



Carbon and Alloy Steel Threaded Rod from China and India Injures U.S. Industry, Says USITC

The United States International Trade Commission (USITC) determined that a U.S. industry is materially injured by reason of imports of carbon and alloy steel threaded rod from China and India that the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) has determined are subsidized and sold in the United States at less than fair value.

Chairman David S. Johanson and Commissioners Rhonda K. Schmidlein, Jason E. Kearns, Randolph J. Stayin, and Amy A. Karpel voted in the affirmative. As a result of the Commission's affirmative determinations, Commerce will issue antidumping and countervailing duty orders on imports of carbon and alloy steel threaded rod from China and India.

The Commission's public report Carbon and Alloy Steel Threaded Rod from China and India (Inv. Nos. 701-TA-618-619 and 731-TA-1441-1442 (Final), USITC Publication 5040, April 2020) will contain the views of the Commission and information developed during the investigations.



Turkey Announces Additional Tariffs Against Imported Fasteners

According to the official journal no. 31103 (2424) of the Turkish Government released on April 18, certain fasteners imported to Turkey will be subject to additional tariffs, effective on the release date of the official journal.

From April 18 to September 30 this year, certain fasteners imported from countries falling within Cat. 5-9 to Turkey will be subject to a 30% additional tariff, and the countries falling within Cat. 9 (including China, Taiwan, Japan) will, as a result, face a 33.7% tariff rate in total.

After October 1, 2020, certain fasteners imported from countries falling within Cat. 5-9 to Turkey will be subject to a 10% additional tariff, and the countries falling within Cat. 9 (including China, Taiwan, Japan) will, as a result, face a 13.7% tariff rate in total.

Fastener categories involved in this case are shown as below,
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 7318.15.58.00.00 / 7318.15.62.00.00 / 7318.15.68.00.00 /
 7318.15.75.00.00 / 7318.15.82.00.00 / 7318.15.88.00.00 /
 7318.15.95.00.11 / 7318.15.95.00.12 / 7318.16.31.00.00 /
 7318.16.39.00.00 / 7318.16.40.00.00 / 7318.16.60.00.00 /
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Note: Categories of Countries

- Cat. 1: The EU, EFTA, Israel, North Macedonia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia, Egypt, Georgia, Albania, Kosovo, Serbia, Montenegro, Chile, Mauritius, Moldova, Faroe Islands
- Cat. 2: South Korea
- Cat. 3: Malaysia
- Cat. 4: Singapore
- Cat. 5: Countries enjoying favorable tariffs
- Cat. 6: Least developed countries
- Cat. 7: Countries applicable to special incentive measures
- Cat. 8: Developing countries
- Cat. 9: Others (such as China, Japan, Taiwan)

Carmakers in China Took a Huge Blow from Coronavirus Outbreak in February

COVID-19 dealt China a heavy blow and made the country go as far as to halt the automotive factories countrywide for a while; therefore the automotive supply chain and sales will need several months to recover. Even if more factories in China have resumed operation in March to May, it is still hard to increase the current production.



Sales generated in car showrooms in China have dropped to 5% of the total sales recorded before the outbreak of the virus, and the sales in February 2020 suffered an 80% drop. After the U.S.-China trade war over the past two years, China Association of Automobile Manufacturers originally expected a recovery of the domestic car sales in 2020. However, the unexpected virus outbreak has made the Association change its prediction to a 10% drop for the first half of 2020 and a 5% drop for the whole year.

The COVID-19 Virus May Cause Insufficient Supply to Car Manufacturers in Bajío (Mexico)

According to the market analysis and strategy director of Mexico Monex, Carlos González Tabares, many domestic and foreign automotive manufacturers located in Querétaro, Guanajuato, San Luis Potosí, Aguascalientes, and Jalisco show high demand for parts imported from China, and they may be greatly impacted by the outbreak. For example, many Japanese cars are assembled with parts made in China, so if the downstream manufacturers are impacted by the outbreak and reduce their demand for parts, the supply chain will be significantly impacted. The longer shortage in the upstream, the bigger impact on production. Although how much impact the coronavirus pandemic will make on the entire economic development throughout Mexico and the whole region still remains unclear, it is forecast that at least by the first two quarters of 2020 the economy in the region will face difficulties.

