Fastener NEWS REPORT

GLOBAL BUSINESS & MARKET INFORMATION

LindFast Solutions Group Acquires Hi-Q Fasteners

LindFast Solutions Group (LSG) has completed the purchase of **Hi-Q Fasteners**, a company that has decades of experience in fasteners and has the same relentless focus on meeting the customers' needs as does



LSG. Hi-Q offers a complete line of Sems, thread forming and machine screws in inch, metric, steel and stainless, and it carries spacers, standoffs and self-clinching hardware. All Hi-Q products are imported and stocked in Santa Fe Springs, CA, USA. LindFast now has the opportunity to learn from Hi-Q and expand its capabilities, while Hi-Q can now leverage the significant supply chain capabilities and distribution network that LindFast

offers. LindFast says the acquisition will be a benefit for its customers, suppliers, employees and others.

LSG also expects very little change in the near term to its customers, suppliers and other partners, "We expect very little will change in the near term. The goal is to maintain the strong Hi-Q brand in the market and Hi-Q's strong focus on customer service." *www.lindfastgrp.com*

PennEngineering® Acquires Sherex® Fastening Solutions

PennEngineering®, Danboro, PA, USA, announces the acquisition of **Sherex® Fastening Solutions**, Buffalo, NY, USA, a global leader in the de-

PennEngineering®



sign, manufacturing and installation of blind rivet nut and associated fastening solutions. Sherex is the premier technical

provider of blind rivet nuts, with strong application expertise and production capabilities worldwide. Sherex has achieved an impressive growth trajectory and continues to grow through technical solutions selling, providing best total installed cost solutions along with industry leading rivet nut capabilities.

"When combined with our ATLAS rivet nut brand, the Sherex acquisition positions PennEngineering to be the premier global provider of rivet nuts. We are very excited to be bringing Sherex expertise to the PennEngineering family," said **Pete George**, CEO. "Their entrepreneurial spirit and technical acumen, combined with our ATLAS product line and broader PennEngineering capabilities, will strengthen our ability to quickly deliver innovative, high-quality fastening solutions to our customers around the globe."

Sherex President, **Adam Pratt**, added, "Teaming up with PennEngineering allows Sherex to provide our customers with additional global manufacturing capability to meet their demands around the world. Our long-standing customer relationships, combined with the reputation and history of PennEngineering will allow us to continue to provide enhanced value to our customers."

Pratt assumes the role of President of Sherex and ATLAS, reporting to George, CEO of PennEngineering. **Alex Hsiao** continues as **Sherex Taiwan** General Manager. *www.pemnet.com* • *www.sherex.com*

NATIONAL MACHINERY EXCHANGE, INC. bryan@nationalmachy.com www.nationalmachy.com The Leader in Used Machinery since 1934

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Notebook

Nord-Lock Receives Fastenal Supplier Award Nord-Lock's efforts to main-

tain and streamline productive, reciprocal collaborations

with its partners and distributors was recognized by honoring the



North American team with the **Fastenal** "Supplier of the Year" award. Based on an evaluation of 25 different metrics, Nord-Lock came out on top in a category of 97 suppliers. The award honors Nord-Lock's market-leading position for providing smooth, customer-oriented supply and customer services. The Nord-Lock team outperformed the competition in 10 of 12 months.

newsroom.nord-lock.com

New Rotor Clip Logistics Distribution Center in Texas Rotor Clip has expanded its

operation with a new logistics distribution center in Fort Worth, TX, USA, to serve customers in a more centralized location. This expanded warehouse adds storage capacity and ensures a vast array of Rotor Clip retaining rings and wave springs readily available for order. These topquality products offer customers the highest standards of availability and performance. *www.rotorclip.com*

(**FIR**) RICK RUDOLPH ASSOCIATES LLC

The Northeast's Premier Manufacturer's Sales Representative

Tel: 617-240-5326 rick@rickrudolphassociates.com morgan@rickrudolphassociates.com www.rickrudolphassociates.com

