

## NFDA Announces 2026 Fastener Professional of the Year Honoree Sebastian Janas

NFDA頒贈2026年度「扣件專業人士」殊榮予Sebastian Janas

The National Fastener Distributors Association (NFDA) has announced that Sebastian Janas is the 2026 recipient of its “Fastener Professional of the Year” award, recognizing his long standing contributions to the fastener industry and his dedication to improving products and processes over many years. Born in Poland, Sebastian immigrated to the United States with his family at age 11 and demonstrated outstanding determination, completing both high school and college in only three years each. He began his fastener journey at Rumco, the fastener manufacturing company founded by his father, starting from the shop floor and gradually mastering the full spectrum of production, sales, and management.



Sebastian went on to lead operations at both Rumco and Hi Performance, then became President of Sems and Specials in 2020, remaining closely involved in day to day manufacturing while overseeing sales and management, earning respect as a well rounded industry leader. He was also actively engaged in NFDA, MWFA, and IFI, pursued Six Sigma continuous improvement certification, and strongly supported charitable initiatives. His family will accept the award on his behalf during the NFDA Annual Meeting & ESPS® in 2026.

# Hardware & Fastener Components World News

五金零組件全球新聞

compiled by Fastener World

### Market Watch: Tariff

## UK Unveils CBAM Emissions Calculation and Verification Framework to Ensure Transparency of Import Carbon Costs

英國公布CBAM排放計算與查證框架 確保進口產品碳成本透明



## UK Government

The UK government has published draft rules on emissions and verification under its CBAM, setting out a clear framework for calculating and validating embedded carbon emissions in imported goods, scheduled to take effect on 1 January 2027 and cover the entire UK, including Northern Ireland. The draft expresses emissions in metric tons of carbon

dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) and allows two calculation methods: if default values are used, emissions are calculated by multiplying the weight of the CBAM goods by the relevant default factor; where actual emissions data are available, a step by step approach is applied, including identifying the monitoring period, calculating total production emissions, converting them into CO<sub>2</sub>e, incorporating emissions from precursor goods, determining emissions intensity, and multiplying by the product weight.

The draft also spells out monitoring and verification procedures, requiring importers to retain detailed records for 6 calendar years, including information on production installations, operators, emissions intensity, monitoring periods, and third party verification reports, with independent accreditation bodies auditing these to ensure technical robustness and independence.

**Industry stakeholders warn that if imported steel products are assessed using overly optimistic global default values, high carbon imports could effectively face lower carbon costs than UK domestic steelmakers, who already bear high carbon prices under domestic schemes, potentially undermining decarbonization efforts and weakening domestic supply chain competitiveness. As a result, the sector is urging the government to adopt more conservative, EU style default values, introduce product and production route specific benchmarks, and broaden CBAM coverage to downstream steel products to maintain a level playing field and support long term low carbon development.**

## StanleyBlack&Decker

### Stanley Black & Decker: Limited Impact from Recent U.S. Metal Tariff Changes

史丹利百得：金屬關稅調整對全年營運影響有限

Stanley Black & Decker, a global leader in tools and outdoor products, has stated that the recent U.S. adjustments to the Section 232 metal tariff framework are not expected to materially affect the company's full year 2026 guidance. U.S. President Donald Trump's proclamation on April 2, 2026 modifies the tariff structure for aluminum, steel, and copper and their derivative products, effective April 6, 2026. Under the new rules, products are split across two annexes subject to 50% and 25% tariffs, with lower rates for certain UK goods; items made entirely from U.S. smelted metals are taxed at 10%. Imports containing Russian aluminum continue to face a 200% tariff.

The proclamation also terminates the prior "derivative inclusions" process, replacing it with a rolling decision making mechanism by the Department of Commerce and the U.S. Trade Representative, and sets a temporary 15% tariff cap on products listed in Annex III through December 31, 2027. It further clarifies that Section 232 duties will apply to the full customs value of covered goods, including those combining multiple metals, without double taxation. Stanley Black & Decker emphasized that its flexible supply chain and cost management strategies can absorb these changes, while the U.S. government will submit a 90 day operational review of the tariff regime to the President, keeping markets closely tuned to its evolution.

