compiled by Fastener World

五金零組件全球新聞

Industry Development

China's Hardware Components Export Maintains Steady Growth in First 3 Quarters of 2022

2022年前三季中國五金零件行業出口保持平穩增長



China's hardware & parts industrial import and export statistics for the first three quarters of 2022 is out. The data show that the total export value was at US\$ 127.25 billion, an increase of 8.55%, among which construction hardware parts increased by 22.82% year-on-year, tool hardware decreased by 1.23%. The total import value was US\$19.45 million, a decrease of 11.12% year-on-year.

The export value of construction hardware parts was US\$41.81 billion, accounting for 32.85% of the total export value of all industries, while the export value of tool hardware parts was US\$19.12 billion, accounting for 15.02%. In terms of import, the construction hardware parts were US\$10.88 billion, accounting for 55.93%; the tool hardware parts were US\$5.82 billion, accounting for 29.95%.

From a global perspective, the world's economy seems to be nearing stagnation, while prices are rising rapidly. In addition, the income gap between different economies further widened, resulting in a lack of international investment momentum. The global economic growth slowdown is obvious, China is facing considerable pressure in the hardware parts industry where it has to maintain stability and increase quality and trade.

Jack Lai Now Heads Taiwan Hand Tool Manufacturers' Association

賴亮孜執掌台灣手工具公會龍頭



On September 2, 2022, Taiwan Hand Tool Manufacturers' Association (THTMA) held the 16th member assembly, where the members reelected new directors, supervisors and president. General manager Jack Lai (on the right in the image) from Jaco International Corporation (a hex wrench manufacturer) was elected the 16th president of the Association.

Taiwan is the world's second largest hand tool exporting country with its export value second to China. Hand tools are one of Taiwan's critical export industries with over 1,000 domestic hand tool companies and close to 14,000 employees. Central Taiwan takes up over 70% of the total production value as Taiwan's largest hand tool cluster.

Thailand Becomes the Latest EV **Competing Ground**

泰國成為電動車競爭最新戰場

As the South Korean Hyundai Motor is enhancing deployment in Southeast Asia, its opponent BYD from China is making its way into Thailand to build a new factory, making Thailand a new ground for the face-off between South Korean and Chinese EV makers.

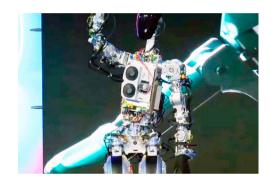


BYD, the second largest EV maker in the world, is locked on the rapid growth of EV market in Southeast Asia and has decided to invest USD 491 million in its first overseas plant in Thailand. The plant is expected to launch in 2024 and manufacture 150 thousand units per year. Thailand has set the target to raise the proportion of new EV car sales to 30% by 2030.

In March 2022, Hyundai launched a plant in Deltamas Industrial park in Bekasi. It is Hyundai's first manufacturing plant in ASEAN and manufactures the new BEV called IONIO 5.

Optimus Denotes Humanoid Robots Will be Able to Handle Screw Fastening

Optimus揭示人型機器人可代勞鎖螺絲



September 30, 2022, Elon Musk revealed his humanoid robot Optimus at Tesla AI Day 2022. He said humanoid robots so far don't have a brain, that they can't handle problems on their own and are very expensive with extremely low value creation. Optimus in contrast will be extremely powerful and massproduced up to millions of units at a cost below \$20,000, much less than a car. Production is likely to launch in 2023.

He said Optimus will initially perform boring or dangerous tasks including moving materials and parts in Tesla factories or fastening screws to a car with a wrench. He predicts the future robots could be used at homes, cook dinners, cut lawns and care for the elderly, even becoming a mate to humans.

As some of the modern factories are using automated equipment to counter shortage of labor, humanoid robots in the future could be the latest option for business owners.



Companies Development



Eclatory Technology (Taiwan) Goes Public in October 2022

數位工具研發製造商數泓科2022十月上櫃

Eclatorg Technology, the first digital tool maker in Taiwan, grossed NTD 286 million in the first 8 months of 2022, up 8.48% from the same period of 2021. It has been publicly traded on the OTC market since October 6, 2022.

