

FTI's Fastener News Report (FNR) Newsletter: 2024 Schedule

Monthly Global Fastener Industry Business and Market News

Published by: **Fastener**
TECHNOLOGY INTERNATIONAL

& **Fastener**
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NEWS REPORT

GLOBAL BUSINESS & MARKET INFORMATION

Optimas Solutions is Opening Manufacturing Plant in Mexico to Minimize Supply Chain Risk

Optimas Solutions, Wood Dale, IL, USA, will open a cold form manufacturing plant in Monterrey, Mexico, in the second half of 2024. The production center will complement world-class fastener manufacturing facilities in Wood Dale and Droitwich Spa in the UK and continue the company's near-shoring efforts to minimize supply chain risk.

"We designed the Mexico facility to mirror our capabilities of our manufacturing operations in Wood Dale so they can effectively play off each other. This ensures access to the same engineering, tooling, manufacturing and quality processes regardless of where we produce the fasteners," said **Ricardo Alonso Rodriguez**, VP/GM of **Optimas in México**. **Daniel Harms**, CEO of Americas, said, "Our expanding localization strategy enables us to be more agile with our manufacturing and sourcing capabilities for industrial customers and suppliers."

Optimas says that by working with a full-service distributor that is also a manufacturer, industrial producers can take advantage of multiple procurement paths and be supported by automated replenishment services, predictive analytics, engineering creativity, a certified quality management system and existing carrier relationships that ensure reliable delivery. www.optimas.com

Brighton-Best International & Parker Fasteners Announce Strategic Partnership on Domestic Stainless-Steel Sockets

Brighton-Best International (BBI), Long Beach, CA, USA, and **Parker Fasteners**, Buckeye, AZ, USA, announced the formation of a strategic partnership on October 10, 2023, at the *International Fastener Expo (IFE)* show in Las Vegas, NV, USA, starting in 2024.

This partnership is likely to revolutionize the fastener industry by having quicker lead times on domestic stainless-steel sockets. Parker Fasteners, a manufacturer with a strong foothold in the domestic market, has been operational for over a decade and has earned a reputation for being customer-centric. Brighton-Best International has been operational for nearly 100 years and is known for its commitment to socket products and national high levels of stock.

The agreement will focus on promoting the expansion of BBI's stainless-steel lines. The partnership is expected to support distributor companies to expand their reach and increase their revenue and product offering of stainless steel. www.brightonbest.com • www.parkerfasteners.com

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Huyett Welcomes New Regional Sales Manager & New Independent Sales Representatives

Huyett, Minneapolis, KS, USA, announces the addition of **John McCall** as Regional Sales Manager for the Northeast region and Ontario, Canada, and 10th permanent addition to the Huyett Distribution Support Team. McCall began his career in industrial parts and equipment sales 35 years ago as a Sales Manager for **WAHA Company**. He then moved into a retail consultant position at **True Value Company**. His career has earned him multiple records in sales activity at **Briggs and Stratton Company** and **CNH Industrial**. Huyett also welcomes **Rick Rudolph** from **Morgan Rudolph** from **Rudolph Associates** as independent sales representatives. Rick founded **Rick Rudolph Associates** in 2013 after a nearly 40-year career in the fastener industry including serving as National Sales Manager for **Precision Socket Screw, Inc.**, owner of **New England Bolt**, and President of **Wurth Eastern Fastener**, among other positions. His son, Morgan, joined the company in 2014. Morgan has since earned his Certified Fastener Specialist credentials from the **Fastener Training Institute** and served as Vice President of the **New England Fastener Distributor's Association** while working alongside his father. Also, **Sylvie Gagnon** joins the Huyett team from Quebec, Canada as a new independent sales representative for her region. Her 20-year career includes managerial roles in sales and accounting and working as an independent sales agent of fasteners, bolts and custom industrial products. Huyett is proud to announce her addition to the team. www.huyett.com

Howmet Aerospace Announces Leadership Appointment

Vagner Finelli has joined **Howmet Aerospace**, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, as President, **Howmet Fastening Systems (HFS)**. Vagner has responsibility for all HFS employees and locations globally. He is based in Torrance, CA, USA, and reports directly to **John Plant**, Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. Vagner was most recently with producer of complex metal castings and stampings, **Sigma Engineered Solutions** as President and CEO. Prior to Sigma, he worked for **Precision Castparts** as President of different divisions including Engineered Products, Fasteners, Forgings, Aerostructures and Industrial Products. He also worked in the automotive industry including **Lear Corporation** for 14 years in roles of ranging from Plant Manager to Managing Director of the South America region. At Lear, he worked in operations, engineering, program management, sales and supply chain. www.howmet.com

May 15, 2023
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2024 Publication Dates:

January 15 • February 19 • March 18 • April 15 • May 20 •
June 17 • July 15 • August 19 • September 16 •
October 21 • November 18 • December 16

Editorial and Advertising deadline: one week in advance of the above mentioned publication dates.

ADVERTISING BLOCKS, 2.1875" wide x 1.625" tall (56 x 41 mm), are sold as singles as well as in multiples, in vertical or horizontal orientations. High resolution PDFs or JPGs.

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