E-Z Lok Launches On-Line CAD Library to Showcase Threaded Insert Products

E-Z Lok. a leading producer and master distributor of threaded inserts for metal, plastic and wood, has launched an on-line CAD library to showcase a wide selection of its products. Built by CADENAS PARTsolutions, this catalog streamlines the design and specification process for engineers. MRO and OEMs by giving them on-demand access to threaded insert CAD models. Prior to adding the 3D CAD models to its website, E-Z Lok relied on customers to create and share CAD files. But now they can pull the information directly from the website and obtain product specifications early in the design phase. The on-line catalog allows viewers to access robust product information anytime and anywhere. They can see 3D models, visualize the products and download PDF data

Bufab initiates a strategic review of its manufacturing companies

The Board of Directors of Sweden-based Bufab AB has decided **BUEAB** to raise its profitability target and to initiate a strategic review regarding Bufab's manufacturing companies, Bufab Lann AB and Hallborn Metall AB. The revised financial targets and the strategic review are a result of the company's updated strategy, presented recently at Bufab's Capital Markets Day.

In March 2021, Bufab presented new financial targets relating to profitable growth, profitability, dividend and financial stability for the period until 2025, where the financial target relating to profitability was set to be achieved by 2023 at the latest. In light of Bufab's positive EBITA margin development during 2021-2023, the growth opportunities and the updated strategy, the Board of Directors has decided to adopt a raised financial target relating to profitability in accordance with the point listed below:

Profitability—Achieve annual



sheets for fast information. Once a product is chosen, OEMs and other engineers can download the CAD file in various formats. *www.ezlok.com*

operating profit (EBITA) margin of 14% by 2026 at the latest (previously 12% by 2023 at the latest). The other financial targets and dividend policy remain unchanged in accordance with the points listed below and apply until further notice.

- Profitable growth—Average annual increase of net sales by 10% and of earnings per share by 15%, through both organic growth and acquisition.
- Financial stability—Net debt in relation to operating profit before depreciation and amortization (ND/EBITDA) shall normally be in the range of 2x to 3x.
- Dividend Policy—Dividend of 30% to 60% of annual net profit.

Bufab is a trading company offering customers a full-service solution as Supply Chain Partner for sourcing, quality control, sustainability and logistics for C-Parts.

www.bufabgroup.com

Jenn Adams joins Avantus Aerospace as VP of Human Resources

Avantus Aerospace welcomes Jennifer (Jenn) Adams, who joins



Great Lakes Fastener Group Acquires Frontier Fastener

Full-line fastener producer and distributor, **Great Lakes Fasteners Group**, Twinsburg, OH, USA, has acquired **Frontier Fastener**, **Inc.**, Buffalo, NY, USA, to continue its rapid growth plans serving manufacturers and other customers throughout the Northeast. Frontier Fastener has served a wide variety of customers across many

segments for 50 years. Frontier specializes in fasteners designed to customer specifications.

"Aligning with the Great Lakes Fasteners Group just felt like a natural fit for me and the Frontier team," said **Paul Kramer**, Frontier President. "**Kevin Weidinger**, President of the Great

the company as the Vice President of Human Resources, responsible for global human resource matters.



Jenn brings significant experience in leading human resources for multiple aerospace and defense organizations, most recently from Precision Castparts Corporation (PCC), where for the last six years, her leadership, dedication and experience led her to roles in increased responsibility, serving as a multi-site HR Leader for the past three years. Before PCC, she held HR leadership roles of increased responsibility within Honeywell.

Jenn also has a passion for supporting team member growth, which has distinguished her career.

Avantus Aerospace (formerly Shimtech Group), is a family of six aerospace and defence businesses and one industrial supply chain and logistics solutions business. Five of these businesses are based in North America and two are located Lakes team, cares deeply about customers, just as we do, and together shared several fastener stories, including heroics performed for our customers. I am also delighted to stay on and be able to expand the products and services we now have available with Great Lakes Fasteners Group."

"There are times when you just know it's a solid match

as we share the same drive and grit to make it happen for the customer," said Weidinger. "Frontier has great talent, a diverse group of loyal customers and matches our core values perfectly. We are excited to add Frontier to our Buffalo **Nut & Bolt Fastening** team." *www.glfus.com*

in the UK. Avantus Aerospace is owned by Inflexion Private Equity and Auctus Industries, both located in the UK.

