

Hardware & Fastener Components World News

五金零組件全球新聞

Association News

HAI Releases Business Index Q3 2024 ▶▶

愛爾蘭五金協會公布2024年第三季會員企業業績指數



The quarterly Business Index captures net sales revenue from participating member retailers and merchants. The key objectives of HAI Business Index are to establish an ongoing guide to revenue performance for HAI member firms and to deliver a total index figure on changes to the total value of the market on a quarterly and annual basis. The index reveals that HAI members in Munster recorded a year-on-year increase for Q3. The members' performance throughout 2024 has been consistent with 2023. Q3 2024 is the fifth consecutive quarter with no change, which indicates that the market is flatlining. Overall, market performance in 2024 has remained relatively flat.

New STAFDA Officers Announced ▶▶

美國專業工具及扣件經銷商協會選出新任正副理事長

Members of the Specialty Tools & Fasteners Distributors Association (STAFDA) elected leadership for 2025 during the Association's 48th Annual Convention & Trade Show, November 10-12 last year, in Nashville. Following the event's General Session, Dale Hahs II, President of AIS Industrial and Construction Supply, Denver, became STAFDA President. AIS is a family-run business started in 1945 by Hahs' grandfather originally to service the airline industry. The company shifted its focus to selling to contractors after World War II. AIS has been a STAFDA member since 1999.

Matt Kitchens, Vice President of Sales for California Service Tool, Hayward, CA, was elected STAFDA Vice President. The company serves Northern California as a leading tool, safety, and equipment distributor for commercial trade contractors. California Service Tool has been a STAFDA member since 1977.



Shanghai Tool Industry Association Holds 9th General Assembly ▶▶

上海工具工業協會第九屆會員大會

On December 23, 2024, the 9th General Assembly of Shanghai Tool Industry Association was held in Shanghai. The assembly elected the ninth council and leadership of Shanghai Tool Industry Association. Mr. Dong-li Zhang, Chairman of China Hardware Association, reflected in his speech on the development history of the Shanghai tool industry and its outstanding contributions to China's tool and hardware sector. He expressed optimism for the work of the new council of Shanghai Tool Industry Association, stating that the Chinese hardware products industry is eager to strengthen communication, connections, and collaboration with the association to jointly promote innovation and high-quality development of China's tool and hardware industry.

During the meeting, industry experts and guests shared their experiences in foreign trade sales within the hardware sector. Chairman Dong-li Zhang, along with the organizers and relevant guests, officially launched the initiative of "Gathering Energy to Navigate and Set Sail Together".



Taiwan Ministry of Environment Announces Draft for Voluntary Product Carbon Footprint Management Regulations ▶▶

台灣環境部預告「碳足跡標籤」新草案

On December 6, 2024, Taiwan Ministry of Environment announced the draft. Products with no carbon footprint certification will not be allowed to use or display carbon footprint labels. Companies found to be "greenwashing" or using labels arbitrarily may face fines ranging from NT\$10,000 to NT\$1 million. Additionally, considering the shortened life cycle of many products today, the valid period for carbon footprint labels will be reduced from five years to two years.

Taiwan Ministry of Environment stated that shortening the label's valid period will enhance its effectiveness and better demonstrate the product's carbon footprint to external parties. Large companies are required to pay carbon fees and conduct an annual carbon inventory. The carbon footprint label is voluntary and depends on the companies' objectives and whether they disclose their figures. Therefore, a shorter period of two years is set.

A representative from the General Chamber of Commerce of Taiwan pointed out that applying for a carbon footprint label takes three to five months, and third-party verification also takes time. The representative suggested extending the valid period to three years. In response, Taiwan Ministry of Environment indicated that it is currently in preliminary discussions with relevant verification agencies to simplify some verification processes for simpler products, aiming to minimize cost impacts.

Currently, there are six verification agencies that meet Taiwan's government standards: the British Standards Institution (BSI), TÜV Rheinland, Bureau Veritas Certification (BVC), SGS Taiwan,



AFNOR Asia, and the Agricultural Technology Research Institute (ATRI). Taiwan Ministry of Environment noted that several other organizations are also in the application process, so verification capacity will continue to increase.

Representatives from verification agencies also advised Taiwan Ministry of Environment to reference international practices, which is to simplify processes and reduce costs by implementing a license extension system. They expressed hope for utilizing remote videoconferencing for audits to enhance administrative efficiency in the review process.