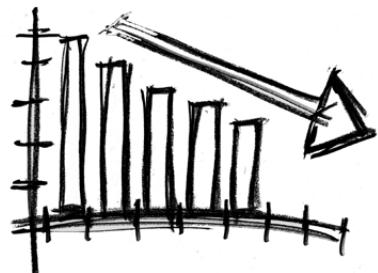
The area of Bajío is a main manufacturing cluster for Mexican car manufacturing and auto parts industries. According to INEGI, the production values respectively in Querétaro, Guanajuato, San Luis Potosí, and Aguascalientes in 2019 were around USD 4.4 billion, USD 19.4 billion, USD 8.9 billion, and USD 12.2 billion, which represent 25%, 50%, 50%, and 80% of the production values of the respectively mentioned States in Mexico.



Weak Global Automotive Market in 2020 Brings Challenges to Mexican Car Manufacturing

According to Reuters, Mexico reported its first car export drop of the past 10 years in 2019, which was down 3.4% in its export value. According to INEGI of Mexico, in 2019 the car production in Mexico dropped by 4.1%, a drop for the 2nd year in a row and the most significant decline margin since the financial crisis in 2009. Chairman of Mexican AMIA Eduardo Solis also forecast that by 2020 the car production in Mexico will drop to 3.5 million units and its export volume will drop to 2.8 million units.

The economy of Mexico relies heavily upon car manufacturing; however, due to the declining demand outside the U.S and according to the statistical data of AMIA, in the first 11 months of 2019 Mexico's car export to the U.S. increased by nearly 5% despite the decline in other regions. According to the retiring Chairman of Mexican AMIA Eduardo Solis, the drop in Mexico's car export was not relevant to the capacities of domestic factories in Mexico but the continuously stagnant global automotive market.



Chilean Car Sales Dropped 36.5% in March

According to the report of ANAC (Association of National Automobiles of Chile), 19,177 units of compact/medium-size vehicles were sold in Chile this March, a tremendous drop of 36.5% from the same period of 2019, which was mainly caused by sales slump. In addition, the coronavirus pandemic has hardly hit the global and Chilean economies and resulted in the enforcement of complete isolation measures, stricter hygiene inspection, closures of all large shopping centers and relevant locations.

In terms of trucks, 682 units were sold in March, down 34.4% from last March; in terms of buses, 119 units were sold, down 49.6% from last March. Sharing a similar viewpoint with some economists, ANAC forecast that the global economy will start to recover in the second half of 2020, trade and operations will return to normal, and car sales in Chile will also show better results. According to the estimate of ANAC's experts, the sales of new compact/medium-size vehicles in Chile this year will be around 265,000 to 290,000 units; however, it depends on how quickly Chile can return to normal operation.



COVID-19 Devours Japanese Economy; Industry Performance Index in Biggest Historical Downturn

Japan Teikoku Databank (TDB) did a national industry performance survey in March. The diffusion index ("DI", used in both business cycle analysis and in macroeconomic forecasting) dropped 6.2%, hitting the all-time low at 32.5%. The exacerbation has continued for 6 months. The virus sets Japanese restaurants and travel agencies in a mass depression. This is the first time that 50 industries in all 10 sectors are struggling with exacerbation ever since the TDB launched survey in 2002. The manufacturing industry witnesses negative growth continuing for 11 months.

Due to the broken Chinese parts supply chain and suspension of domestic activities in Japan, the Japanese manufacturing DI dropped by 4.6%, landing at 30.3%. Based on the virus impact and oil price drop among other uncertainties, the Japanese market performance is expected to head downwards. TDB did a survey on Japanese publicly listed companies regarding the virus impact. 141 companies expected their performance to fall during February and April with a total loss of revenue at JPY 1.1873 trillion. 30 companies expected the revenues to reduce JPY 418.8 billion during March and April.

Canada's Supply Chain Could be Subject to COVID-19 Impact

Northern American manufacturers and retailers have yet to face the massive destruction from the coronavirus outbreak, but industries which use products made from China have sensed risks and started emergency plans. China was the second largest source of import for Canada in 2019. Canada's import from China is far less than the import from the U.S., but over twice as much as the import from Mexico. The major commodities imported from China to Canada are electronics, machines, furniture, toys, sports utilities and plastics.



Canada's Minister of Finance spoke in a meeting in Toronto: "It's a unique challenge, in the sense that businesses are facing both supply and demand issues at the same time." The Canadian business sector hasn't seen serious problems because it will take several weeks for the containers from China to arrive in Canada. Additionally, many Canadian companies relying on Chinese products already knew to import more before the Chinese lunar new year. Therefore, severe shortage of supply would emerge in March or April in Canada.