The company's businesses have developed world-class expertise in high-volume and high-mix production of C-Class parts with high level of quality and greater than 90% on-time delivery over many years.

Avantus Aerospace delivers more than 10 million parts annually through long-term relationships with major OEMs, Tier 1 suppliers and distributors in the USA, Europe and the Asia Pacific.

www.avantusaerospace.com

W.W. Grainger names Chris Klein to Board of Directors

W.W. Grainger, Chicago, IL, USA,

a leading broad line distributor of MRO products serving businesses and institutions, has appointed Chris Klein to



the company's Board of Directors, effective December 13, 2023.

Until his retirement in December 2020, Chris Klein was Executive Chairman and Chief Executive

Notebook

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Fastener Market Growing 4.7% Annually Through 2027; Prices to Stay High A study by The Freedonia Group, Global Industrial Fasteners, says the industrial fasteners global market will grow annually at 4.7%, reaching US\$119 billion by 2027, driven mainly by increasing fastener demand in various global manufacturing sectors. But growth rate will be slightly lower than the 2017-2022 period, when fastener prices rose due to materials shortages.



A big challenge in recent years has been fluctuating raw materials prices, especially steel, that rose in 2021/2022 and caused a major rise in fastener prices. This boosted global market value, as users had to keep purchasing fasteners despite higher costs. This also pressured fastener makers to reduce costs and shift production from Europe to Asia. This improved in the second half of 2022, as raw materials/eneray prices stabilized and returned to the levels prior to COVID-19. This should also lead to a slower increase in future fastener prices. but the pandemic had a lasting impact on supply chain labor costs, and fastener prices are unlikely to go back to the levels before 2020.

www.freedoniagroup.com



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Notebook

AFC Industries Acquires Chicago Industrial Fasteners

AFC Industries has acquired West Chicago, IL, USA-based Chicago Industri-AFC Industries al Fasteners (CIF). Deal terms were not disclosed. CIF supplies standard and specialty fasteners to OEMs, hardware providers and material fabricators that operate in a variety of end markets including heavy trucking, automotive, agricultural equipment and wind and solar power. AFC provides supply chain management solutions on components and tooling for a variety of companies across a broad range of industries.

CIF owner, **Cathy Price**, said, "When you work for many years to build a family business it is more than just a company. It was important to us that we found a partner with similar values who was going to take great care of our customers and be a great home for our team. An industry friend suggested we talk AFC. We are so glad we did. AFC checked all the boxes, and I am confident the future is bright for CIF and AFC."

Based in West Chester, OH, USA, AFC is a dynamic organization offering supply chain management solutions on small components and tooling.

www.afcind.com



FDI Dips to 47.5 & FLI Climbs to 49.6

The Fastener Distributor Index (FDI) closed 2023 down, coming in at 47.5 in December after its 53.4 reading in November, seasonally adjusted. The Forward Looking Indicator (FLI) was 49.6.

Listen to episode #196 of *Fully Threaded Radio* as **Bob Baer** of **Abbott Interfast** and *Fastener Technology International (FTI)* Editor **Mike McNulty** take an in-depth look at the 2023 FDI year in review.

Please share the FDI with your fellow North American fastener distributors and encourage them to participate:

www.fastenersclearinghouse.com/fch/ main.nsf/fFastenerDistributorIndex

FCH SOURCING

Fastener Distribution Trends: December 2023

December 2023											
Index Values											
	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Direction	Change	
ISM PMI (Manufacturing)	47.4	46.7	46.7	49.0	47.6	46.4	46.0	46.9	Declining	Slower	
FDI	47.5	53.4	52.6	48.5	50.0	40.7	45.6	44.7	Declining	Faster	
FLI	49.6	50.4	47.1	44.8	45.9	38.8	39.3	40.6	Declining	Faster	
(Other Metrics)											
Sales	47.4	63.0	52.6	44.9	48.8	22.3	41.9	35.9	Declining	Faster	
Employment	50.0	55.9	51.6	41.9	45.7	38.3	44.8	55.6	Stable	Same	
Supplier Deliveries	43.1	42.6	51.6	50.0	52.9	43.3	46.6	42.6	Declining	Slower	
Respondent Inventories	75.9	66.2	64.1	71.0	70.0	73.3	69.0	75.9	Growing	Faster	
Customer Inventories	46.6	54.4	51.6	51.6	50.0	56.7	51.7	50.0	Declining	Faster	
Pricing, month-to-month	44.8	50.0	45.3	54.8	55.7	48.3	55.2	55.6	Declining	Faster	
Pricing, year-to-year	50.0	45.6	60.9	62.9	61.4	61.7	62.1	72.2	Stable	Same	
				Higher	Same	Lower					
6-Month Outlook - December				55%	31%	14%					
FDI and Pricing are diffusion index	es. At	50, the	perfor	mance of	the cat	egory li:	sted m	et expe	ctations. A read	ding	

Source: Baird, FCH Sourcing Network, Institute for Supply Management

Officer (CEO) for Fortune Brands Home and Security, a manufacturer of home and security consumer products and a spin-off of Fortune Brands, Inc. Klein's background includes corporate strategy development, mergers and acquisitions, capital allocation, consumer branding, marketing and distribution.

Prior to working at Fortune Brands, Chris Klein held key positions at Bank One and at McKinsey & Company as a Financial Institutions Group partner. Additionally, he was a Managing Director for Internet Capital Group helping in the development of technology companies across North America and Europe.

W.W. Grainger provides its customers with products, resources and information that is organized around their requirements.

pressroom.grainger.com

IFE Group announces an enhanced website

IFE Group, Brighton, MI, USA, announces the launch of the company's enhanced website, designed to provide customers with an even better on-line experience. Visitors to the website can now explore the updated product pages with enhanced specifications as well as easy PDF downloads for comprehensive information.



IFE also offers new quick contact forms for prompt assistance. Navigation is more user-friendly with optimized loading speeds. The new site is a more intuitive, responsive

Global Industrial Fasteners Market to Reach \$124.9 Billion by 2030

According to **ResearchandMarkets**, the global market for industrial fasteners, which was estimated at some US\$89.7 billion in the year 2022, is projected to reach a revised size of US\$124.9 billion by 2030, growing at a CAGR of 4.2% over the analysis period of 2022-2030.

Metal, which is one of the segments analyzed in the report, is projected to record a 4.1% CAGR and reach US\$110.4 billion by the end of the analysis period. Also, growth in the plastic segment is estimated at a 5.5% CAGR for the upcoming eight-year period.

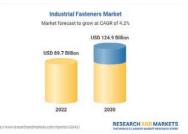
The industrial fasteners market in the USA is estimated at US\$16.9 billion in the year 2022. China, the world's second largest economy, is forecast to reach a projected market size of US\$24.9 billion by the year 2030, trail-

and informative platform.

IFE offers a large range of connecting, clamping and protection products. Customer support includes in-house testing facilities and global manufacturing in strategic locations.

The IFE Group is headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden. IFE Americas USA serves the USA and Canadian markets from its office in Brighton. IFE Americas Mexico serves the Mexican market from its offices and warehouse in Querétaro, Mexico. Together, the IFE team is dedicated to be its customers first choice by offering the North American market a high-quality range of fluid systems components, with a first-class service level.

IFE uses a global supply chain, offering products produced in the USA as well as in Europe (Germany and France) and Asia (Turkey, China, Thailand and South Korea). IFE products are sold under the IFE brand. All product development and testing for the IFE Group is conducted at the technical center located in Brighton. *www.ife-group.com*



ing a CAGR of 5.6% over the analysis period from 2022-2030.

Among the other noteworthy geographical markets are Japan and Canada, with each country forecast to grow at 2.9% and 3.5%, respectively, over the 2022-2030 period.