European Think Tank Calls on the EU to Direct Revenues from CBAM to International Climate Finance ▶▶

歐洲智庫呼籲歐盟將CBAM的收入用於國際氣候融資



The European Roundtable on Climate Change and Sustainable Transition (ERCST) has issued a declaration urging the European Union (EU) to allocate revenues from the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) towards international climate finance. The declaration emphasizes the need to support developing countries that are most affected by climate change and least equipped to adapt. It argues that directing these funds can enhance the implementation of the Paris Agreement and demonstrate that the CBAM is an environmental, not protectionist, measure. This initiative aligns with EU commitments to increase climate finance and address the significant funding gap faced by developing nations, estimated at nearly USD 6 trillion by 2030. ERCST is an independent think-tank registered under Belgium law.

Italy, Poland Among Other Nations Submit an Informal Document for CBAM Amendment to EU ▶▶

義大利、波蘭等向歐盟提出建議修訂CBAM之「非正式文件」

To maintain Europe's competitiveness in key manufacturing sectors, support the green transition of energy-intensive industries, and achieve strategic autonomy while preventing industry exodus, Italy and Austria, Bulgaria, Poland, among others, have submitted an "informal document" proposing amendments to CBAM to the EU.

This informal document was jointly promoted by Adolfo Urso, Minister of MIMIT (Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy), and Gilberto Pichetto, Minister of Environment and Energy Security. It suggests that the European Commission advance the clause review to 2025 to allow for improvements before the full implementation of CBAM in 2026.

The document addresses four key areas: simplifying administrative burdens, strengthening measures against carbon leakage and dumping practices, avoiding the inclusion of indirect emissions in CBAM—which could lead to increased electricity costs in decarbonization—and introducing mechanisms to protect European exporters to ensure fair competition in markets without a similar "EU Emissions Trading System (ETS)." Additionally, it proposes delaying the gradual elimination of free ETS allowances for energy-intensive industries to mitigate uncertainties and risks associated with the implementation of CBAM.

The proposed amendments by the Italian government are also part of a strategy to protect the domestic steel industry,



focusing on revitalizing four major steel production bases: Taranto, Terni, Piombino, and Acciaierie del Nord. Italy is now seen as a successful model in Europe, as 85% of its domestic steel production is generated through electric arc furnaces using recycled scrap steel—significantly higher than the European average of less than 50%.



European People's Party Calls for Two-year CBAM Freeze ▶▶

歐洲人民黨呼籲將CBAM凍結兩年

The European People's Party (EPP) has called for a two-year delay on the implementation of CBAM in a statement seen by Kallanish, following its recent leadership summit. It also called for the introduction of the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive and the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive to be paused for the same length of time. It argues these measures impose excessive burdens on SMEs, hinder competitiveness, and risk deindustrialization.

“The EU has decided on ambitious climate targets and policies to achieve them. When implementing them, we must make sure that they do not lead to deindustrialization. If climate policy becomes an obstacle for competitiveness and growth, it will not only fail to have the support of European citizens, but it will also risk increasing global emissions because products will be produced in other regions of the world with higher emissions,” it said.

The EPP proposes limiting such regulations to large companies (with 1,000+ employees), reducing overlap, and cutting reporting obligations by 50%. It also calls for measures to protect the European automotive industry and allocate more ETS revenues to energy-intensive sectors.

In contrast to the EPP's call, CEMBUREAU (The European Cement Association) calls for timely CBAM start: “CEMBUREAU agrees that some targeted improvements could be brought to CBAM, in particular to minimize the risks of fraud and circumvention, find a solution for exports, and simplify the mechanism where possible. These points are important and deserve a strong focus from policymakers. However, a two-year delay in CBAM implementation would only cause major risks for ongoing EU decarbonization investments, and for the broader competitiveness of the cement sector, which has been confronted with rising imports in recent years,” said CEMBUREAU in a statement.

CEMBUREAU also points out that CBAM does not add bureaucratic constraints on European cement producers as it mirrors the requirements of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme, to which all European producers of CBAM goods are subject today, to ensure a level playing field between goods produced in the EU and outside of the EU.

