

Fastener World News

compiled by Fastener World

Industry Update>>>

CITT Continues AD Duties on Carbon Steel Screws from China and Taiwan

The Canadian International Trade Tribunal, pursuant to subsection 76.03(3) of the Special Import Measures Act, has conducted an expiry review of its order made on January 5, 2015, in Expiry Review No. RR-2014-001, continuing, with amendment, its order made on January 6, 2010, in Expiry Review No. RR-2009-001, continuing, with amendment, its finding made on January 7, 2005, in Inquiry No. NQ-2004-005, concerning the dumping of carbon steel screws that are used to mechanically join two or more elements, originating in or exported from the People's Republic of China and Taiwan, and the subsidizing of such products originating in or exported from the People's Republic of China, excluding carbon steel screws specifically designed for application in the automotive or aerospace industry and the products described in Appendix 1 to this order.

Pursuant to paragraph 76.03(12)(b) of the Special Import Measures Act, the Canadian International Trade Tribunal hereby continues its order in respect of the aforementioned goods, excluding the products described in Appendix 2 to this order.



Link to Appendix 1 and Appendix 2.

<https://decisions.citt-tcce.gc.ca/citt-tcce/a/en/item/484648/index.do>

Ukraine Made a Definitive Anti-dumping Duties



Determination on Certain Chinese Steel Fasteners

Ukraine announced on September 26 a definitive affirmative determination to impose anti-dumping duties on certain steel fasteners originating in China starting September 29, based on the final decision stated in document AD-465/2020/4411-03.

The duty rate will be 32.47% for Haining Hisener Trade Co., Ltd. (Hisener Industrial Co., Ltd.), 38.37% for Ningbo Jinding Fastening Piece Co., Ltd., and 67.40% for other Chinese suppliers, effective for a period of 5 years, involving product codes falling within 7318156890, 7318158290, 7318158890, 7318159590, 7318169290, and 7318169990.

Ukraine initiated an anti-dumping investigation on certain Chinese steel fasteners on December 7, 2019. May 28, 2020, Ukraine announced a preliminary affirmative determination on involved Chinese products, according to the decision stated in document AD-447/2020/4411-03 that products involved would be subject to a temporary a 19.75% anti-dumping rate effective for 4 months.

Fasteners to be Subject to 0% Tariff Under UK's New Tariff Measures

The British Government has announced its new tariff measures on May 19, 2020 after it officially broke up with the EU earlier this year. The new measures will come into effect since Jan/01/2021 and will make the calculation of import tariffs become more streamlined. New measures will be calculated in GBP.

Fasteners falling within the 7318 category were originally subject to the import tariff of 3.7%. With the new measures, the tariff for fasteners will be reduced to zero percent.

The British Government hopes importing merchandise will become easier through the adoption of these measures and local enterprises can also import merchandise at more favorable prices to support the British economy. British International Secretary of State Liz Truss said that this is the first time since 1970 that the UK could

build an economic and tariff system that is suitable to the UK and the new tariff measures will help cut red tape and reduce the costs of tens of thousands of commodities, making consumers and families in the UK well benefited.





EU's AD Duty Against Wire Rod from China Expires This October

The 24.0% AD duty the EU imposed against wire rod originating in People's Republic of China has expired on 16 October, 2020. As there is no written request for a review being submitted to reach the European Commission, Directorate-General for Trade, at any time from the date of the publication of the present notice the measure has been terminated.

South Africa Initiates an Investigation on Steel and Iron Hexagonal Bolts



SOUTH AFRICAN IRON & STEEL INSTITUTE

On May 15 the South African International Trade Administration Commission announced to initiate a safeguard measure investigation against imported steel and iron hexagonal bolts. The application was lodged by South African Iron and Steel Institute. The HS code involved within the investigation is 73181543.

This is the third safeguard measure investigation launched by South Africa on certain steel and iron fasteners. The previous two investigations were:

(1) Investigation on hexagonal steel screws initiated on April 20, 2018. The HS code involved was 73181539. The products involved were charged an ad valorem tax for a period of 3 years as a safeguard measure. The tax rate was 50.54% for the first year, 48.01% for the second year, and 45.61% for the third year.

(2) Investigation on steel threaded fasteners initiated on March 1, 2019. The HS codes involved were 73181541, 73181542, and 73181630. The products involved were charged an ad valorem tax for a period of 3 years as a safeguard measure. The tax rate was 54.04% for the first year, 52.04% for the second year, and 50.04% for the third year.