### EU Carbon Price to Rise to €185 by 2035, Pushing Steel and Aluminum Carbon Costs Higher

歐盟碳價2035年上看185歐元 鋼鐵、鋁業碳成本將飆升

BloombergNEF's latest forecast suggests that carbon prices under the EU Emissions Trading System could surge to around €185 per ton by 2035. The average price is projected at about €86 per ton in 2026 and €142 per ton by 2031, indicating that carbon pricing will become a major cost driver for high-emission industries such as steel and aluminum.

The EU is tightening emission caps and cutting free allowance allocations for hard-to-abate sectors covered by CBAM, including steel, cement and aluminum, which will sharply raise carbon-cost exposure for these products. In 2024, iron and steel alone accounted for around 70% of CBAM-covered imports, primarily sourced from China, Turkey, India and the UK. If companies fail to verify and report their actual emissions and instead rely on the European Commission's conservatively high default values, import costs for steel from certain countries could rise by tens of percentage points; in extreme cases, these default obligations may approach €500 per ton by 2030—equivalent to the steel product price itself—forcing exporters to strengthen carbon inventory and secure EU-recognized certifications to remain competitive in the European market.



### Industry Development

### Italian Wire Rod Prices Rise on Middle East Tensions and Climbing Energy Costs

義大利線材價格隨中東衝突與能源成本攀升

Italian wire rod prices are moving higher amid escalating tensions between Iran, the US., and Israel, as well as rising natural gas and electricity prices, with further increases expected. Despite the upward pressure, demand for March shipments remains weak, and the market has not seen any panic buying. Wire rod producers are either raising offers or suspending sales due to higher production and transport costs triggered by surging oil prices, which are also discouraging some truckers from loading materials.

Recent deals for drawing quality wire rods have settled around €620 per ton delivered, following pre-conflict target levels of about €630–635 per ton delivered. After the escalation, some smaller buyers have accepted prices near €660 per ton delivered, while large customers remain cautious and are watching the market closely. Inventories in Italy are not reported to be low, and import supplies are not currently disrupting the domestic market, though they may become more attractive if EU producers push prices too aggressively.

### Malaysia Shifts EV Strategy: From Import Market to Local Manufacturing Hub

馬來西亞電動車政策轉向：從進口市場到在地製造

Malaysia is redefining its role in the electric vehicle (EV) ecosystem, moving beyond being merely a consumer market toward becoming a regional center for EV production, integration, and export. Against the backdrop of aggressive price cuts and global overcapacity, the government has tightened its investment framework for

EV manufacturers, requiring export oriented output, deeper local assembly including body, paint, and trim operations,



**and a minimum on the road price for locally assembled EVs, so that foreign investment delivers tangible industrial value rather than just volume sales.**

The new policy framework prioritizes “quality over quantity,” setting domestic sales caps while leveraging Malaysia’s 17 free trade agreements to position the country as a regional manufacturing and supply chain hub for ASEAN’s 600 million consumers. Although these conditions may deter low cost, rapid entry investors and slow short term price reductions, they create a foundation for technology transfer, stronger supplier linkages, and high skill employment, transforming Malaysia from an end market into a committed supply chain partner in the EV era.



## China to Cut Steel Exports by 10 Million Ton, Giving Taiwan CSC a Supply Side Tailwind

中國鋼鐵明年減量千萬噸  
中鋼迎供給轉折利多

The global steel market is approaching a key turning point as Chinese steel exports shift from peak volume to contraction. Market estimates indicate that **China’s overseas steel shipments in 2026 will fall by around 10 million ton, an annual decline of more than 8%**. This pullback is expected to lift export volumes and prices for Taiwan steelmakers, including Taiwan CSC, strengthening the overall supply-demand balance in Asia.

Taiwan CSC analysts point out that China’s steel exports reached a record 119 million tons in 2025, yet the average unit price still dropped by over 8% year on year, highlighting a competitive landscape heavily reliant on low price dumping. If China’s 2026 export volume shrinks by 10 million tons, **Taiwan’s mills will gain**

**a dual benefit on price and volume.** In the short term, this should support a steadier upward trend in steel prices and improved margins; in the longer run, it will help Taiwan shift competition from low grade commodity steel to higher value niche products, allowing Taiwanese steel suppliers to reclaim part of the Asian market footprint.

