

Brazilian News +

Compiled by Fastener World

+ ZwickRoell: 10 Years in Brazil

The German manufacturer of material testing machines celebrated with all cares needed

April 22, 2020 marked the 520th anniversary of the Discovery of Brazil, the same day that ZwickRoell Group completed ten years of opening its subsidiary in this South American country.

However, it is almost unnecessary to recall the reason that led the company to postpone its commemorative event, which ended up taking place in November 26, 2020, in Campinas City, SP, home of ZwickRoell's local subsidiary.

"On a scale of 10, I consider a grade 7, which could be much better, but our start was a little difficult, especially since we spent the first two years operating in a joint venture formed with a local company. But it was in solo activity that we improved the results, especially in the last three years," commented Gustavo Videira, the Brazilian Managing Director.

As global leaders in machinery and technology for material testing and quality control - with a history that began in 1854 - Zwick and Roell are individual companies in the same segment and country, Germany, which have joined together since the 1990s.



Roberto Simioni



+ The Âncora Founder Died

After many years as the founder and owner of R. Simioni store and fastener distributor, in São Paulo State Capital, Roberto Simioni and Renato, his son, founded Âncora Fastening Systems, a Brazilian company that combines activities of a manufacturer and importer in fasteners. Since then, the company established in Vinhedo town, SP, has expanded rapidly, mainly in the construction sector, currently operating with more than 200 employees on an area of 25 thousand m², with 7 thousand m² as the manufacturing floor.

+ SouthWind International: 25 years

One of the most important and solid sales agents of machines and tools for the fastener manufacturers in Brazil

When it comes to machinery and tooling for the fastener industry in Brazil there are two names that work as a guide and reference on the subject: SouthWind International (SW) and the company's founder, J. Graef.

Founded in 1995, these two names merge as SW market share is growing not only in Brazil but also Latin America and in the US where the company has started a subsidiary in Florida since 2015.

SW's expertise reaches all fastener production areas, from raw-material preparation, throughout all steps of the production processes, including the inspection and packing of final products.

Some of the companies that SW has exclusivity in Brazil, as the sales agent are Nedschroef, Weighpack, Universal Punch, PTG-Reed, Wrentham Tool Group, Reed Machinery, Tecno Impianti, Videx and others.



+ November was the Best Month in 2020 for the Auto Industry But the Brazilian sector was haunted by shortage and high prices

According to the monthly survey showed on December 7, 2020, from Anfavea, the Brazilian Automaker Association, November was the best month of 2020. However, almost all industries, not just cars, were haunted by a shortage of raw materials, components and constant price increase, as well as the restrictions generated by the pandemic.

In November 2020, 238,200 units of vehicles were produced, a growth of only 0.7% over October, and therefore, the industries are unable to keep up with the increase in demand caused by problems mentioned above. This result is a 4.7% growth over the same month in 2019, a period when there were around 330 thousand units of vehicles in stock, while until the conclusion of monthly report were just 120 thousand units of vehicles in stock. In the factories and in the stores network the stock was just for only 16 days of sales.

However, the year-to-date output at 1,804,759 units was 35% lower than 2019.



+ Fastener Imports Closed with a 23% Drop
Currency depreciation was good to local producers

The sales of bolts, screws, nuts, rivets, nails and other kinds of fasteners (made of iron, steel, copper, or aluminum) to Brazil closed the year with a drop of around 23%, but seller countries - such as China (with 25% market share by value), USA (16%), Japan and Germany (10%) and Taiwan (5.6%) - were already in recovery, resulting mainly from the second quarter of 2020. In November 2020, US\$ 46.87 million (9,765 tons) worth of fasteners landed on the Brazilian ports, while October 2020 was US\$ 43.50 million (9,115 tons). Closing in on November, the imports totaled US\$ 451.4 million (93,733 tons), with a 22% drop.

+ Jomarca Acquires South Brazil
The agreement covers just the accessories unit

As one of the most important companies in the Brazilian fastener industry, Jomarca announced, in August 2020, the acquisition of the entire industrial park of South Brazil Furniture Accessories, owned by the Group South Brazil (GSB). With 30 years in the market, GSB opted for the sale to invest more in its activities in the non-woven fabric business.

