



Heading into a Future of "Resource War"

From the first quarter of 2026, the global market landscape is once again being reshaped by historic upheaval. On March 5, the day when Taiwan CSC held a conference with Taiwanese fastener companies, the U.S. and Israel were charging intense strikes on Iran, igniting fierce conflict. Industry insiders were stunned: If the Strait of Hormuz is blockaded and the Middle East war drags on for months, supply chains could fracture again, with soaring oil prices triggering inflation and skyrocketing manufacturing costs! Taiwan Industrial Fasteners Institute (TIFI) Chairman Yung-Yu Tsai warned in his opening remarks that the industry's next turning point is clear: **"Securing materials will be the key to overtaking competitors on the next bend!"**

Taiwan CSC Conference with Fastener Companies:

From Middle East to Material Scramble, Fasteners Brace for Resource War Era

Chairman Tsai cautioned that the Middle East war directly hits oil, natural gas, and power supplies. For Taiwan importing 96% of its energy, the impact is massive! From Trump's pre-war deploying to his heavy-handed strikes, it's evident he's wielding an iron fist over control of global "strategic resources," including materials. Drawing lessons from afar, Chairman Tsai urged Taiwan's fastener business owners: The world has entered the "resource war" ignited by Trump—prices for gold, silver, copper, iron, tin, nickel, steel, and wire rod are all surging! **He likened the international situation to the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, with stagflation looming. "Wire rod is the lifeblood of fastener production costs and a 'critical strategic resource'! Makers without control over wire rod will risk elimination in this resource war!"**

Chairman Tsai elaborated that the biggest challenge now is: Who can grab the most revenue in the harshest conditions? He called strongly for a mindset shift: "Break free from relying on traders and importers! Think deeply: Who to sell to? Who's the most critical customer? Find the right partners!" Taiwan's fasteners, with 70 years of glorious history, are essential parts that safeguard human life and won't be obsolete. "Fasteners aren't low-end parts—they're 'premium products'! Their value isn't measured by price alone, so don't sell them cheap!"



Beyond the inflation threat from Middle East fires, Taiwanese makers must counter China's low-price dumping. Getting trapped in price wars is a quagmire! **Instead of chasing orders with just 3-5% margins, pursue high-value fastener orders—Taiwan's technology can absolutely deliver!** Chairman Tsai urged makers to communicate with overseas clients, letting them understand that Taiwanese fasteners are premium. Highlight Taiwan's trustworthiness, seamless collaboration, and long-term partnership potential!





Global Economic Recovery Affirmed—But Monitor Middle East Risks

Economic data from Taiwan CSC's briefing shows global GDP growth projected at 2.7-3% this year, with Taiwan at 3-7%. Other than China's ongoing structural slowdown, recovery in the U.S., Europe, and India is solidified. **Last year's growth was driven largely by AI; this year, it's shifting to traditional industries.** Yet Trump's unpredictable strategies and the broad fallout from Middle East conflict mean close monitoring of the war is essential amid this rebound.

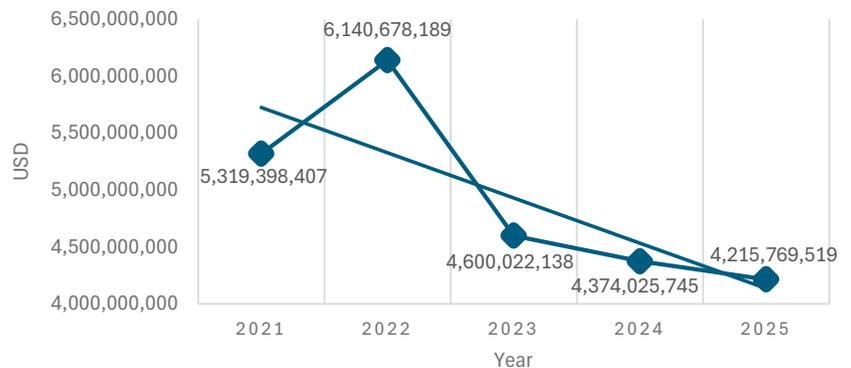
According to TIFI's statistics, Taiwan's 2025 fastener exports totaled 1.23 million tons, down 4.1% year-over-year, with an average price of USD 3.53 per kg, up 0.8%.

Taiwan's Customs data reveals 2025 fastener exports to all 5 major continents declined, except for ASEAN, which grew 9.7% as the top growth region for Taiwan. **Over the past three years, Taiwan's fastener export value has fallen cumulatively by 8.3%, and 2025 may not have hit bottom yet (Figure 1), signaling clear contraction of Taiwan's fastener export.**

Table 1: TIFI's Fastener Statistics

Product	Export Volume Growth	Unit Price Growth
Wood Screws	-4.13%	+1.14%
Self-Tapping Screws	-0.71%	+0.32%
Bolts	-3.53%	+0%
Nuts	-7.91%	+3.02%

Fig 1. Value of Taiwan's Fastener Export to the World



Turn Crisis into Opportunity: Treat Fasteners as Premium and Products

With Middle East flames and resource wars ignited, Taiwan's fastener companies must stand strong. Facing inflation woes and China's low-price onslaught, Taiwan's fastener companies are urged to secure wire rod, target high-value partners, reject cheap sales, and leverage 70 years of craftsmanship to forge the "premium" value of Taiwanese fasteners—breaking free from the low-price trap. Chaos reveals true heroes; the future belongs to bold transformers who overtake on the next bend and claim global high ground! ■