The company's net profit after tax in the first half of 2022 was NTD 61.04 million, up 1.24 times from the same period of 2021, with the EPS at NTD 3.18. Eclatorg Technology said it would perform better in the second half of 2022 and could return to a gross profit margin of 50%. The full-year sales of 2022 could set a new record.

Eclatorq Technolgy has set its target further ahead, crossing over to the dental and orthopedic industries. They hope to succeed in developing a smart fastening system that can be planted accurately into medical materials, reduce medical damages, and digitally integrate with the medical industry, and lead Taiwanese tool industry onto a digitalized and diverse path as an advanced player.

(Japan) Tange Products Rolls out High Grip Insert Nut 日本Tange製作所推出高抓力埋入式螺帽

Insert nuts are used to fasten

screws and bolts into resin products. The High Grip Insert





Products increases the area of contact with resin and therefore doesn't easily come off from resin.

A major feature is that the company makes the surface of High Grip Insert Nuts uneven only by means of stamping, which makes it easier to mass-produce High Grip Insert Nuts than machined insert nuts. The Nut has 200% to 300% more pull-out strength and greatly improves rotational torque. It is made of cod-rolled steel plates and it is toxinfree, cheap and can be used in the automotive and electrical engineering industries. Currently the company offers M4, M5 and M6 sizes and expects to sell 500 thousand pieces per month a year later.

Hilti Combines Adhesive Anchor Performance with Screw Anchor Speed and Simplicity in

Kwik-X Hilti發表Kwik-X錨固系統整合黏著型 壁虎效能和螺絲壁虎的速度與簡便性

Hilti North America, a global leader providing innovative tools, technology, software, and services to the commercial construction industry, introduces the Kwik-X Dual Action Anchor system, the first of its kind on the market, combining the high performance of adhesive anchors and installation speed and simplicity of screw anchors.



Reducing multiple steps in the traditional adhesive anchor installation process, Kwik-X reduces costly man hours and jobsite expenses. Kwik-X can reduce installation time by up to 70% and save up to 20% in total cost of installation when compared to traditional adhesive anchoring systems.

"Contractors can save time and money by reducing the complexity of installation with the Kwik-X. Leading up to a 4x faster installation over traditional adhesive anchors and combined with Hilti's industry-leading expertise, thereby reducing labor costs and helping deliver peace of mind to a jobsite," said Rafael Santos, Senior Director of the Hilti North America Fastening and Protection Business.

Comprised of the convenient Kwik-X pre-portioned adhesive capsule and Kwik HUS-EZ screw anchor, the system provides the necessary performance for safety-critical applications. It reduces the number of steps in the installation process, such as hole cleaning, curing time, and dispensing - eliminating adhesive waste and the need for accessories like brushes, air compressors, and dispensers. This simplicity results in increased productivity by reducing the risk of human error. Additional features such as high performance in real jobsite conditions and the capability to remove and reinstall the anchor in the same borehole help cater to the needs of the installer. These factors help save contractors time and money.



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Henkel Consumer **Brands Rewards** Suppliers for **Outstanding Contributions**

五金黏著劑大廠Henkel首 度頒發傑出供應商貢獻獎



For the first time, Henkel's newly established business unit Henkel Consumer Brands recognized its top suppliers for their industryleading performance in 2022 with an award ceremony. The event took place at the American Cleaning Institute Convention in Orlando, Florida, on January 30 with more than 200 registered participants. The top partners were awarded in three categories: BASF was honored with the "Sustainability Award". Novozymes, Innospec and Firmenich received each a "Best Innovation Contributor Award". The winner of the "Supply Resilience Award" was Symrise.

Bertrand Conquéret, President Global Supply Chain and Senior Vice President Purchasing at Henkel, welcomed the representatives of more than 30 major suppliers together with Frank Meyer, Senior Vice President Global R&D Henkel Consumer Brands. They opened the ceremony with a review of 2022 achievements and an overview of the new business approach of Henkel Consumer Brands. Sebastian Schauten, Vice President Global Purchasing Henkel Consumer Brands, introduced the newly designed Sustainovation Partnering Program of the business unit.