“This agreement consists of the acquisition of all lines of accessories from GSB, such as hinges and slides, except for the plastic line of handles. In the coming months all the equipment will be moved from Caçador town, from Santa Catarina State, to Jomarca’s industrial plant in Guarulhos, São Paulo State. After the change is done, we estimate that it will start operating in the beginning of 2021. However, a part of it was already in operation in 2020. As a result, our current number of employees should jump from 1,000 to 1,200 people. We will expand the Jomarca portfolio of furniture accessories and deliver even more variety to our customers and partners,” told Ricardo Marques Castelhana, Jomarca superintendent director.



Ricardo and João Marques Castelhana (superintendent-director and chairman from Jomarca)

Hassmann factory



+ Hassmann on 65th Anniversary

Today, the company is one of the most important Brazilian fastener manufacturers especially as an automotive supplier.

In 1955, an Austrian and Brazilian couple, Elka and Karl Hassmann (1930 - 2014) founded in Imigrante town, Rio Grande State, Brazil, the Metalúrgica Hassmann. At the beginning it was just a modest repair company, making maintenance on equipment and manufacturing spare parts for other local industries. Soon after, the activities were enlarging such as manufacturing door locks, door windows and metal frames for windows to the PUC University, in Porto Alegre City, the State Capital, 130 km away from Imigrante.

However, its activities in the fastener industry begun in 1960 onwards especially because of the search for a series of products, which followed international standards and were a necessity in Brazil, with its industrialization process just beginning.

Since then, the Hassmann has been working with much dedication, not withholding effort to achieve and maintain excellence in quality, and became one of the most important fastener manufacturers in South America.

Currently, the Hassmann has 280 co-workers, and its installed capacity allows the production of around 1.8 thousand tons per month, divided on over 50 thousand fasteners types, such as bolts, screws, rivets and special parts produced in diameters from 5 to 30 mm, through cold and hot forming process, always following a strict quality regulation, supplying products for the automotive, agricultural and electrical-electronic industries. Also, the company has operations overseas, with its own office in Brickell Key, Miami, FL, USA.



Carlos (son), Peter (son), Elka (mother) and Karl Hassmann (father)



Karl (father), Elka (mother), Carlos (son), Peter (son), Leticia (grand daughter) and Augusto Hassmann (grandson)

+ Until September 2020, Brazil Imported 60% from 2019's Total

Finishing the first nine months in 2020, Brazil imported 74,853.96 tons of fasteners (US\$ 361.37 million), 60.4% of the 123,923.4 tons (US\$ 621.65 million) bought during 2019. During September 2019 Brazil imported 7,976.48 tons (US\$ 38.98 million).

For bigger fastener suppliers like China, obviously, it is going to be hard to finish this year well, and that was without a deep fall on imports, also caused by real (the Brazilian currency) depreciation. However, the result will be more reasonable than expected, with a fall around 25% from 2019.



+ The First Woman as ArcelorMittal Business Director

A young executive takes charge of "Brazilian Sul Fluminense" industrial units

In the ArcelorMittal - Sul Fluminense, one of the Brazilians industrial steel units, the position of Director Business on long steel, including products such as steel bars and wire rods used for fastener production, was passed to a woman.

The announcement was released last August by the CEO of this business unit at Cia, Mr. Jefferson De Paula, who said: "That news is a source of great pride for us because Tatiana Furtado Nolasco de Abreu are breaking barriers and paradigms within our traditionally male segment. That post took by her including the Barra Mansa and Resende industrial plants, both towns from the Rio de Janeiro State, that employ around 1,300 direct and indirect employees, the majority of whom are men".

With a degree in Production Engineering, Nolasco has been working in the steel sector for 20 years, is married, aged 40 and is a mother of Rafael and Paula (6- and 4-years old).



Tatiana Nolasco

+ Linear Guides: More Advantages for Norlam Thread Rolling Machine Users

Installed on thread rolling machines produced by Norlam Indústria de Máquinas e Ferramentas Ltda., Linear Guide is a system that provides operations with high precision along the course of rolling external threads on fasteners and similar products.

"The precision is reflected on the alignment of profile and high rigidity and durability of tools. In addition, its use simplifies maintenance and reduces costs", said Mr. Nelson Rodrigues, the director from the Brazilian company. In addition to manufacturing machines within the 5 to 100 tons range, Norlam also operates in the recovery of machines and tools used in threading, such as thread rolling dies and thread rolls. ■



Norlam Linear Guides

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