Within Europe, Germany is forecast to grow at approximately 3.1% CAGR. Find more information at: www.ResearchandMarkets.com

Howmet Aerospace debt actions

Howmet Aerospace, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, reports the completion of debt actions in Q4 2023. As previ-

HOWMET ously disclosed, on November 22, 2023. Howmet entered into two senior unsecured term loan agreements. One term loan facility is USA dollar denominated. The second term loan facility is Japanese ven denominated, and Howmet Aerospace's operations in Japan provide a natural foreign currency hedge against the term loan facility. In December 2023, the company drew US\$200 million from the USA term loan facility and approximately 200 million from the JPY term loan facility. The term loans are prepayable without penalties or premiums and mature in November 2026.

In December 2023, Howmet also entered into interest rate swaps to exchange the floating interest rates of the approximately US\$400 million in term loans into fixed interest rates. With benefit of the firm's credit rating upgrade by S&P, the Howmet obtained a weighted average fixed interest rate of 3.9%. All Howmet

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Jeffrey F. Koehl to SPIROL International Holding Corporation Chairman The SPIROL International Holding Corp., Danielson, CT, USA,

Board of Directors has appointed Jeffrey F. Koehl as

Chairman of SPIROL International Holding Corp. Koehl has been serving as Chairman



and CEO of **SPIROL International Corp.** since his appointment in 2010. Jeffrey succeeds his father, **Hans H. Koehl**, who passed away November 30, 2023. Serving as Chairman of SPIROL International Holding since his appointment in 1969, Hans retired from active management in 2004 after 45 years of dedicated service.

While succeeding his father as Chairman is no easy task, Jeff is uniquely qualified for the rule. Peter von Conta, Non-Executive Director of SPIROL, said, "As both a Shareholder and Director, I feel we are very fortunate to have planned for this natural succession and seamless transition to the Chairmanship. With Jeff, we surely have the leadership in place to continue the unwavering commitment to our vision and values needed to ensure SPIROL's continued success for aenerations to come."

www.spirol.com





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Vogelsang Expands Slotted Pin Inventory & Increases Manufacturing Capacity

To meet increasing customer demand, **Vogelsang Fastener Solutions, Inc.** has expanded its slotted pin inventory and increased manufacturing capacity by adding another shift at its Mount Sterling, KY, USA facility.



VFS VOGELSANG FASTENER SOLUTIONS

Vogelsang has also taken strategic measures to minimize issues that can arise from shortages of raw materials. Slitting and profiling are now done in house to maximize the production capacity of a master coil.

Products are replenished consistently to ensure timely delivery, and capabilities have been expanded to include in-house grinding and sorting to produce extremely tight tolerances to exacting standards.

In addition to the stock sizes, the company has also expanded its pin selection. Vogelsang customers can now choose from additional lengths, including longer length pins.

Stock slotted pins are available standard in 18" stainless steel, and high-carbon spring steel that is heat treated to achieve optimum shear strength.

www.vogelsangfastener.com



Brighton-Best International (BBI) Advances Peter Smith & Troy Enders

Brighton-Best International (BBI), with its global headquarters in Tainan, Taiwan and its USA headquarters in Long Beach, CA, USA, announces

the appointment of **Peter Smith** to the position of Vice President of International Sales. Smith's many years of fastener experience, product knowledge,



energy and enthusiasm have combined to play a key role in BBI's growth. The company looks forward to Peter Smith's continued success.

Additionally, Brighton-Best International congratulates **Troy Enders** as he takes on a new role as General

outstanding long-term debt continues to be unsecured and at fixed interest rates to provide stability of interest expense into the future.

On December 28, 2023, Howmet finished an early partial redemption of its 2024 notes in aggregate principal amount of US\$500 million. The notes were redeemed with some US\$106 million of cash on hand and US\$400 million from the term loans at an aggregate redemption price of US\$506 million including accrued interest of US\$6 million. The aggregate outstanding principal amount of the 2024 notes, which were inherited from Alcoa Inc. at an original outstanding principal balance of US\$1.25 billion, is approximately US\$205 million.

Combined impact of the term loans and early partial redemption of the 2024 notes should reduce annualized interest expense by US\$10 million.

Howmet Aerospace high-tech, multi-material fastening systems are found on aircraft and aerospace engines. Its products are also critical components of industrial gas turbines, automobiles and more. *www.howmet.com*



Manager for Australia.