Members of organizations such as Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME) have already been met with a disrupted supply chain. The President of Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers Association explains that automotive assembly must be done in sequence and every component must be in place. A component short could result in stopping the production line. He says there are more requirements for logistics management and that more complicated automotive components are manufactured at places near the final assembly plant. The components from China are mostly electronics or smaller components like fasteners and seals. "We've now tipped into our contingency planning — where can you re-source?"



COVID-19 Pounds on American Car Market and Local Japanese Carmakers

According to a Nikkan Kogyo Shimbun (The Daily Industrial News) report, COVID-19 is quickly freezing the American market. The U.S. GDP in March to June is estimated to decline 30%. Meanwhile, the American car demand is dwindling. Local Japanese carmakers are forced to shut down car plants for an extended period to May. The report reads that profits in the American market are one of the financial pillars for Japanese carmakers, and their financial performance could take a huge blow.

A market survey indicates the American new car sales this March declined 40% compared to March last year. (Ever recall that appalling 80% car sales drop in China back in February? The American car sales in March already dropped half the margin of China's unprecedented free fall.) Nomura Securities adjusted the American full-year car sales forecast down to 14.1 million vehicles. That is a 17% drop which translates to a loss of 2.8 million vehicles.

The declining demand is affecting car production in Japan. According to Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association, Japan exported 1.73 million vehicles to the U.S. in 2019 which took up 40% of all the country's automotive export. The pandemic is making Japanese carmakers re-adjust production of cars for export to the U.S.



April's Topic of World Manufacturing: Work Resumption

In the wake of the pandemic, the first-quarter GDP reported by China declined 6.8% over the previous period. This is the first negative growth for China and indicates a weakening

export with reduced purchase orders and demand as a result of the pandemic. As China is en route to work resumption and the epidemic in the U.S. and Europe shows signs to reach a peak, the export decline shouldn't last too long. The crux is when the purchase orders will be relaunched.

China's Ministry of Information Technology states that sizable corporations in China have recently resumed production. Over 95% of them resumed work as of April 12. Particularly Hubei Province which was the epicenter of the epidemic reached 98.2%. Work resumption is evident in the Chinese automotive market. After putting its Shanghai plant back on line, Tesla saw the number of its new registered cars produced in China rise to 11,280 vehicles, up 5 times over the number in February. It means Tesla has picked up speed in China. The number proves that the pandemic-stricken automotive demand is ramping up in China.

Besides China, work resumption had emerged in the global automotive market near the end of April, and it emerged earlier in Europe than in North America. In Europe where the epidemic is under control, Volkswagen, Daimler, FCA, BMW, Renault, Hyundai, Volvo among other brands have drawn up clear resumption plans.

In India, the main export market is taking a hit from the epidemic. The overall export volume is expected to take a 13% to 32% plunge. Federation of Indian Export Organizations indicates that the Indian fastener industry has to bear the loss of 50% cancelled orders. Punjab, Rajasthan and Maharashtra States expressed to the government that they wanted the manufacturing industry to be relaunched. The Indian government is planning to allow exporters to return to work to alleviate the COVID impact on the economy.

In Japan, work resumption is restrained by the epidemic due to reduced demand. Toyota is planning to stop domestic production on May 11. Besides, Hyundai has stopped factory production in North America and chosen to increase production in South Korea and then ship to the U.S.

CGMA: Up to 90% of General Machinery-related Industries in China Have Resumed Operation



According to the surveys of 18 subdivisions of China General Machinery Industry Association (CGMA), on February 13th only less than 30% of general machinery-related industries in China resumed their operations; however, as of March 19th, the figure climbed to over 90% and still continues to increase. According to this report by CGMA, more than 90% of the general machinery-related industries have resumed their operations and more than 90% of the employees of these industries have also returned to work.



Malaysia's Auto Parts Export Grows 13.2% in 2019

Malaysia reported a very good result in its auto parts export in 2019, reaching MYR 13.7 billion (up 13.2% from 2018). In 2019 Malaysian automotive industry created 65,388 job opportunities. Calculating 2014, it created 312,565 job opportunities in total. According to Malaysian Automotive Association (MAA), in Malaysia there are 22 car manufacturers and assembly plants for sedans, commercial vehicles and motorbikes.

