

SOCKET BOY

JAPAN

Issue
004

Fasteners of the Month

Handling 20,000 Items! When It Comes to Washers, Think Sunco!
3 Anchors Recommended by Sunco

International Fastener Expo 2024



We exhibited for the second time,
following our participation last year!



Thank you for visiting our booth!



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2024 Sunco News
The World of Screws
Nishioka Byoura
& Kitamura Seiko

Hello Socket Boys and Girls

Newco Products & Interstate Screw Corporation

Feature & Article Exchange

Socket Boy Investigates Fasterner World in Taiwan

Manufacturing Companies in Higashiosaka

Manufacturing Revolutionary Display Cases
Minoru Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.



Published by:
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Plan and design
Sunco Industries Co., Ltd.

Special Feature

Fasteners of the Month

Washers & Anchors

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Handling 20,000 Items! When It Comes to Washers, Think Sunco!

3 Anchors Recommended by Sunco



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2024 Sunco News

Socket Boy travelled around the world again this year.



Hello Socket Boys and Girls Around the World

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There are still many fastener companies around the world that we don't know about.
Introducing two US companies

Newco Products

Interstate Screw Corporation

From Exotic Cars
to Industrial Applications

Strategic Growth with Old-World
Thinking for New World Times

The World of Screws

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Nishioka Byoura Co.,Ltd.

Kitamura Seiko Corporation

The Japanese TV programme 'The World of Screws' appears in the TV listings.
The programme focuses on Japanese fasteners manufacturers,
while also introducing company culture and trivia.



Feature

FASTENER

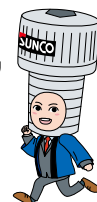
WORLD

www.fastener-world.com

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Featuring the Taiwanese Specialist Magazine, Fastener World

Socket Boy Investigates Fastener World Magazine!



Article Exchange

Sunco's president, Mr. Okuyama, attended
the Global Fastener Forum in Taiwan for the first time.

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Manufacturing Companies in Higashiosaka

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Minoru Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.

Manufacturing revolutionary display cases

March

The Annual General Meeting of SUNCO-kai, our trade association's club, was held on 22nd March. The magazine, Fastener World, became the first international magazine to cover the event. Andy and Dean – thanks for coming - great to meet you!

Forum in Taiwan



New website

April

From 10th to 12th April, we attended India Fastener Show South for the first time. We made many new fastener friends in India!



Torque Expo

May

On the 14th May, we exhibited for the first time at Torque Expo in Telford, UK. We took the opportunity to demonstrate ONIBA PIAS at our booth and we also sponsored and presented one of the awards as part of the Torque-Expo Awards. Socket Boy seems very popular in the UK!

Our president, Mr Okuyama, gave a speech at the Expo Forum in Taiwan on 5th June. We were the first Japanese company to be invited. He talked about our business and our IT-enabled distribution centre, and shared the Sunco message of 'JIS fasteners to the world'!

June

Sunco's English website launched on 3rd June. It features our product lineup, Japanese culture and news. Please check it out!

On the 4th June we visited Fastener World's offices – further strengthening our relationship. Thank you for hosting us, everyone at Fastener World!



Fastener world

2024 Sunco News



Fish and Chips



We visited USA from 19th to 28th July, visiting 30 companies in 4 cities to promote JIS fasteners. It was a fruitful trip, thanks to FCI's support.



Torque magazine visited Sunco's HQ on 3rd June. They toured our distribution centre and wrote a featured article for their July-August issue. Thank you for visiting us, Jerry, Harry and Rachel!



International Fastener Expo 2024



September-November

We carried out a free shipping campaign from 1st September to 30th November, which was a great success, just like last year. Thank you for all the orders!



FCI members

From 9th to 11th September, we exhibited for the second time at IFE 2024. We had a great response again this year. Socket Boy was very popular last year and he was thrilled to return to Las Vegas and is becoming even more famous! Thank you for visiting our booth.

Washers & Anchors Special

Handling 20,000 items! When it comes to washers, think Sunco!

The standout feature of our washers is their extensive size range. As of March 2024, we handle approximately 20,000 washers, providing the largest lineup in the world. Our sizes range from M1 to M100 (outer diameter: 2.5 to 175mm, thickness: 0.1 to 14mm). We also offer special sizes beyond standard specifications. But it's not just the size range that's impressive! We handle 18 types of materials and 39 types of plating. The number of washers we offer is increasing year on year.



The world's largest
selection of washers



All sizes in stock are available for BARA shipping (shipping in any quantity you need). Most of our products are high quality, made-in-Japan items. When it comes to washers, it's Sunco! If you are looking for any products, please contact us.