Ukraine May Lose 6.4% of GDP by 2030 Due to CBAM ▶▶

CBAM可能使烏克蘭的GDP在2030年下降6.4%



Ukraine could face significant economic challenges due to the EU's CBAM, potentially losing 6.4% of its GDP by 2030, according to a recent report from CMD-Ukraine. The export decline may reach 6.3%, with exports to the EU dropping by 9.8%. The steel industry, which constitutes a large portion of Ukraine's exports, will be particularly affected, as CBAM applies to 15-17% of these exports. In the first year of full CBAM implementation in 2026, export losses could amount to US\$202 million, escalating to US\$1.4 billion by 2030. The report highlights that the financial burden from CBAM could hinder Ukraine's recovery and integration into the European economy, especially as it struggles with ongoing war-related challenges. Ukrainian businesses are calling for government support, including staff training and access to low-interest loans, to navigate these new regulations effectively.

Industry Development

SMMT Analysis Reveals UK Automotive Industry's Challenges Amid EV Transition ▶▶

SMMT協會分析揭示英國汽車業電動車轉型的挑戰

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) released a new analysis indicating that car manufacturers could face a nearly £6 billion bill in 2024 to meet the Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Mandate, with projections showing 116,000 fewer EVs will be



registered than initially expected. The UK automotive industry is sounding alarm bells over its transition to electric vehicles (EVs), calling for urgent government intervention due to weak demand and unsustainable costs. Despite a 30% increase in EV model options since 2023, the market's response has been underwhelming. High interest rates, soaring raw material prices, and geopolitical uncertainties have dampened consumer confidence. The anticipated registration of 457,000 electric cars in 2024 has been revised down to just 363,000, representing an 18.7% market share instead of the targeted 23.3%. Manufacturers are compelled to offer substantial discounts—estimated at £4 billion—to stimulate sales, yet they still risk incurring compliance costs for failing to meet mandated targets. SMMT Chief Executive Mike Hawes emphasizes the need for a review of automotive regulations to ensure they align with market realities and support growth, highlighting that prompt action is essential to safeguard the industry's future and potential economic contributions.

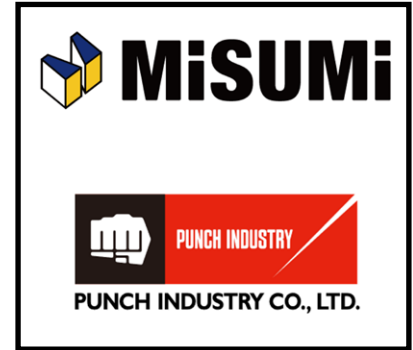
Japanese Punch Industry Forms Partnership with Misumi Group ▶▶

日本Punch Industry與Misumi集團結盟

On October 7, 2024, Punch Industry based in Tokyo, announced a capital and business partnership with Misumi Group, also headquartered in Tokyo. This strategic alliance aims to enhance both companies' capabilities in the manufacturing sector by leveraging their respective strengths.

Punch Group focuses on precision manufacturing and has established a robust global network to support diverse manufacturing needs, including custom machine parts and automation equipment. Misumi Group specializes in providing automation solutions for the industrial automation sector, emphasizing quick delivery and efficiency to create value for its clients.

The partnership will see Punch Industry allocate 3 million shares to Misumi, granting them approximately 10.93% ownership. Both companies plan to collaborate on product supply and explore growth opportunities in international markets. They will utilize advanced digital technologies and complementary logistics infrastructures to maximize synergies and drive mutual growth.



Japanese KTC Celebrates 30 Years of nepros with New Logo ▶▶

日本KTC慶祝nepros品牌30周年並推出新標誌



KTC, a leading manufacturer of hand tools, celebrated the 30th anniversary of its flagship brand, nepros, this January. To mark this milestone, KTC has unveiled a refreshed logo and a new tagline (BEYOND THE BEST) aimed at enhancing brand value. The updated logo retains elements of the original design while simplifying its features to reflect nepros' evolution and commitment to quality. This change is intended to resonate with both existing and new customers, showcasing nepros as a forward-thinking brand dedicated to excellence in professional mechanics' tools.

Einhell Germany AG Distinguished as "Top Company in Lower Bavaria 2024" ▶▶

德國Einhell公司獲選為「2024年下巴伐利亞地區最佳企業」

Einhell Germany AG has been honored as a "Top Company in Lower Bavaria 2024" by the Niederbayern-Forum Association, recognizing its exceptional performance and commitment to the region. The award ceremony took place on November 20, 2024, where key executives, including CFO Jan Teichert and Group HR Director Hans-Peter Rostan, accepted the accolade before notable guests, including Lower Bavaria District President Rainer Haselbeck. This recognition highlights Einhell's contributions to local economic success and its embodiment of the "Lower Bavaria brand" through economic and social expertise, eco-friendliness, and regional focus.