MITI vice secretary general Norazman Ayob said that the automotive industry is one of the most important industries in Malaysia. In 2019 the production value of the automotive industry represented 4.3% of Malaysia's GDP. Despite many challenges in 2019, the sales of various types of vehicles in Malaysia still climbed to 604,287 units, slightly up 0.95% from 2018.

Taiwan's Wood Screw Export Reports the 4th Year Growth in a Row in 2019

According to statistics, in 2019 Taiwan exported 99,254 tons of wood screws to the world (up 13.57% from 2018), which is also its 4th year growth in a row and the highest export volume in the industry's history. In addition, Taiwan exported 203,600 tons of self-tapping screws to the world last year (down 12.33% from 2018), 828,100 tons of bolts (down 8.27%), and 274,800 tons of nuts (down 12.33%). The industry forecast that the result might be relevant to the declining demands caused by the stagnant automotive market.



Jaguar Land Rover to Gradually Resume Production from 18 May

Jaguar Land Rover plans to gradually resume production from 18th May, starting with manufacturing plants in Solihull in the UK as well as in Slovakia and Austria. In China, JLR is beginning to see recovery in vehicle sales and customers are returning to its showrooms. Its joint venture plant in Changshu has been in operation since the middle of February. As countries are relaxing distancing guidelines and retailers are reopening around the world, the restart of production at JLR's other plants will be confirmed in due course.



Bulten's Executive Vice President and CFO Helena Wennerström Has Announced Her Resignation

Bulten's Executive Vice President and CFO Helena Wennerström has informed the company's President and CEO of her resignation and that she will move on to new challenges. Helena Wennerström has been working for Bulten for 18 years. In 2014, she took up the position as Bulten's Executive Vice President and CFO and before that she was CFO of FinnvedenBulten. Through the years she has played a very important role in Bulten's growth journey and development.

"Helena is a key person in the company. I regret that she chooses to leave Bulten, but of course I respect her decision and would like to thank her for her significant efforts for the company and wish her all the luck for the future", says Anders Nyström, President and CEO, Bulten.

"After 18 years at Bulten, I feel it is time to make room for new talents which is why I have announced that I have chosen to leave Bulten and take up a position outside the company. My years at the company have been exciting and challenging but above all, fun. I am very proud of being a part of the history of Bulten and my conviction is that Bulten and its team will grow even stronger in the future", says Helena Wennerström, Executive Vice President and CFO, Bulten. Helena Wennerström will continue in her current position until 30 September 2020. The recruitment process for a successor will start as soon as possible.



Bossard Announces Sales for Q1 2020

In an extraordinarily challenging market environment, the Bossard Group held its own in the first quarter of 2020. Net sales fell by 5.7 percent to CHF 218.9 million, although the drop was largely the result of the stronger Swiss franc. In local currency, the decline was less pronounced at 1.8 percent. In particular, business in Europe stayed the course with only a slight drop in sales of 0.2 percent in local currency, maintaining virtually the same level as last year. In Asia, where the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic was most evident in the first quarter, Bossard is seeing the first signs of market normalization, primarily in China.

Net sales 1st quarter	change in %			
in CHF million	2020	2019	in CHF	in local currency
Europe	133.1	138.9	-4.2	-0.2
America	54.0	58.1	-7.1	-4.3
Asia	31.8	35.2	-9.7	-4.5
Group	218.9	232.2	-5.7	-1.8

Square Washers from Boker's Help Secure Fastening in Tight Spaces

Boker's, Inc. a leading manufacturer of precision metal stampings, washers, spacers and shims, offers complete production of non-standard and customized square and rectangular washers and spacers designed to provide secure fastening, turn resistance and load distribution—even in the tightest clearances. Boker's square and rectangular washers are available in a wide range of materials, bolt and I.D. sizes, in O.D. sizes up to 12" x 12" (30.5 cm x 30.5 cm), and in thicknesses ranging from .005" to .190" (.127 mm to 4.8 mm).

"Like round washers, square washers are often used to distribute torque loads in secure fastening applications," said Chuck Kersey, Assistant Sales Manager. "But precision stamped square and rectangular washers offer the added advantage of being able to work in more restricted spaces and can be used to provide edge-to-edge contact to resist turning." These products extend into many designs, from slotted hole square plate washers, to those with rounded outside corners. Kersey added that in general, square washers offer excellent fastening friction, and provide reliable connection security in crevice, channel and Unistrut-style applications.