## World Steel Association Downgrades 2026 Steel Demand Outlook

世界鋼協下修2026鋼需成長預期



**The World Steel Association (worldsteel) has trimmed its growth forecast for global steel demand in 2026 to just 0.3%, with total demand expected at 1.724 billion tons—significantly slower than the prior estimate of 1.3%.** Demand is then projected to accelerate by 2.2% in 2027 to 1.762 billion tons, signaling a shift from a prolonged structural adjustment to a more modest recovery. Alfonso Hidalgo Calcerrada, chairman of worldsteel’s Market Research Committee, said that after years of structural changes since 2022, steel demand has likely bottomed out and is now rebounding, yet uncertainty remains high.

Excluding China, global steel demand growth in 2027 is expected to reach 4.0%, a recent high, driven primarily by India, Africa, Europe and North America. In contrast, China’s steel demand contraction is forecast to narrow to about 1.5% in 2026 and then be roughly flat in 2027, ending the steep downturn that began in 2021 and marking a transition from a China driven market to a new pattern led by both emerging and mature economies.

### Companies Development

#### LindFast Solutions Group Appoints New CFO

#### LindFast集團任命新任財務長

LindFast Solutions Group, a distributor of fasteners, specialty wire and cable, and industrial solutions, announced on April 24 that **it has appointed Nick Jones as the group’s new Chief Financial Officer, effective immediately.** Nick brings more than 20 years of financial leadership experience, having previously served as CFO at fintech logistics platform Iron Sheepdog and spent 21 years at Ferguson, most recently as Senior Director of Finance – U.S. Performance Management, where he oversaw P&L and strategic direction for multiple customer groups.

At LindFast, Jones will lead the global finance organization, including financial planning and analysis, accounting, and investor relations, supporting the group’s platform expansion and long term strategy. In the same month, the company also promoted Freddy Barr to Vice President of its Stelfast brand and appointed Jerad Tuxen as Senior Director of Value Add Services, further strengthening its overall business and service capabilities.



#### E-Z LOK Moves into New Los Alamitos Facility

#### E-Z LOK進駐加州洛斯阿拉米托斯新廠

Threaded insert manufacturer E-Z LOK, a brand of Tool Components Inc., has announced the relocation of its operations to a new dedicated facility in Los Alamitos, California. Spanning approximately 17,000 square feet, **the plant integrates assembly, packaging, warehousing, sales, marketing and administrative functions, giving the company greater flexibility to expand across industrial, MRO and consumer product markets.**

Since introducing its proprietary solid wall threaded insert in 1956, E-Z LOK has grown into a broad supplier of threaded inserts for metal, wood and plastics, including its E-Z Coil helical



coil inserts widely used in machinery manufacturing, equipment repair, furniture, electronics and construction. The company maintains four strategically located U.S. warehouses and distributes through a nationwide network of industrial distributors and MRO specialists, with the new Los Alamitos facility further strengthening its logistics, brand identity and custom service capabilities to meet rising demand from both manufacturers and DIY users.



## Simpson Strong Tie Celebrates 70 Years of Advancing Building Safety

Simpson Strong Tie 歡慶成立70週年 推動建築結構安全新里程

In 2026, structural connector manufacturer Simpson Strong Tie marks the 70th anniversary of its founding, tracing back to 1956 when co-founder Barc Simpson developed the company's first joist hanger on a punch press at his father's window screen factory in Oakland, California. Since then, the company has led the industry with innovative, engineered connectors and structural solutions, consistently emphasizing safety, quality, and technical excellence in structural framing and seismic resistance systems. The brand is widely recognized for its engineered structural connectors and system based products used in residential, commercial, and public projects, helping to improve overall building resilience and durability.

On its 70th anniversary, Simpson Strong Tie underscores that its core is not only about high quality products and software, but also about people—its employees, customers, and partners—and the communities where it operates. The company has long committed to community giving and workforce development, contributing over 2 million USD in student scholarships and annually recognizing "Community Heroes" who exemplify service, integrity, and innovation, continuing the company's mission to build a stronger, safer future together.