Mayor Matthias Kohlmayer praised Einhell for fostering a workplace built on trust and respect, emphasizing the company's role in creating a supportive community for its employees. Teichert expressed pride in the award, attributing it to the dedication and creativity of Einhell's workforce. As a leading manufacturer of cordless tools, Einhell continues to innovate with its Power X-Change battery platform and celebrated its 60th anniversary in 2024. The company remains committed to providing attractive jobs while ensuring sustainable growth for the region.

Hilti's Climate Targets Validated by SBTi ▶▶

Hilti的氣候目標獲得SBTi 驗證

Hilti Group has made significant strides in its sustainability efforts, recently having its ambitious climate targets validated by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi). This validation confirms Hilti's commitment to achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions across its entire value chain by 2050. The company has set specific near-term goals, including a 50% reduction in Scope 1 and 2 emissions and a

30% reduction in Scope 3 emissions by 2032. To support these targets, Hilti plans to invest a substantial amount in sustainable practices, focusing on data transparency, circular product design, and sourcing more sustainable materials.

In addition to these targets, Hilti's CEO Jahangir Doongaji emphasized the importance of collaboration throughout the value chain to meet these sustainability goals. The construction industry is notably resource-intensive, contributing to approximately 40% of global carbon emissions. Hilti aims



to lead by example, not only through its products but also in how it operates internally. This commitment reflects a broader trend within the industry towards greater environmental responsibility and sustainability.

EcoVadis has once again declared Hilti to be a "Leader in Carbon Management" and a "company with a best-in-class greenhouse gas management system and strong ambitions for decarbonization." This outstanding rating is also based on Hilti's commitment to the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi).



Growermetal Inaugurates New German Sales Branch ▶▶

Growermetal 成立新德國銷售分部

Growermetal is glad to inform its customers, employees and suppliers that on October 1st 2024 a new sales branch has been inaugurated: Growermetal Germany GmbH. Growermetal has been living a process of expansion for some time now to make its sales network more and more timely and widespread. The opening of the new location will enable it to strengthen Growermetal's presence in the German and European market. Its general manager Klaus Vogt is available to support all its partners in Germany, Austria and Switzerland.



Bulten Plans for New Establishment in Vietnam ▶▶

Bulten 計畫設立越南據點

Bulten and ZJK Vietnam Precision Components Co., Ltd, a part of the Chinese fastener company ZJK Precision Parts (ZJK), have signed a letter of intent to establish operations in Vietnam through a joint venture. Agreements have been signed between the parties with the aim of starting production in Vietnam in 2025. The background to the establishment is, as Bulten previously communicated, an increased demand for domestically produced micro screws among international customers in the consumer electronics industry with manufacturing in India and Vietnam. In late 2023 Bulten entered into a joint venture with ZJK and Indian Radium Fasteners Private Ltd (Radium) for the manufacture of micro screws and now a similar establishment is planned in Vietnam. "Bulten's strategy is to grow within customer groups outside of automotive, which is our largest and most established segment. In recent years, we have had good development in the consumer electronics segment, especially in Asia, and see this trend continuing. It is against this background that we are now taking the next step and establishing ourselves in Vietnam. This will increase Bulten's sales volumes and benefit profitability," says Christina Hallin, Interim President and CEO of Bulten. The new joint venture plans to rent production facilities, which means limited investment costs and risk-taking for



Bulten. Bulten's ownership in the planned company will be 51 percent and ZJK Vietnam Precision Components Co., Ltd will own the remaining 49 percent. The proposed joint venture will be called Bulten ZJK Vietnam Company Ltd.

Optimas Surpasses Sustainability Targets Two Years Ahead of Schedule ▶▶

Optimas 提早兩年達到永續發展目標

Optimas, a global leader in industrial supply chain solutions, is excited to announce exceptional progress in its Net-Zero Strategy, achieving emissions reductions initially set for the end of 2025—two years ahead of schedule.

Key milestones reached in 2023 include:

17.5% reduction in Scope 1 and 2 emissions, exceeding the original target of 6.9% reduction for 2025 through renewable energy adoption and improved refrigerant management.

14.9% reduction in Scope 3 emissions intensity, surpassing 2025 expectations by combining emissions reduction initiatives with business growth. The original target was a 6.5% reduction.

These achievements demonstrate Optimas' strong commitment



to environmental responsibility, setting the stage for continued leadership in sustainability.