Companies Development >>>

Gem-Year (China) Sales of Railway Fasteners Down in H1 2020

Gem-Year Industrial's revenue in the first half of 2020 landed at RMB 1,011,185,581, down 38.55% over the last same period. Net profit at RMB 54,198,829, down 33.64%. Net assets at RMB 3,471,963,337, up 27.84%.

The downward revenues were mainly due to declined sales of railway fasteners. Additionally, Q1 revenue plummeted 71.59% as a result of the pandemic impact, but the revenue in Q2 grew 19.64% from resumed production. Railway fastener shipment in Q1 was subject to the pandemic but came back to normal in Q2.



春雨集團
CHUN YU GROUP

Chun Yu Turns Optimistic for Business in Q3 2020

Chun Yu's revenue in June was NTD 660 million, up 23.16% over May and down 13.3% over the same month last year. The consolidated revenue for the first half of 2020 was NTD 3.775 billion, down 18.35% over the last same period. Chun Yu says it took the brunt of the coronavirus impact in Q2. As

the demand in Taiwan turns stable and overseas monthly sales pick up, the third quarter sales gradually turn upwards.

President Huei-Jeng Lin says domestic shipment of construction fasteners remains steady and robust while overseas demand is yet to be revitalized as a result of the pandemic. However, the company sees an uptick in overseas sales which pushes revenue in June up more than 20% over that in May. Lin says the revenue of his subsidiary in China bottomed up in May and went back on a growth track in June, gaining 7.1% over the last same month. Furthermore, work resumption after the reopening of economies in the U.S. and Indonesia brought the company's local revenues to increase over the ones in April and May.

Lin has turned optimistic about the business in the third quarter. He says Taiwan's China Steel Corp. lowered the third quarter steel prices at the end of May which should improve order intake. The pandemic mainly impacts the company's business in Q2, but there is hope for a gradual upturn in Q3.





Shanghai Prime Machinery Foresees Mid-term Profit Loss

Shanghai Prime Machinery (SPM) foresees a consolidated net loss of RMB 30 to 40 million for the first six months of 2020. The company says that COVID-19 escalating into a global pandemic has urged governments from around the world to enforce various measures which put a temporary stop to the manufacturing facilities of most SPM's automotive clients, especially those in China and Europe. SPM foresees a substantial loss in fastener business in the first half of 2020 due to the resulting slump of fastener production and sales. Furthermore, an additional non-recurring restructuring cost of around RMB11 million was generated from SPM for shutting down a factory in Berlin. SPM announced in November 2019 to close the factory, and shut it down completely in the 3rd quarter of 2020.



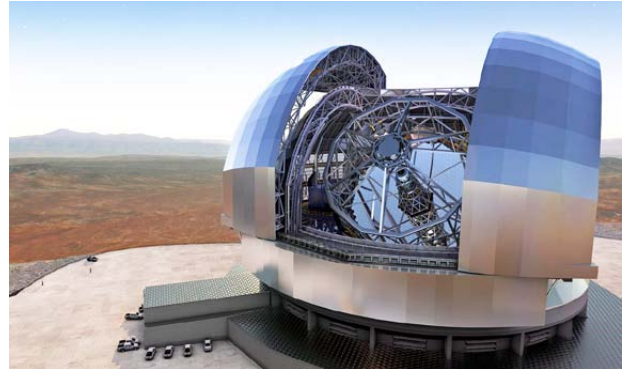
Sheh Fung's Q3 Sales Surged

Sheh Fung General Manager, Kent Chen, says the pandemic keeps U.S. residents indoors and makes them unable to find anyone for doing home improvement works. They have to do by themselves and that in turn bumps up Sheh Fung's fastener shipment. Pressure from clients' incoming orders has been high lately and Sheh Fung already sees 3 months of pending orders ahead. The third-quarter revenue is expected to be a double-digit growth and the full-year revenue is very likely to land on the NTD 2 billion mark.

Sheh Fung's fasteners are mostly used on wooden houses, iron roofs, wooden footway, and indoor renovation. The U.S. tops the sales of Sheh Fung by 64%, followed by Australia (12%), Asia (12%), and Europe (7%). The company is not much subjected to the pandemic this year because of the sales growth of highly profitable long screws.