In addition, square washers are also widely used as shims, separating the bolt crown from what is being anchored, reducing the possibilities of deformity when tightening, and helping to keep joining surfaces undamaged. This bushing or packing approach is often used in the construction industry or in applications to act as a force-countering support in fastener rods and complex part profiles.

Square and rectangular washers are often emerging as a higher-performance alternative to round washers in a diverse array of applications subject to vibration forces, ranging from industrial machinery to aerospace, from washing machines to automobiles. By effectively expanding the diameter of the bolt's head, square washers offer greater dispersal of load and turning resistance in many applications, helping maintain fastening integrity, and protecting and prolonging the life of connected parts.





Benefiting from Growing Demands in Taiwan and Indonesia, Chun Yu Group Reports Significant Increase in Machinery & Construction Fasteners Sales

Chun Yu Works & Co has recently reported its revenue result ended this Feb, reaching NT\$ 0.553 billion and down 2.41% from the same period last year. According to Chun Yu, due to the growing market demands in Taiwan and Indonesia, Chun Yu's sales of machinery and construction fasteners have appeared a significantly higher increase than in the same period last year. Chun Yu noted that the proper epidemic prevention measures taken in Taiwan, infrastructure, urban renovation and Taiwanese manufacturers moving back to Taiwan are all stimulus for the company's future growth.

However, as lots of foreign customers continue to keep a close watch on the situations and the delayed operation of Chun Yu's subsidiary in China caused an impact on the originally scheduled deliveries, the combined revenue of Chun Yu this Feb. has appeared a slight reduction from the same period last year.

Sundram Fasteners Contributes to Public Relief Fund Towards Covid-19 Relief Measures



Sundram Fasteners Limited has contributed a sum of Rs 3 Crores to the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund to support the nation's fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. Sundram Fasteners Limited continues its multi-dimensional efforts by implementing preventive measures prior to lockdown and providing guidelines to employees during lockdown period to fight against the unprecedented challenges brought upon by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Company has donated critical medical care equipments such as Ventilators & Analyzers to hospitals / healthcare facilities in Chennai. The Company has supported the District Disaster Management Authority and is working with multiple NGOs that provide food items such as rice, grains, water, other necessary provisions and hygiene kits like face masks, surgical gloves, disinfectant and sanitizers to provide relief to the vulnerable and most needy sections of the society.

Hunan (China)-based FINEWORK New Project (Phase Two) Launching Ceremony

Hunan (China)-based FINEWORK has recently given a launching ceremony for the construction of its new project (phase two). FINEWORK President Chang and more than 200 employees of FINEWORK attended the ceremony. "Established in 2012, FINEWORK is a local enterprise located in Taoyuan County (Hunan Province, China). We started the business from scratch. After 8 years of hard work and effort, FINEWORK has now successfully become an industry-leading enterprise in China. In the future, we'll continue to go toward the goal of establishing a 10 billion RMB worth of fastener business in the next 30 years," said President Chang.

FINEWORK is a privately-owned enterprise specialized in the R&D and production of high-strength fasteners and related fastening systems. Since the inception in 2012, it has been specifically focusing on high-tech innovation, expanding manufacturing scale, and increasing market share, making it quickly become one of the leading enterprises of intelligent manufacturing in Taoyuan County and one of the exemplary plants of intelligent manufacturing in China. FINEWORK's products have been successfully sold to Spain, Poland, India, and the U.S. The total investment cost of the phase two construction is 0.5 billion RMB and the land required for the phase two project measures 200 acres.



Association News

Don Nowak is NFDA's 2020 Fastener Professional of the Year

The National Fastener Distributors Association's is pleased to announce the 2020 recipient of its Fastener Professional of the Year award is Don Nowak of Falcon Fastening Solutions (Charlotte, North Carolina).

In his nomination of Don to receive this award, Mark Shannon of Tower Fasteners (Holtsville, New York) said, "Don has been a contributor to the fastener industry and its associations for many years. His career has been filled with a high standard of ethics and integrity, and he has led a company that has grown in revenue and stature over the years. Don has been a mentor to many (including myself) and is willing and able to share his sound reasoning and good business sense when asked." Don will be presented his award at the next NFDA event. Nominations for the next Fastener Professional of the Year award will be open in January 2021.