Simpson Strong-Tie Wins 2022 Pro Tool Innovation Awards

Simpson Strong-Tie榮獲2022專業工具創新獎

Simpson Strong-Tie, the leader in engineered structural connectors and building solutions, has received two Pro Tool Innovation Awards (PTIA) — the first in the Attachments Drills/Drivers category for its Quik Drive PROHSD75 Wood-to-Steel solution and the second in the Metal Screws category for its Strong-Drive TF Wood-to-Steel screws. The awards are judged by a diverse panel of

professional tradespeople as well as media sponsor judges (all of whom make up a team with decades of experience handling, operating and/or testing hundreds of tools, accessories and fasteners each year).

The Quik Drive PROHSD75 Wood-to-Steel solution is a fast, reliable, and ergonomic fastening system for wood-to-steel applications. It is designed to boost efficiency and performance while providing the perfect combination of speed and ease for many jobs that require attaching wood to steel — from truck and trailer beds to high-paced manufacturing environments and beyond.

The Strong-Drive TF Wood-to-Steel screws are designed for performance and productivity in high-paced environments and eliminate

the need to predrill, installing 26% faster than traditional predrill and hand-drive methods. Applications include wood-to-steel attachments such as on trailer floors, trailer walls, truck beds, mezzanines, nailers, and trimmers for steel buildings.

Klein Tools Named an Energage 2023 Top Workplace

Klein Tools 入選**2023**美國Energage 最佳工作場域獎



Klein Tools, a family-owned and managed hand tools manufacturer, announces it is a winner of a 2023 Top Workplaces USA award that focuses solely on feedback captured by employees. The Top Workplaces USA program is built on nearly two decades of surveying more than 20 million employees across 54 markets.

"We are committed to maintaining a strong culture and people-focused approach at Klein, so we are honored to continue to be named a top workplace by our very own employees," said David Klein, Vice President of Human Resources at Klein Tools. "Everyone here, from the people on the ground of our facilities testing and creating our tools all the way to our senior leadership, has contributed to our company culture and pride in ways we never could have imagined."



Top Workplaces USA offers national recognition for large organizations, those with more than 150 employees, and those that may have operations in multiple markets. Several thousand organizations across the country were invited, and more than 1,100 participated in the Top Workplaces USA survey. Winners of the Top Workplaces USA list are chosen based solely on employee feedback gathered through an employee engagement survey, issued by Energage. Results are calculated by comparing the survey's research-based statements, including 15 Culture Drivers that are proven to predict high performance against industry benchmarks.



Stanley Black & Decker Appoints Patrick Hallinan CFO

Stanley Black & Decker任命Patrick Hallinan為新財務長

Stanley Black & Decker announced the appointment of Patrick Hallinan to Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, effective April 6. Hallinan, who succeeds interim CFO

Corbin Walburger, will report to Donald Allan Jr., President and CEO of Stanley Black & Decker. Walburger will resume his previous role as Vice President of Business Development.

"After a rigorous search, I am pleased to welcome Patrick to the Stanley Black & Decker team. Patrick is a seasoned executive who has led global, high performing finance functions across top consumer brands. He has a deep track record of delivering business performance, growth and value creation in complex, competitive industries," said Allan. "I look forward to partnering with him as we execute our transformation to streamline and optimize the company around our core businesses and strong portfolio of global brands. On behalf of the Board and management team, I want to thank Corbin for his valuable service stewarding the finance organization through this critical period for our Company."

"I'm honored to be joining Stanley Black & Decker, the worldwide leader in tools and outdoor, at such a pivotal moment. Having long followed the Company, I have tremendous respect for this leadership team and the transformation that is already progressing rapidly," said Hallinan. "The Company's iconic portfolio of brands, as well as its highly-engineered and growing industrial business, provide a strong foundation for long-term, profitable growth and value generation."