According to Sheh Fung, short screws share around 12%-17% profit, and long screws share 22%-27% profit. Long screws have just become the main requested category of customers recently. They are used to enhance wooden house structures and are time-saving with a great growth potential. They have become an important profit driver for Sheh Fung by an increased sales proportion from 10% to 30%.

Additionally, last year Sheh Fung decided to set up a base in Vietnam which will be launched in the first quarter of 2022 and focus on low-to-medium-profit screw manufacture.



BUMAX Screws Hold World's Largest Telescope Together

World-leading specialist manufacturer of premium stainless steel fasteners BUMAX has been chosen to supply thousands of high-strength and corrosion resistant fasteners for the ELT, the Extremely Large Telescope, presently under construction.

BUMAX of Sweden has received an order for 11,000+ fasteners model BUMAX 109 for the construction of the European Southern Observatory Extremely Large Telescope (ESO ELT). The EUR 1bn ELT will be the world's largest telescope by far when it goes operational in the dry Atacama desert in northern Chile in 2024.

The ELT is a reflector telescope, collecting universal light using a massive curved mirror that is 39 meters across, three times the area as the world's second largest telescope. Such a giant mirror is much too large to be made from a single piece of glass, so it will consist of 798 individual hexagonal segments, each measuring 1.4 meters across and driven by electrical motors for fine tuning. The segments will work together as a single huge mirror to collect 100 million times more light than the human eye.

BUMAX fasteners are used to fix the nearly 800 telescope mirrors to all the segment supports. 12 pieces of 10mm long BUMAX 109 M6 bolts per segment are used for more than 900 segments in total (the 798 support segments plus an additional 133 segments for a continuous swapping process to allow the mirrors to be cleaned and coated while the ELT stays operational).

The ELT is presently under construction by the Dutch company VDL ETG Projects in the Netherlands:

"Standard stainless steel bolts lack the strength required for the ELT," said Michael Evers, Project Manager at VDL ETG. "We required a 10.9 strength bolt, and with the corrosion resistance of stainless steel. BUMAX offered us the perfect solution."





Vossloh Supplies Rail Fasteners for Etihad Rail

In the invitation to tender for Packages 2B and C as part of Stage 2 of the new railway construction project, Vossloh was again awarded the contract for the supply of rail fasteners. The customers are China Railway Construction Corporation Ltd. and Ghantoot Transport & General Contracting Company.

As already for Stage 1 and Package 2A of the project, Vossloh will deliver its heavy haul fastening system W 30 HH also for the 310 km long line between Tarif and Sharjah, which will connect the ports of Khalifa and Jebel Ali with Khalifa Industrial City (KIZAD). For the local requirements of the railway network, which will be operated by Etihad Rail after its completion, this reliable concrete sleeper solution for ballasted track ensures optimum load distribution. Thanks to the incorporation of an elastic rail pad (160 kN/mm), the W 30 HH is ideal for tracks for mixed traffic. In future, the line will be used for freight traffic with axle loads of up to 32.5 tonnes and speeds of up to 160 km/h as well as for passenger trains, which will travel at speeds up to 200 km/h. The maintenance-free rail fastening system permits safe travelling also under extreme conditions at temperatures ranging from -60 to +50 degrees Celsius.

The first lot of the rail fasteners was delivered in July, further deliveries to the United Arab Emirates will follow until the end of 2021.



Midland Industries Opens Houston Distribution Center

Midland Industries, headquartered in Kansas City, Missouri, is excited to announce the opening of its newest distribution center, located at 5544 Armour Dr. Houston, TX 77020. This facility will stock a complete line of industrial, plumbing, waterworks, and irrigation products including, brass fittings, valves, malleable fittings, steel nipples, ductile iron gate and check valves, lead-free brass fittings, bronze fittings, brass nipples, stainless steel fittings and nipples, and much more. In addition to providing faster deliveries to its customers in the South, this facility features a will-call area supporting customers in the Houston area that wish to pick up.

TriMas Aerospace Expands European Footprint



TriMas announced that TriMas Aerospace has formed a strategic partnership with Kuehne+Nagel to establish a European logistics hub in Contern, Luxembourg. This expansion was driven by TriMas Aerospace's new business growth in the region with customers like Airbus, Safran and Sonaca and the strategic positioning of parts to service its customer base.