BBI stated that Troy Enders' experience and knowledge of Brighton-Best International has made him the right candidate for this position. He was previously the Sydney Sales manager for BBI. BBI appreciates Enders' many years of service. Learn more about Smith and Enders at the BBI website. *www.brightonbest.com*

Viteria Fusani Presents New & Updated Website

Special and custom screws manufacturer, Viteria Fusani, Valle

Lomellina (PV), Italy, has announced a fresh and updated website for its customers to connect with the company's production flow of customized screws and discover new aspects of Viteria Fusani's business.

The new website includes a dedicated page for Viteria Fusani's Surplus Stock that allows customers to access last-minute fastener regirements.

Viteria Fusani says that it started working on this website upgrade project in Spring 2023 in collaboration with its very own Eleonora Sala, who provided most of the product and plant images.

www.viteriafusani.it



Fastener NEWS REPORT

Bath Township, Michigan Site Selected as Manufacturing Location for Norm Fasteners

Norm Fasteners, a subsidiary of **Norm Holding** in Izmir, Turkey, has announced a significant milestone in its strategic expansion plans—the establishment of its first USA manufacturing facility for Norm Fasteners in Bath Township in the Lansing, MI, USA, region. This facility represents a significant leap in the company's growth trajectory and underscores its commitment to innovation, reliability and customer satisfaction.

Norm Fasteners, a division of the **Norm Group**, produces high-quality fasteners catering to the automotive, construction and agriculture industries. In 2018, the company established warehousing and a sales office in Lansing, which laid the

foundation for its ambitious long-term vision—the building of a large-scale USA fastener manufacturing facility.

Collaborating with the Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP) and developer partner, Dymaxion, Norm Fasteners has successfully realized this vision. Additionally, the new Bath Township manufacturing facility will bring new jobs and opportunity to the local residents.

"Norm Fasteners is looking forward to working with LEAP, the **Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC)**, local organizations and Bath Township officials. We are grateful to see our goals being recognized and supported by the local and state communities, and we are eager to become an important player in Michigan's EV supply chain," commented Koray **GÜRBÜZ**, who is Norm USA Business Unit Director.

Find additional information at: *www.normfasteners.com*



Conference Calls & Webcasts...

• **Fastenal**, Winona, MN, USA: conference call to review 2013/Q4 results on Jan. 18, 2024 at 9 AM CT. *investor.fastenal.com*

• Stanley Black & Decker, New Britain, CT, USA: 2023/Q4 earnings webcast Feb. 1, 2024, at 8 AM ET. www.stanleyblackanddecker.com

ABLE Electropolishing

When performance matters, electropolish your critical fasteners, bolts and washers.

- Enhance corrosion resistance
- 🧹 Eliminate galling
- Create bright, clean appearance



Quarterly Dividends Report...

• Commercial Metals Company, located in Irving, TX, USA, has recently declared a regular quarterly cash dividend of US\$0.16 per share on common stock, which is payable on February 1, 2024, to common stock holders of record as of the close of business on January 18, 2024. *ir.cmc.com*

• MSC Industrial Supply Co., with locations in Melville, NY, USA and Davidson, NC, USA, has recently declared a regular cash dividend of US\$0.83 per share, which is payable on January 23, 2024, to shareholders of record at the close of business on January 9, 2024. *investor.mscdirect.com*



Don't Miss On-Demand Fastener Talk Radio! FTR is talk radio for the fastener industry, featuring guests, commentary and conversation designed to inform and entertain fastener professionals. Available any time in streaming or download formats. Tune in today! Log on to listen to Fully Threaded Radio: www.fullythreaded.com

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Volt Industrial Plastics Completes Expansion

Over the past few months, **Volt Industrial Plastics** says it has raised the bar yet again. Volt not only added more square footage allowing it to operate more efficiently, but its customer base has also grown as Volt continues to focus on the things that continue to give it the edge in the plastic fastener industry.



In 2023, Volt completed its allnew 36,000 ft² expansion, allowing it to operate at a whole new level. This expansion now gives the factory a total of 100,000 ft², allowing Volt to expand its current inventory of over 100 million parts to even more.

