in 2018, in which the production of light vehicles (passenger cars and light commercial vehicles) achieved 2,745,739 units; trucks reached 105,534 units; buses reached 28,536 units; motorcycles reached 1,036,88 units, the Brazilian production of automotive vehicles ended in 2018 with 3,916,597 units in total. Adding the production of agricultural and road machinery (wheel tractors, tracked tractors, motor cultivators, harvesters, backhoe loaders) we will have 65,656 units more, totalling a result of 3,982,253 units produced. From January to August 2019, Brazil produced 1,914,690 passenger cars (2.0%); 77,046 trucks (13.1%); 19,379 buses (-7%) and 743,556 motorcycles (6.6%), totalling a growth of 2%, currently. So, the mark of four million vehicles is close. Better results will be obtained if the mark of three million on cars/trucks/buses is surpassed. The production of agricultural and road machinery is low at 36.5 thousand (- 9.8%). Not considering motorcycles and agricultural and road machinery, the last time that Brazil closed a year with more than three million automotive vehicles produced was 2014 (3,146,386), in which the absolute record occurred in 2013 (3,712,380), while the motorcycles record production hit the best result in 2008 (2,140,907). ■

Brazilian Automotive Sector Production 2018-2019		
Segments	2018(Jan./Dec.)	2019(Jan./Aug.)
Light Vehicles	2,745,739	1,914,690
Trucks	105,534	77,046
Buses	28,536	19,379
Agricultural and Road Machinery	65,656	36,500
Motorcycles	1,036,88	743,556
Total	3,982,253	2,791,171

Sources:
Brazilian Auto Manufacturers Association – Anfavea
Brazilian Association of Motorcycles, Mopeds, Bicycles and similar – Abraciclo