Kuehne+Nagel was selected as a well-respected global third party logistics provider with a significant presence in Europe that provides the expertise to support strategic warehousing and logistics requirements. The European logistics hub provides TriMas Aerospace with the ability to pre-position product to support the region. This extends to recently secured long-term original equipment manufacturer (OEM) agreements, as well as urgent aftermarket requirements.

TriMas Aerospace designs, engineers and manufactures engineered fasteners, solid rivets, temporary fasteners and standard fasteners, and complex engineered components and subassemblies, for the global commercial and military aerospace industry under the Monogram Aerospace Fasteners, Allfast Fastening Systems, Mac Fasteners, RSA Engineered Products and Martinic Engineering brands.

TriMas anticipates supporting its European customers with product availability out of its Kuehne+Nagel partner location by the third quarter of 2020.

Maryland Precision Spring, Achieves AS9100D/ISO 9100:2015 Certification

Maryland Precision Spring is pleased to announce its achievement of AS9100D and ISO 9100:2015 certification. AS9100 registration is an aviation, space, and defense quality standard, based on the ISO9001 quality management system and supported by the International Aerospace Quality Group (IAQG).

Maryland Precision Spring has been manufacturing custom components to the aerospace and general industrial markets for over 40 years. The company excels at application engineering support, consignment and Kan-Ban inventory, EDM prototyping production, in-house heat treating/tool shop and special packaging. This rapid response, combined with the quality assurance of the AS9100 certification, ensures the company's continued position as a trusted supplier within the aerospace and defense industries.





TR Formac Expands Presence in Thailand

TR Formac, part of Trifast plc with corporate world headquarters in East Sussex, U.K. has expanded its global presence by moving into larger premises in Prawet, Bangkok, in response to strong growth across Asia and winning new business from global OEMs. The new facility provides around 3000 sq. ft. of space enabling the company to trade more efficiently and to help further strengthen its position in the growing EV market.

Operations in Thailand are headed up by Country Manager David Ng, a knowledgeable and well connected individual who has witnessed the fast development of the automotive sector across the country. Chris Black, Global Director of Automotive Business Development, will be supporting David and the TR Formac team to increase their market share of the Automotive EV sector, sharing his experience and knowledge with the Thailand team.

David Ng David commented; “There are huge growth opportunities in Thailand with key focuses on technology and innovation of electric vehicles. With this in mind, and to collaborate with other companies, we decided to join the Electric Vehicle Association of Thailand (EVAT) which the Thai government was instrumental in launching.



U.S. Jergens is Now AS9100:2016 Certified

Jergens’ state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in the U.S. has gained the approval of AS9100:2016 certification on July 2nd, 2020. Since its establishment, the Company continues to maintain the strict quality control of its processes from start to finish, making it possible to meet tight deadlines, control costs and guarantee the quality customers can depend upon.

Jergens, Inc. is a U.S. Government-approved manufacturer, providing MS, NAS, DFARS, QLSM and RoHS compliant parts. Its current specialty fastener series include Kwik-Lok® pins, threaded inserts, fastener hardware, spring plungers, handwheels, adjustable handles & knobs, etc.



ARaymond to Close Its Brunswick Plant

In an effort to further enhance the efficiency of its operations, ARaymond is in the process of optimizing its North American metal footprint and streamlining its available manufacturing capacity. As part of this strategy, it made the difficult decision to close its Brunswick, OH plant and transfer the work to its other North American facilities.

According to ARaymond, “We deeply regret having to make this decision, because of the long-standing and excellent relationship we have had with our employees and the Brunswick community. While we have continued to persevere throughout a challenging economic climate, the time has come for us to take additional measures in order to advance the future sustainability of the company. This realignment is aimed at accelerating our cost competitiveness and better serving the needs of our customers . We remain a committed strategic partner to our customers, vendors and suppliers, with a focus on collaborative long-term success, just as we have for the past 155 years.”

AIS Receives Reward for Outstanding Quality

AIS-All Integrated Solutions, an MSC Company, proudly announces its recent award for Outstanding Quality. It was awarded at the Motus Annual 2020 Suppliers Conference.

The award recognizes AIS for shipping over 10,000,000 pieces with zero defects. AIS was the only supplier to receive this award in 2020. Everyone from AIS’ quality, warehouse, sales, and account executive teams worked together to provide exceptional service to Motus---they deserve all the credit for the award.