"Our progress highlights the effectiveness of our strategy and our ability to outperform expectations," said Mike Tuffy, CEO, International.

Daniel Harms, CEO, Americas, added saying: "achieving 2025 targets two years early shows that Optimas is driving meaningful change for the environment and our customers."

Moving forward, Optimas will focus on scaling renewable energy use, electrifying heating systems, and engaging suppliers to ensure long-term decarbonization.



Sonic Group Acquires Sonic Tools USA ▶▶

Sonic集團併購Sonic Tools USA

Sonic Tools USA has been acquired by Sonic Group, a significant development in the tools and equipment sector. This merger is expected to enhance Sonic Group's market presence and expand its product offerings. Sonic Tools USA, known for its high-quality tools, will benefit from the resources and expertise of Sonic Group, facilitating innovation and growth. The acquisition aligns with Sonic Group's strategy to strengthen its position in the



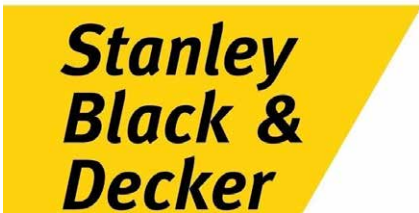
competitive market, aiming to provide customers with a broader range of advanced tools. Both companies expressed optimism about the future, highlighting their commitment to delivering exceptional value to customers.

Stanley Completes Newell Brands, Craftsman Deals

史丹利完成收購
Newell Brands與Craftsman

Stanley announced that it completed its purchase of the Craftsman brand from Sears for approximately US\$900 million in cash. The move, announced Jan. 5, gives Stanley the right to develop, manufacture and sell Craftsman-branded products outside the Sears Holdings and Sears Hometown & Outlet Stores distribution channels. One day after announcing that acquisition, Stanley said it will build a new US\$35 million hi-tech factory in the U.S. to expand the Craftsman line.

Stanley announced that it has completed its purchase of the Tools business of Newell Brands for US\$1.95 billion in cash. The move — first announced Oct. 12, 2016 — gains Stanley the industrial cutting, hand tool and power tool accessory brands Irwin, Lenox and Hilmor brands.



YENCHANG

Hardware Hook & Spring Factory

▲ CNC MILLING PARTS

STAMPING PARTS ▲

SPRING CLIPS ▼

▼ WIRE FORMING

Tel: 886-6-255 4123 Fax: 886-6-246 7212 E-mail: yenchang201@gmail.com
 www.yenchang.com.tw www.fastener-world.com/en/supplier/yenchang
 201, Gongming Road, Annan District, Tainan City 70968, Taiwan



LISI AUTOMOTIVE Has Entered into Negotiations with ZeroBaseInvest with a View to Selling LISI AUTOMOTIVE NOMEL SAS ▶▶

LISI Automotive與ZeroBaseInvest就出售LISI Automotive Nomel SAS進行談判

ZeroBaseInvest GmbH submitted a firm offer to LISI AUTOMOTIVE with a view to acquiring 100% of the shares in its subsidiary LISI AUTOMOTIVE NOMEL, which specializes in the manufacture of nuts by cold heading and washers by vertical cutting, notably for the automotive and industrial/distribution markets.

This subsidiary, located in La Ferté Fresnel (61) in France, will achieve sales of around €35 million in 2024, drawing on significant positions with automotive manufacturers (Stellantis, Renault, VW, Nissan), industrial distributors and manufacturers of screws and cage nuts. LISI AUTOMOTIVE's subsidiaries will continue to purchase washers and nuts for its customers' automotive applications.

This acquisition project completes the range of nuts produced by ZerobaseInvest GmbH through its subsidiary ZB M+F, acquired from LISI AUTOMOTIVE FORMER in 2020. This disposal will enable LISI AUTOMOTIVE to continue refocusing its activities on high value-added fastening solutions and mechanical components for its automotive customers.

This transaction is subject to satisfying certain conditions and obtaining the usual required authorizations. It should be completed by the end of February 2025. ■



compiled by Fastener World

SHI GANG ENTERPRISE CO., LTD.

Wherever you are, we can always save your time for more solutions.



No. 29-3, Ln. 165, Fengren Rd., Renwu Dist., Kaohsiung City 814017, Taiwan
 E: peng.kang@seed.net.tw ; andy3472818@hotmail.com
 F: +886-7-374 1074
 W: www.fastener-world.com/en/supplier/shigang