Left: Picture of washer tree made from washers

3 Anchors Recommended by Sunco



TAP STAR
(TAP STARII)

Product No.: U0-00/03-J0TP (U0-00/03-J4TP)
Features: Easy and reliable installation by anyone with an impact driver. Improves work efficiency!

Handling sizes: M6 to M16

Main Usages: Electrical installations, outdoor air-conditioning units, conveyor belts, racks and handrails etc.

Product No.: U0-00-R06A, U0-00/02-R06Q
Features: Allows checking of tightening torque and bolt insertion in one go. Improves workability and work quality.
Handling sizes: W3/8~W1/2
Main Usages: Installation of various types of suspensions (electrical, piping, air-conditioning ducts, etc.)



Quick One
R-NUT TQR type

Big One
R-NUT BGR type

EZI Anchor



Product No.: U0-00/02-A06E

Features: No standard construction torque setting required since the completion of anchor installation can be visually check by overhang of the check ring. Easy to insert anchors and can be installed with power tools!

Handling sizes: W3/8~W1/2

Main Usages: Sprinkler installation, ceiling piping installation, air conditioning installation, etc.

*Please contact export@sunco.co.jp for more details on the sizes of each product.



Airing every 1st and 3rd Thursday night
from 10:58 to 11:06 on TV Osaka!

Comedy duo "Nakagawa-ke" perform a skit playing the factory manager and an employee in a screw factory. Appearing as well is the president of Sunco Industries, Yoshihide Okuyama, as "the man who loved and was loved by screws" who also shares interesting facts about screws.



Whatever the fastener,
leave it to us!



NISHIOKA BYOURA is located right by the famous Hanazono Rugby Stadium. They manufacture fasteners made from various materials but their flagship products are their brass screws. These are rust-resistant and conduct electricity well, so they are used in electrical appliances and interestingly, in rare cases, antique furniture.



We have a
poster dog, Frank.
He is a talented pug!



President Rei Nishioka

Address: 20-29, Takaramachi, Higashiosaka city, Osaka
TEL: +81 72 988 5555



The average age of
our employees is 32.
Our young employees
work hard every day!



President Yukinobu Kitamura

Address: 1000-11, Enmyoucho, Kashiwara city, Osaka
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Pioneer of construction screws /

**Kitamura Seiko
Corporation**

Kitamura Seiko Corporation manufactures various products related to construction in Kashiwara city in Osaka. One of their amazing products, Nobreakvis, can screw straight into the edge of timber without splitting the timber.



Hello Socket Boys and Girls Around the World!



There are still many fastener
companies around the world
that we don't know about.
Let's say hello...



Newco Products

From Exotic Cars to Industrial Applications



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Email: info@newcoproducts.com
Contact: Sales Department



Newco Products, based in Chatsworth, California, was founded in 1985 by Neil Mangia to address the need for the high-quality specialty fasteners used in automotive restoration. Initially focusing on hard-to-source car fasteners, the company expanded its inventory to include diverse Metric fasteners for various industrial applications. Recognizing the growing market for Asian and Japanese automobiles, Newco Products began offering a wide range of JIS Fasteners, including hex bolts, flange bolts, hex nuts, and screws. By launching an e-commerce platform, they became a top-listed supplier of JIS bolts globally.

Newco Products continues to grow by sourcing high-quality items and expanding its product lines to include German hoses, air ducting and DC motors. Their main inventory consists of Metric Specialty Fasteners, supplying JIS, DIN, and OEM Fasteners across multiple industries. These fasteners are used in manufacturing, machining and the automotive industry, serving automotive manufacturers, repair shops and restoration shops.

Newco Products excels in several key areas: Product Expertise, Customer Focus and Reliability.

As a Master Distributor for Cohline products, Newco Products offers metric clamps, hose accessories and metric hoses for fluids and engine oil used in automotive or motorcycle restoration and machinery applications. Committed to innovation and customer satisfaction, Newco Products aims to maintain its leadership in specialty fasteners and industrial supplies. They take pride in their commitment to excellence and look forward to continued growth and success, thanks to their customers' support.

Interstate Screw Corporation

Strategic Growth with Old-World Thinking for New World Times

Founded in January 1954 in Miami, Florida, Interstate Screw Corporation emerged from the Maxwell Venetian Blind Company when Albert Seiden and his son, Ronald, discovered that selling installation fasteners was more lucrative than blinds. Officially incorporated in November 1956, the company quickly established itself in the fastener industry.