Hallinan received a bachelor's degree in Economics from Northwestern University and an MBA in Finance and Accounting, with honors, from the University of Chicago.

NORMA Group Receives Major Order for Joining Solutions in Electric Cars

美國NORMA集團 取得電動車廠緊 固產品大單

NORMA Group has won a new major order for joining solutions in electric vehicles.

From July 2023 until 2030, NORMA Group will equip several of the customer's battery-electric premium models with hose connectors, hose adapters and quick connectors. The order has a total volume of around EUR 34.6 million.

CEO Dr. Michael Schneider: "In our strategic business unit 'Mobility and New Energy', we consistently focus on the requirements of our customers. With our experience as a development partner and our certified production standards, we are very well positioned to support our customers in their technological transition towards emission-free mobility."

NORMA Group's connection products are installed in cooling water lines and are used to cool various units in the vehicle, including the battery. The hose connectors and quick connectors have been part of NORMA Group's portfolio for many years. Development engineers at NORMA Group specially adapted them for this order in cooperation with the customer.

The joining products are manufactured at NORMA Group's plants in Maintal, Germany, and in Pilica, Poland. Some of the parts include a temperature sensor in order to ensure optimal operating temperature. In order to meet the increased demand, NORMA Group is investing in injection molding production at the Maintal site, in new assembly machines for quick connectors and in training employees.



Acme Tools Has Been Awarded Best Online Shops 2023

Acme Tools入選2023美國新聞週刊最佳線上商鋪

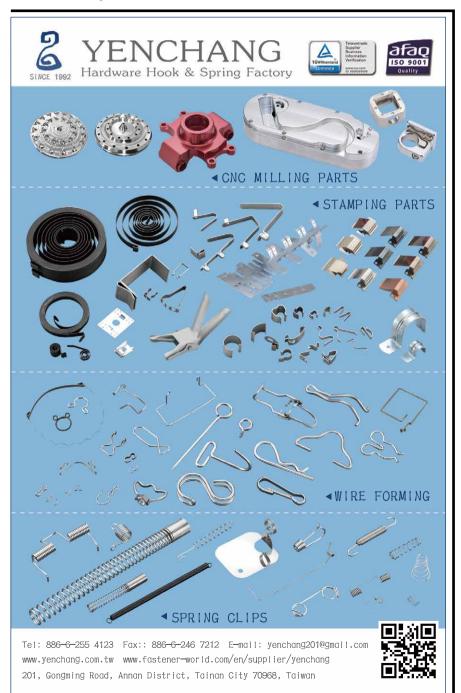
Acme Tools, a leading authorized online retailer of tools and equipment, has been awarded on Newsweek's list of Best Online Shops 2023. This prestigious award is presented by Newsweek and Statista Inc., the world-leading statistics portal and industry ranking provider. Acme Tools was recognized as a top place to shop online in the DIY, Tools and Supplies category. The awards list was recently announced and can currently be viewed on Newsweek's website.

The Best Online Shops 2023 were identified after passing a number of tests based on 51 objective and subjective criteria. Newsweek and Statista performed detailed testing of each online shop and conducted a nationwide survey of over 6,000 American online shoppers.

Survey participants were asked to evaluate online shops on Trust & Security, Structure & Usability, Payment, Purchase & Delivery, Service & Communication, Technical Performance and Likelihood of Purchase. From thousands of online retailers evaluated, only 1,000 have been awarded in eight industries and 39 different categories.

"I want to congratulate our entire e-commerce team for earning this award and thank our online customers for their business and positive evaluations," said Shawn Herrick, e-commerce division manager at Acme Tools.

Celebrating its 75th anniversary, Acme Tools was founded in 1948 in Grand Forks, N.D., and today is an omnichannel premier retailer of tools and equipment with 10 retail stores in North Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa, and a leading authorized online retailer offering more than 95,000 products online at AcmeTools.com.