## British F4 and Wera Tools Extend Title Partnership into 2026

英國F4與Wera Tools延續冠名合作邁入2026年



The F4 British Championship certified by FIA and Motorsport UK has announced that its successful title partnership with global hand tool manufacturer Wera Tools will continue into the 2026 season. The series will again run as the "Wera Tools F4 British Championship certified by FIA," marking the fifth consecutive year of collaboration between the UK's premier single seater category and the German tool brand. Wera, which has supported the championship through the F4 Technical Centre and the Wera Tools Technicians' Award, became title sponsor in 2025 and helped drive a record breaking year for British F4 on track.

For 2026, Wera branding will remain prominent across all F4 cars, podium backdrops, driver racewear and TV graphics, underlining the shared focus on technical precision and safety. The season opened at Donington Park on 18-19 April and reinforced British F4's position as the leading junior single seater series in the UK.



## Apex Tool Group to Move Headquarters to Baltimore County's Executive Plaza

Apex Tool Group 總部將遷至巴爾的摩郡高新園區

Industrial hand and power tool manufacturer Apex Tool Group LLC has announced that it will relocate its North American headquarters to Executive Plaza 4 in Hunt Valley, in northern Baltimore County, leasing a full floor office space of approximately 16,756 square feet and moving about 50 employees. The company is currently based in Sparks and operates 30 locations worldwide, serving the aerospace, construction, electronics, industrial, and automotive service industries.

Apex emphasized that staying within the Hunt Valley-Sparks area was a top priority to support employees' commutes and access to local amenities. The new office offers conference rooms, a fitness center, a deli, a convenience store, and other services, creating an efficient and comfortable working environment. The company will consolidate its administrative, accounting, marketing, and sales teams in the same space to strengthen operational integration and customer service capability.

## Hilti Plants in Hungary and India Both Achieve Top DGNB Green Building Ratings

Hilti匈牙利與印度廠雙雙斬獲DGNB綠建築最高評級



Hilti has announced that its plant in Kecskemét, Hungary, has received the Platinum Rating from the German Sustainable Building Council (DGNB), the council's highest level of certification. At the same time, Hilti's campus and a multipurpose building in Vadodara, India, have both been awarded the Gold Rating, making this the first time an industrial facility in India has achieved this distinction. The DGNB certification is an internationally recognized benchmark for green building, and it acknowledges Hilti's commitment to decarbonization and its net zero emissions pathway by 2050.

The Hungarian plant integrated sustainability into its design from the outset, improving working conditions for around 400 employees through measures such as staff shuttles, company bicycles, heat pumps, geothermal probes, and a photovoltaic system that generates 1,300 MWh annually. The Indian campus, meanwhile, features flexible layouts, 100% water recycling, a photovoltaic system with 1,500 MWh of generation capacity, EV charging stations, and a Miyawaki forest covering 25% of the site, demonstrating high standard industrial green building performance.

## Ta Chen International's Operations Continue to Scale New Heights

大成鋼營運續攀高峰

The company reported March revenue of NTD 11.376 billion, up 25.12% year on year and the highest level since April 2022.



First quarter consolidated revenue reached NTD 31.217 billion, rising 19.62% year on

year and 27.91% quarter on quarter. The company benefited from higher aluminum and stainless steel prices, coupled with stronger shipment volumes, **driving both revenue and profit into an upward trajectory with solid operating momentum.**

With the peak season beginning in the second quarter, newly expanded capacity at the Texas aluminum plant ramped up at the end of April. While increased in house production rates will help lower costs, supporting wider product price spreads and margins. Revenue and earnings are expected to maintain double digit growth. Looking ahead, the company plans to strengthen its local manufacturing and channel integration advantages, fully realize the benefits of its Texas plant, and leverage high gross margin products and a platform based business model to support EPS growth of roughly half a share after 2027, with target prices raised to NTD 45, keeping operations on a steady growth path.



## Fabory Expands Lubrinox Range with Over 1,200 New Lubricated Stainless Fasteners

Fabory擴充Lubrinox系列 新增逾1,200款潤滑不鏽扣件

Global industrial supply leader Fabory has significantly expanded its Lubrinox portfolio of pre-lubricated stainless steel fasteners, **adding more than 1,200 new items including machine screws, hex connecting nuts, set screws and flange nuts, all designed to serve high demand sectors such as food processing, dairy, pharmaceuticals, petrochemicals and general machinery.**

All new products are stocked to common DIN and ISO standards with full batch traceability. They feature a factory-applied, high performance lubrication coating that greatly reduces friction and seizing risk while remaining dry, odorless and invisible, and performs reliably across a wide temperature range, from deep cold storage to high temperature processing. Fabory notes that the pre-lubricated design slashes maintenance labor, reduces machine downtime and lowers total cost of ownership, helping equipment manufacturers and end users maintain stable operations in harsh environments and improving overall assembly and service efficiency.