The company thrived during Miami's population boom, servicing local industries from its original location. Under Albert's and then Ronald's leadership, Interstate expanded by acquiring Atlas Bolt & Nut Company and Allied Screw of Dixie in the late 1970s and early 1908s, which led them to relocate to a larger facility in Hialeah, Florida. This new location, with nearly 50,000 square feet of warehouse space, remains the company's operations base. The name, Interstate Screw Corporation, has become synonymous with fastener products throughout the Southeastern United States, South America, the Caribbean and beyond. Ronald, aided by his son, Eric, led Interstate until Ronald's death in August 2013. Eric went on to study for an MBA at ASU and his step-mother, Hermina, became President. In 2016, Ronald's daughter, Samantha, took over as President and her husband, Dominick, became Vice President. Eric returned as Chief Purchasing Officer after completing his MBA.

Interstate Screw Corporation's success is a result of its diverse product range, ability to adapt and commitment to customer service. The company prides itself on its motto, "SERVICE, QUALITY, & PRICE," coined by Ronald in 1956 – a case of 'old-world thinking for new world times'. Today, Interstate offers over 35,000 stock items and access to 75,000 more, ensuring rapid delivery and custom manufacturing options. Compliant with industry standards and a member of prestigious trade organizations, Interstate Screw Corporation continues to innovate and lead in the fastener industry.



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(Chief Purchasing Officer)



Who's the next Socket Boy or Girl?
SEE YOU NEXT TIME...



Socket Boy investigates Fastener World Magazine

I visited Fastener World, a Taiwanese specialist magazine in June this year.



What is Fastener World

Fastener World is a fastener industry news magazine based in Taiwan and founded by the present General Manager William Liao in 1987. They started from just 3 people and turned into a 25-employee corporation globally distributing fastener magazines. Amazing! Isn't it? Their publications portfolio contains Fastener World Magazine, China Fastener World Magazine, Hardware & Fastener Components Magazine, Emerging Fastener Markets Magazine, and Europe Special Edition. And there's more: 3-in-1 (Magazine + B2B Website + Exhibition Participation) global marketing channels, magazine distribution in 200 countries and 30 plus shows, 1 thousand advertisers served per year, and 4.73 million visitors to Fastener World homepage. They're matchmaking global industry leaders, manufacturers, traders, distributors and end users, reporting and bringing Taiwanese and global fastener related companies to the world stage.

Fastener World and Sunco

I visited Fastener World's office this June and I was wowed when I saw our staff's group photo was on their glass door! All Fastener World's employees received me so passionately. I was so impressed seeing a full lineup of all their publications on their history wall. We've interacted with Fastener World since 2021. They've been rooting for us through each ad promotion and featured report. Hey, they showed up at our SUNCO-kai (an assembly of Sunco Industries and main suppliers) and wrote a special report about it in the May issue of Fastener World Magazine. Did you guys check it out yet? We're staying connected and going global with Fastener World!

FASTENER
WORLD
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Let's explore
Fastener World!



Fastener World's office. This was the day before the Taiwan International Fastener Show. So, a lot of staff were out of the office.



A display of magazines published so far. So many! It shows their long history.



A meeting room. We had a meeting with them here too!



They put our pictures everywhere.
I am so happy!

Global Fastener Forum

President Okuyama of Sunco Industries (Japan): Technological Innovation in Fastening Systems and Current International Market Trends

Sunco Industries is an international professional fastener trading and logistics company, providing JIS metric fasteners to all over the world, with an annual turnover of US\$2.57 million. President Yoshihide Okuyama is great at programming and uses it to introduce Japan's unique logistics technology to the distribution center in Higashi-Osaka City. He has invested in the development of an automatic distribution robot by Hakobot, and plans to conduct a demonstration experiment of automatic fastener distribution this summer. The president shared his delicate Japanese logistics management tips in the forum.

In addition to importing fasteners from overseas suppliers, Sunco has customers who are mostly fastener retailers, and features shipment available for orders starting from one single fastener. The president said that Sunco handles large fasteners weighing 15 kilograms, going all the way down to small fasteners weighing 0.01 grams. That is a large assortment of types. A total of more than 2 million fastener products are handled, and Sunco continues to add 5,000 products every month, with the goal of reaching 3 million pieces. One of the customers places as many as 150 orders a day. On average, 50 orders are received per day per customer.