Volt also prides itself on keeping up with technology and the speed it affords, without compromising quality. Volt has reduced the 6-12 week waiting period to less than a week, with some items shipping same day. *www.voltplastics.com*



Volt Industrial Plastics, Inc. 700 Hwy. 202 W • Yellville, AR 72687, USA Contact: Heidi Volltrauer, COO Toll-Free: +1 800 844 8024 Toll-Free Fax: +1 877 453 8707 Web Site: www.voltplastics.com E-Mail: heidi@voltplastics.com

Fastener NEWS REPORT

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Arnold Umformtechnik Inaugurates New Facility

With the recent inauguration ceremony of its new production building in Forchtenberg-Rauhbusch, **Arnold Umformtechnik GmbH & Co. KG**, reaches another milestone. The new building covers 3400 m² and creates space for more production capacity and future jobs.



Arnold Umformtechnik, which is a part of the **Würth Group**, has been firmly rooted in the Hohenlohe region for 125 years and now employs more than 1400 people worldwide. The further investment in the expansion of the site, worth €25 million, reflects growth and expected market success as well as underlines commitment to the Hohenlohe location. Two more production buildings are planned for further expansion. The final expansion is expected to employ around 400 people.

www.arnold-fastening.com

MWFA Event to Provide an Economic Update

The Mid-West Fastener Association (MWFA) invites members to the Puttshack, Oak Brook, IL, USA, on February 22, 2024, for an economic update from Thomas Walstrum of the Federal Reserve



Bank of Chicago. As a senior business economist in the economic research department, Walstrum plays a crucial role in tasks such as

contributing to the Beige Book, conducting the



Chicago Fed Survey of Economic Conditions and giving briefings to the Chicago Fed President on Seventh District economic conditions. He also contributes to the Bank's Midwest Economy blog.

Stay informed, prepare for the upcoming year and enjoy beverages, appetizers and a round of mini-golf at the Puttshack located at 1828 Oakbrook Center, in Oak Brook. Cocktails are from 5:30 PM to 6 PM and the presentation is 6 PM to 7 PM. Mini-golf and appetizers are from 7 PM to 9 PM. Fee for the event is US\$75. Get tickets at:

www.mwfa.net

Fasnap Owner Sally Reed Celebrates 90th Birthday

Fasnap Corp. owner, **Sally Reed**, celebrated her 90th birthday on January 10, 2024. In 1981, Sally and her husband **Paul Reed** bought a company that was on the verge

of closing and built the Fasnap we know today. Paul and Sally were blessed with four children and seven



grandchildren. Sally still enjoys playing bridge and the beautiful views of Eagle Lake in Edwardsburg, MI, USA. *www.fasnap.com*



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EVENTS

February 22, 2024 MWFA Economic Update Oakbrook, IL, USA www.mwfa.net

March 6 – 8, 2024 Pac-West Spring Conference & Table Top Show Anaheim, CA, USA www.pac-west.org

March 12 – 14, 2024 STAFDA's "Excellence in Distribution" Nashville, TN, USA www.stafda.org

March 20 – 22, 2024 Fastener Expo Shanghai 2024 Shanghai, China www.fastenerexpo.cn/en

April 15 – 19, 2024 wire 2024, Düsseldorf, Germany www.wire.de www.wire-tradefair.com

May 22 – 23, 2024 Fastener Fair USA 2024 Cleveland, OH, USA www.fastenerfairUSA.com

June 5 – 7, 2024 Fastener Taiwan 2024 Kaohsiung City, Taiwan www.fastenertaiwan.com.tw

August 18 – 22, 2024 FSTNR Week 2024 Lincolnshire, IL, USA www.mwfa.net

September 5 – 7, 2024 Fastener Fair Mexico 2024 Guadalajara, Mexico www.fastenerfairmexico.com

September 9 -11, 2024 IFE 2024 Las Vegas, NV, USA www.fastenershows.com

October 29 – 30, 2024 Fastener Fair Italy 2024 Milan, Italy www.fastenerfairitaly.com

March 25 – 27, 2025 Fastener Fair Global 2025 Suttgart, Germany www.fastenerfairglobal.com