“We are extremely proud of our entire team this year. They have truly come together to make sure our customers receive the highest quality services and products. Earning this award is confirmation that AIS’ focus on quality, company culture, and employee training is paying off for our customers,” stated Nick Ruetz, president of AIS-All Integrated Solutions.





Wujin Luoyang Yaoshengda Hardware Products Factory

Manufacturers of various of cold heading moulds, punches and accessories

WUJIN LUOYANG YAOSHENGDA HARDWARE PRODUCTS FACOTORY IS A PROFESSIONAL MOULD AND HARDWARE FACTORY MORE THAN 20 YEARS IN CHINA. WE FOCUS ON HIGH-QUALITY MOULDS SUCH AS NUT MOULD, SPECIAL DIE, FASTENERS AND TUNGSTEN CARBIDE MOULD,ETC. THE PRODUCTS ARE SOLD TO MID-EAST AND EUROPE MARKET AND GET HIGH REPUTATION BY THE GOOD QUALITY AND SERVICE.

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Acquisitions>>>

Grainger Announces Agreement to Divest Grainger China



Grainger, the leading broad line supplier of maintenance, repair and operating (MRO) products serving businesses and institutions, announced it has entered into a definitive agreement to sell its distribution business in China, Grainger China LLC (Grainger China), to a purchaser owned by the Grainger China management team and Sinovation Ventures, a China-based venture capital firm.

This divestiture will better enable Grainger to focus on its key businesses and geographies. To support this portfolio, the company will maintain its Global Sourcing operations based in China. Grainger's Global Sourcing provides the company with private label products in categories that include safety, cleaning, electrical, motors and tools.

This transaction is not subject to any financing condition but is subject to the standard regulatory approvals. The deal is expected to close later this year.



Midwest Fastener Acquires Hy-Ko Products

Midwest Fastener has acquired Hy-Ko Products. The combined companies will be led by the DeVries family (Midwest Fastener) and Bass/Kaufman (Hy-Ko) with the goal of superior customer care, long-term growth, and operational efficiencies. The cultural and business combination makes sense for both companies moving forward.

All employees will remain in place and the expertise of each enterprise will be retained and expanded to help serve the marketplace. The ongoing mission of providing quality products and service to their retail and distribution partners is first and foremost. Their global companies will focus on new products, R&D, innovation, supply chain optimization, sales support, and leadership.





L&W Supply Acquires Assets of Drywall Supply Inc.

L&W Supply Corporation, a leading distributor of top-quality building materials and specialty products in the United States, announced that it acquired the assets of Drywall Supply Inc. (“DSI”), a building materials distributor with locations in the north and western suburbs of Denver, Colorado.

Founded in 1996, DSI focused on residential and commercial markets, providing drywall, acoustical ceilings, insulation, steel stud and related products. The acquisition includes three DSI branches in Loveland, Lafayette and Golden, Colorado, that will remain open.

“We are excited to welcome the DSI associates to the L&W Supply family. With this acquisition, we can grow our footprint in Colorado and further expand our services to contractors in the greater Denver area,” said Charles Collins, Central Region Vice President of L&W Supply.

The Drywall Supply team has a long history of providing contractor customers with the support and expertise they need. As part of L&W Supply, they will join a company committed to being the go-to partner for contractors nationwide, recognized for an unparalleled level of service and top-quality products.

Association >>

Adam Derry Elected NFDA President 2020-2021

Adam Derry of Field (Machesney Park, Illinois) has been elected as the 2020-2021 president of the National Fastener Distributors Association. Keven Simmer of Wurth Des Moines Bolt Supply (Des Moines, Iowa) will serve as vice president, Kelly Charles of Sems & Specials (Rockford, Illinois) as associate chair, and Doug Ruggles of Martin Fastening Solutions (Florence, Alabama) will remain on the Board as immediate past president.



Jon Queenin of Specialty Bolt & Screw (Agawam, Massachusetts) has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors effective July 13, 2020.

Continuing on the NFDA Board are Don Haggerty, Craig Penland of Eurolink FFS (Greer, South Carolina), Scott Somers of Mid-States Bolt & Screw (Flint, Michigan), Jodie Thinnes of Copper State Bolt & Nut (Phoenix, Arizona), and Bryan Wheeler of Star Stainless Screw (Wood Dale, Illinois).

Kelly Cole (Hayes Bolt & Supply, San Diego, California) completed his service on the Board this year. ▣



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