



Rodrigo Egêa is the New Metalac President

He took over the post at the end of last June and focused on aerospace supply

Originally a Brazilian company, Metalac is a fastener enterprise founded in 1953 in Sao Paulo City, SP, Brazil. Between 1957 and 1995 the Hungarian Julio Milko and the American Léo Braun led the company in an ambitious growth plan, in tune with high technology fasteners production. In 1970's the company moved to Sorocaba town, a distance of 120 km to a new and modern factory at the current address.

Currently, Metalac is a subsidiary of Precision Castparts Corp. (PCC), Portland, OR, USA. PCC is a global manufacturer of a wide range of complex metal products for aerospace and industrial applications. It operates in three main segments: castings, forgings and structural aeronautical components, where the fasteners division is allocated. The year 2019 has been special for Rodrigo Barranqueiro Egêa, who is a Brazilian, an engineer who arrived in Metalac in 2001, with a plan just to become a fastener specialist, aiming to be the best. By the way, in the PCC Group this post is called "plant manager". In 2011 he was transferred to PCC to work in USA on development and implementation of several projects, and has returned to Brazil recently.

Egêa arrived working on an ambitious and innovative process on Metalac operations, including diversification and, especially, introducing an aerospace fastener production line, something unheard of in Brazil, until then on bolts, screw, nuts and similar segments. Since 2018 the company was certified to AS9100, which permits producing items for the aerospace sector. That division has a specific logo. Metalac is one of the most important fastener companies not just in Brazil, but also in South America, with heavy presence in the automotive sector providing critical items. However, it's not enough for Egêa who believes the potential of the Brazilian PCC unit is just growing.

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

If the current production rise of around 2% persists, the target will be reached.

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 the previous year 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

Steel Production to Close 2019 with Negative Growth

The Brazilian crude steel production fell 5.4% until August

The Brazilian crude steel production was 22.2 million tons in the first month of 2019, which represents a 5.4% drop compared to the same period of the previous year. The production of rolled products in the same period was 15.4 million tons, about a 2.5% drop in relation to the same period of 2018. The production of semi-finished products for sales totalled 5.9 million tons from January to August, 2019, a 10.7% retraction on the same basis of comparison.



The domestic sales were 12.4 million tons from January to August 2019, which represents a 1.5% retraction compared to the same period of the previous year, while the domestic apparent consumption of steel products was 13.9 million tons up to August 2019. This result represents a decrease of 2.3% compared to the same period of 2018.

The imports reached 1.7 million tons up to August 2019, a decrease of 1.1% compared to the same period of the previous year. In value, imports reached US\$ 1.7 billion and decreased 5.7% in the same period of comparison.

Exports reached 8.6 million tons, or US\$ 5.1 billion, from January to August 2019. These results represent, respectively, an increase of 1.7% and a retraction of 4.8% compared to the same period of 2018.

Source:
 Press Office of Brazil Steel Institute (19/09/2019)