Grainger Named One of the 2023 Fortune 'World's Most Admired Companies™'

Grainger獲選2023美國財富雜誌 全球最受尊崇企業之一



Grainger, the leading broad line distributor of maintenance, repair and operating (MRO) products serving businesses and institutions, announced it ranked No. 1 among diversified wholesalers on Fortune magazine's 2023 list of the World's Most Admired CompaniesTM for the 10th consecutive year.

"Each day, Grainger's 26,000 team members are resolute in fulfilling our purpose, We Keep The World Working®, to make sure our customers have what they need to get their jobs done," said Grainger Chairman and Chief Executive Officer D.G. Macpherson. "Earning the top spot as the most-admired company in our category for 10 years in a row demonstrates our unwavering commitment to focusing on what matters, contributing to our communities and supporting our fellow team members."

The Fortune World's Most Admired Companies list is based on an annual survey given to top executives, directors and financial analysts. This year, 645 companies in 52 industries were surveyed. To select and rank the World's Most Admired Companies, corporate reputation and performance were measured against nine key attributes: innovation, people management, use of corporate assets, social responsibility, quality of management, financial soundness, long-term investment, quality of products and services, and global competitiveness.

ToughBuilt Announces Innovative New Line of Pliers and Clamps

ToughBuilt發表創新螺絲鉗



ToughBuilt Industries, Inc. announced the launch of its new line of pliers and clamps. The new line, comprised of more than 40 SKUs, will be made available for purchase through leading US home improvement

retailers and across ToughBuilt's growing strategic networks of North American and global trade partners and buying groups, servicing over 18,900 storefronts and online portals worldwide.

ToughBuilt's new line is designed for a strong global professional hand tools market, projected to grow from US\$21.2 billion in 2020 to US\$31.8 billion by 2030, according to a 2022 market research report. The new SKUs include linesman pliers, long nose and slip joint pliers, end nippers, cutters, wire strippers, locking pliers, C-clamps, tongue and groove and V-Jaw pliers.

Co-Founder and CEO of ToughBuilt, Michael Panosian, commented, "The launch of over 40 new hand tool SKUs in the Pliers and Clamps segment is poised to open new revenue opportunities for the company." Panosian continued, "We are continuing to solidify ToughBuilt's position within the hand tools market, and we plan to continue expanding our product offerings throughout 2023 and beyond."

MSC Industrial Supply Co. Acquires Buckeye Industrial Supply Co. and Tru-Edge Grinding Inc.



MSC Industrial Supply Co. 併購Buckeye Industrial Supply Co. 和Tru-Edge Grinding Inc.

MSC INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY CO., a premier distributor of Metalworking and Maintenance, Repair and Operations supplies to industrial customers throughout North America, announced that it has acquired Buckeye Industrial Supply Co., an independent metalworking distributor based in Columbus, Ohio, and Tru-Edge Grinding Inc., a St. Henry, Ohio-based custom tool manufacturer.

Buckeye and Tru-Edge are separate companies with shared ownership. Under the purchase agreement, Buckeye and Tru-Edge will continue to operate under their current names as MSC companies. The two companies had combined estimated revenue of US\$28 million in 2022 and they have 80 associates.

Founded in 1947, Buckeye primarily serves the planned metalworking needs of large manufacturers. MSC plans to build on Buckeye's technical, high-touch relationships and value-added services by offering customers access to its 2 million-plus product portfolio to support their full metalworking and MRO needs as well as drive eCommerce revenue through mscdirect.com.

Tru-Edge Grinding brings new capabilities in tool manufacturing to MSC. Founded in 1996, Tru-Edge operates a manufacturing/regrind facility in St. Henry, Ohio and an indexable tool repair shop in Dayton, Ohio. A large part of Tru-Edge's business is focused on designing and producing tools from scratch, with a strong focus on the automotive and medical markets. Tru-Edge will serve as MSC's center of excellence for engineering and design and will join forces with MSC's existing regrinding business to support manufacturing customers in the Midwest. Tru-Edge's highly technical, value-added services will support MSC's effort to drive cost savings for customers.