## A Century Old Fastener Giant Makes a USD 23.5M Bet on New Jersey

百年扣件大廠砸2,350萬美元進駐紐澤西

Global industrial fastener distributor Brighton Best International has announced a USD 23.5 million land purchase at Logan North Industrial Park in Logan Township, New Jersey, to build a 190,000 square foot build to suit distribution center, aimed at strengthening East Coast supply chain efficiency and inventory capacity. Headquartered in Long Beach, California, the company has grown since its founding in 1925 from a regional supplier into a global enterprise with 31 locations across 6 countries serving more than 7,000 distributors worldwide, offering fasteners, anchoring systems, construction products, safety supplies and professional grade tools.



The new site is located near the intersection of Route 322 and Interstate 295, adjacent to the Philadelphia and New York markets, with quick access to Philadelphia International Airport as well as the ports of Philadelphia and Wilmington, making it well positioned

for transatlantic and North American logistics. Peggy Hsieh, COO of Brighton Best International, said the location's strategic advantages and the expertise of its development partners will help significantly improve delivery efficiency and customer service.



## German Vossloh Partners with Tanzania to Build East-West Standard Gauge Railway

德商Vossloh攜手坦尚尼亞 打造橫貫東西標準軌鐵路

German rail equipment group Vossloh has announced it has secured a key supply contract for Lots 3 and 4 of Tanzania's new railway, with a value of approximately EUR 30 million. The company will deliver around 130 sets of switches and 840,000 sets of ties and rail fastening systems for the Makutupora-Tabora and Tabora-Isaka sections, covering a total distance of 424 kilometers on the standard gauge line. The switches will be manufactured at Vossloh's facility in Ystad, Sweden, while the rail fastening systems will be supplied from the group's "Factory of the Future" in Werdohl, Germany, supporting local contractor Yapi Merkezi in completing the main corridor linking Dar es Salaam on the Indian Ocean coast with Mwanza on the shores of Lake Victoria in northern Tanzania.

This standard gauge rail corridor will connect the capital Dodoma with western Tanzania and is planned to extend further into neighboring Rwanda, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. By leveraging electrification and high specification track equipment, the project aims to significantly reduce transit times and strengthen regional trade and freight capacity, delivering structural upgrades to Tanzania's and the wider region's economic development and logistics networks.

### Acquisitions

## Ingersoll Rand Acquires Scinomix to Expand Life Sciences Automation Solutions

Ingersoll Rand收購Scinomix 擴展生命科學自動化解決方案



Ingersoll Rand has announced the acquisition of U.S. laboratory automation company Scinomix, integrating it into the Life Sciences platform within its Precision and Science Technologies (P&ST) segment to strengthen end to end offerings for clinical, pharmaceutical, biotechnology, forensic, agricultural, and genetic testing labs. Scinomix specializes in automated labeling, handling, barcode scanning, and capping of tubes, vials, microplates, and liquid samples, improving sample management, efficiency, and traceability across laboratory workflows.

**This acquisition enables Ingersoll Rand to integrate its existing fluid and sample handling technologies, offering a more comprehensive automated laboratory workflow.** It further positions the company to capture opportunities in the rapidly growing life sciences and laboratory equipment markets, while strengthening its portfolio of high-margin, recurring revenue businesses. ■

## CNC Auto Lathe

Major Products: Fiber-optic Telecommunications Equipment, Hydraulic/Pneumatic Components, Shafts, Mechanic Components, Electronic Components, Wire-cutting, Housing, Computer Connectors, Auto/Motorcycle Parts, Radio Wave Launchers, Radio Frequency Generators  
Materials: Phosphor Bronze, Aluminum, Copper Beryllium, Free Cutting Copper, Stainless Steel

SMA	BNG
SMB/SMC	TNC
MCX	1.0/2.3
MMCX	1.6/5.6
.N	7/16



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