Reasons for Placing Distribution Centers Closer to Suppliers

Higashi Osaka is a big manufacturing city, especially known as the "Fastener City of Japan". This city has about 400 fastener manufacturers, the largest number in Japan, as well as the most fastener employees and shipments. Therefore, Sunco places the distribution center in an area where fastener manufacturers are concentrated. There are about 80 suppliers within a radius of 3 kilometers. Extend the radius to 10 kilometers and there are as many as 100 suppliers around. There is a reason for Sunco's decision to place the distribution center closer to suppliers. Without suppliers near the distribution center, a large number of products will have to be transported by large trucks each weighing more than 10 tons. Product receivers will be swamped with hectic work, and the number of trucks waiting in line will also increase. On the contrary, most of the goods for Sunco's distribution center are transported by small trucks, and large trucks only come once a day, so Sunco can enjoy the benefits of staying close to suppliers. The long working hours of truck drivers have been at the center of focus and known as "Japan's logistics problem in 2024". The reason is the sheer amount of time that it takes to unload from large trucks. Some distribution centers could therefore be troubled with traffic jams due to the queues of trucks. This is a big problem. The president believes the main reason for this problem is putting distribution centers close to where consumers are, causing delivery delays.

"Cargo Matching" Technology

Sunco mostly handles smaller fasteners of many types and small quantities, so the products need to be packed into cartons, small boxes or in bulk. Sunco gathers order data, and uses computers to constantly calculate to find out whether the product quantity is enough to fill a carton. Shipments are made when the order volume is sufficient to accommodate the carton volume, which improves efficiency. As order volume becomes smaller and smaller, it gets increasingly difficult to fit into one carton, resulting in reduced work efficiency. To that, Sunco's distribution center has 6 floors and each floor is stocked with goods. If a customer orders multiple goods, the goods will be taken out from each floor and sent to the packaging area on the second floor through a vertical conveyor. This is Sunco's "cargo matching" technology.

"Customer-Specific Closing Time Processing" Technology

To assemble products coming from each floor, it is necessary to set up temporary storage shelves for each customer. As the number of customers increases, so does the need for temporary shelves, resulting in a lack of storage space. To solve the problem, the president used mathematics to analyze order dynamics and calculate the final order time for each customer, and applied this calculation to all 5,000 customers. This technology, called "Customer-Specific Closing Time Processing", has acquired a patent. Although the number of shipments has increased since the introduction of this technology, overtime hours for logistics work have been reduced by 34%, and work in the distribution center can be completed more than an hour earlier.

The achievement with these two technologies has given Sunco enough foundation to successfully transition from a domestic trader to an international trader known today.

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Article by Dean Tseng*

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WORLD

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This article was published in Fastener World Magazine (July-August 2024 issue).



Minoru Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.

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Manufacturing Revolutionary Display Cases

Founded in 1959, Minoru Chemical Industry is a company based in Higashiosaka that plans, develops, manufactures and sells plastic products.

Their flagship product, the Minoru Cube, has been a long-time bestseller. This display case beautifully showcases and protects items such as miniature toys, figurines, models and works of art.

The Minoru Cube is made of two U-shaped cases that slide together. 'It was very difficult to sell at the beginning' says their President, Mr Shinichi Oshikawa. The breakthrough came when the company capitalised on the explosive popularity of 'Choco Egg', a hollow chocolate egg that

contained a figurine inside. They established a partnership with Kaiyodo, a figure manufacturer for this product, and used the Minoru Cube as a display case. Recognised for its ability to enhance the visual appeal of displays, the Minoru Cube became their signature product.

The Minoru Cube, with its fully transparent six sides, is also ideal for displaying insect specimens. Its design allows viewers to see the object from every angle, earning recognition as a 'new form of specimen case' by the Osaka Prefectural Government. It was certified as a 'Made in Osaka' brand item, a certificate for creative products made by small and

medium-sized enterprises in Osaka Prefecture using superior techniques. In 2024, after extensive preparation, the company began selling UV-processed products, potentially revolutionising exhibition presentations.

Minoru Chemical Industry create unique products in various field. For example, their unusually shaped “Diet chopsticks” have been uniquely designed to promote slow eating, and their face shields were essential in medical environments during the pandemic. ‘Giving shape to ideas with plastic’ has been Minoru Chemical Industry’s guiding mantra through the years.



BARA

Minimum order quantity

BARA will deliver the exact number of products you need.



**It's just one piece, but
it's a worthwhile piece!**



Website



LinkedIn

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SUNCO's
new English website
is now available!



you can...

- find the products you want!
- check our recommended items!
- send inquiries through the inquiry form!
- read our original magazine "SOCKET BOY"



Check it out!



Company
Information



3Qnet
Web Catalog



Linkedin

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