Jake Glaser Named 2020 YFP President

Jake Glaser, has been announced as the 2020 Young Fastener Professionals President. As a Regional Sales Manager at Sherex Fastening Solutions, Jake is focused on helping clients improve their products through fastening innovations. He has worked at Sherex since 2014, working his way from inside sales to outside sales and becoming an important influence at the company.

While working at Sherex, Jake's dedication to the fastening industry has only grew, becoming a member of YFP in 2019, culminating with his appointment as the president of the Young Fastener Professionals this year. "We are very proud of Jake," said Sherex president Adam Pratt. "He's learned and grown so much over the last six years and he's earned this leadership role at YFP." "I'm very excited," Jake said. "YFP is great organization and a great way to get involved in the fastener industry."

The Young Fastener Professionals is an organization "that provides empowerment and career development by providing resources and support to future leaders," according to its website. Professional development, celebrating success, networking events, and collaboration are some of the YFP's core competencies and Jake hopes to continue to spread the word about the positive impact YFP can have. "We want to continue to build and grow, and play a bigger role in not only influencing young people in the fastener industry, but in the fastener industry in general." Jake said.

Japanese Nitto Seiko Acquires All Shares of Mitsubishi Chemical

Nitto Seiko acquired all shares of Mitsubishi Chemical Analytech on April 1 and renamed the company to Nittoseiko Analytech Co., Ltd. Nittoseiko Analytech has a complete line of analytic machines and will provide Nitto Seiko with synergy in sales, R&D and manufacture of parts inspection device. Nitto Seiko is an international manufacturer of automatic fastening device and inspection device for industrial fasteners with bases established in Taiwan, Hong Kong, China, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, South Korea, and the U.S.

BIAFD Spring Meeting Postponed to October

In the light of the Covid-19 crisis, BIAFD has postponed its Spring General Meeting, scheduled for 30th April, until Thursday 8th October 2020, at the Forest of Arden Marriott Hotel and Country Club, Meriden. New booking links for members will be available shortly.



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TriMas Closes Acquisition of RSA Engineered Products

TriMas announced on Mar. 2nd that it has closed the acquisition of RSA Engineered Products (RSA), a provider of highly-engineered and proprietary components for air management systems used in critical flight applications. TriMas previously announced that it had signed an agreement to acquire RSA on January 30, 2020.

"We are excited to welcome the talented and experienced RSA Engineered Products team to TriMas Aerospace, and look forward to working together to serve our existing and new customers," said John Schaefer, TriMas Aerospace President. "This acquisition demonstrates our ongoing commitment to grow our aerospace business and enhance the breadth of TriMas Aerospace's product offerings. RSA also enhances our position in the defense and business jet markets, as well as increases our participation in the aftermarket."

RSA designs, engineers and manufactures highly-engineered components, including air ducting products, connectors and flexible joints, predominantly used in aerospace and defense engine bleed air, anti-icing and environmental control system applications. "This acquisition is a meaningful step toward building out our TriMas aerospace platform," said Thomas Amato, TriMas President and Chief Executive Officer. "We look forward to all of the contributions RSA will make to TriMas."



Böllhoff and Gillis Aerospace Work Together to Create Connections

With the acquisition of shares in Gillis Aerospace, a French manufacturer of aerospace fasteners, Böllhoff further expands its presence in the aerospace market sector. "We have for nearly 70 years supplied proven products and reliability to fulfil the demands of the aerospace industry. This includes certifications as well as special material and surface coating know-how, along with international access to our customers," says Michael Böllhoff. "We are pleased that with Gillis Aerospace we now have an experienced and established production partner at our side, with whom we can advance our activities in the aerospace market sector."

The cooperation with Gillis Aerospace is based on a significant participation of Böllhoff in the French manufacturer of fasteners. A cooperation contract was signed in January 2020 and the transaction was completed in early March. The cooperation is intended to create synergies, thus offering joint aerospace customers a wider product range and a broad service portfolio. Both companies will contribute their respective strengths to the cooperation.

"Böllhoff's global presence allows us to provide customers all over the world with our special fasteners," states Serge Dumas, Managing Director of Gillis Aerospace. "In return, Gillis is contributing its comprehensive manufacturing know-how regarding fasteners for the aerospace sector to this cooperation. Thanks to an agile and flexible manufacturing concept, we are able to meet specific customer requirements, even in small and medium size production batches." Over time, the cooperation will be continuously expanded – with the joint development of products.

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