

SOCKET BOY

— JAPAN —

Issue
005

FASTENER
WORLD
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SUNCO

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Craftsmanship City: Higashiosaka

Ultra-Precision Machining Tenking/ Seasonal Events/ Famous Curry Buns



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Plan and design
Sunco Industries Co., Ltd.

Fasteners of the Month

Must-Check!

SUNCO's Recommended Machine Screws

Flat Head Undercut Machine Screw & Slim Head Machine Screw



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Between Asia and the US

The World of Screws

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KISHU FASTENER CO., LTD.

MITSUBOSHI C.I. CO., LTD.

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.



Craftsmanship City: Higashiosaka

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TENKING CO., LTD.

Ultra-Precision Machining Technology Passed on to the Next Generation with μ -metre Accuracy

Seasonal Events / Famous Curry Bun

Fasteners of the Month

Monthly Recommended Products from Sunco

Hexagon Socket Head
Cap Screws

Machine Screws

Nuts & Bolts

Washers

Must-check! SUNCO's Recommended Machine Screws!



Flat Head Machine Screws Sticking Up When Fastening Thin Sheet Steel!? This Is Where Flat Head Undercut Machine Screws Come In!

Have you experienced the heads of flat head machine screws sticking up? Let Sunco's flat head undercut machine screws solve the problem! When a standard flat head machine screw is fastened to a thin plate, the lower part of the head gets caught in the countersink, causing the head to stick up and preventing it from being fastened any further. However, flat head undercut machine screws easily solve this problem. Compared to the regular flat head machine screws of the same size, undercut screws have more crests and the lower half of the head is removed, allowing even thin plate countersinks to be fastened tightly.

We offer sizes from M3 to M6 and lengths from 3 to 30 mm. Available materials include carbon steel, stainless steel and brass. A wide range of different plating and small heads are available too. For fastening thin sheet steels, contact Sunco Industries! *Countersink hole is required to be flush with a workpiece's surface.

Sunco Item Code: 00-00-000U/006U



Normal flat head
machine screw

Perfectly fastened!



Flat head undercut
machine screw

Reduced Product Size and Weight! SUNCO's Original Product: Slim Head Machine Screw

Sunco's slim head machine screws have reduced weight, thickness and size – achieved by reducing the head size compared to the pan head. With their almost flat shape, you do not have to worry about protrusion after installation. These screws are recommended for use where regular flat head screws cannot be used. They also improve appearance and feel, making them ideal for product coatings. We offer two types of materials: carbon steel and stainless steel. Available sizes range from M2 to M8 and lengths from 2 to 70mm. Various types are available, including different plating and different screw hole shapes (crow-recess, torx-recess and hexagon socket-recess). Interested?! Let us know!
Sunco Item code: 00-00-A300/A400/A600



If you have any questions about the products, please contact us through the enquiry form at <https://www.jisscrew.com/>.



17 Taiwanese Fastener Companies Toured Sunco

A Full Report of the 3-Day Event

DAY 1

In November last year, Fastener World, a Taiwanese fastener magazine, and 17 Taiwanese fastener-related companies visited Sunco Industries for an in-house exhibition. The visit spanned three days; the first day was spent touring Sunco's head office and holding an in-house exhibition, the second day involved a visit the distribution centre and the final day included tours of Japanese fastener manufacturers.

The visit, including a tour of Sunco's distribution centres and Japanese fastener manufacturers, was proposed by Sunco to Fastener World, who then organised the visit. On the first day, an official of Sunco Industries opened the event with a speech about the company's long-standing relationship not only with Fastener World but also with Taiwan and its desire to strengthen this bond further. A tour of Sunco's headquarters was followed by an in-house exhibition where the visiting Taiwanese companies introduced their products. Many Sunco employees came to look at the exhibition, asking numerous questions about their products to the 17 participating companies. Representatives from some of the participating Taiwanese companies shared their company features, products and their thoughts on the event.

1. Company information 2. Impressions of the event

CHIREK FASTENER CORPORATION



1. Trading company specialising mainly in stainless steel products with customised packaging available. Handling large size nuts, such as M100.
2. This was our first time joining an Expo event with site and distribution centre visits. We are glad to have learned more about the Japanese fastener industry.

JOKER INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD



1. An anchor manufacturer mainly exporting to Europe. Their main product is Hollow wall anchor, known for Labour-saving and stability.
2. We joined the tour to explore new markets and we feel very glad that we did.

CHAO HSING HARDWARE CO., LTD.



1. A cap nut manufacturer mainly supplying to the automobile industry. They manufacture standard products but can also make custom-order products.
2. It was good to participate as we were able to introduce our products and learn about demand first-hand. If there is another event, we would like to participate again.

Many other participants also shared positive comments, such as 'I think this event was a great opportunity to build a good relationship with Sunco' and 'It was a very special occasion'.

In the evening, Sunco Industries hosted a dinner party. A Sunco representative expressed their thanks, in Chinese, for the event. This was followed by a speech from Mr. William Liao, a representative of Fastener World, who thanked everyone for attending the event and spoke of his desire to continue to work together to expand overseas markets and build friendly relations. The dinner proceeded in a warm atmosphere, with both Japanese and Taiwanese cultural aspects being introduced and discussed and commemorative photographs taken.





DAY2

The group visited Sunco Industries' distribution centre in Higashiosaka, touring the logistics facilities, including the rotary racks (automatic loading and unloading racks for small boxes) and pallet warehouses. A large rotary rack, which enables shipments of varying sizes, from just a single screw, to be fulfilled, particularly interested the participants. When an order is placed, the product is automatically taken off the rack and delivered to the team on a plate, similar to those used in conveyor belt sushi restaurants. Many participants took photos and videos, discussing how it worked with each other. After the tour, participants asked numerous questions, such as how the company manages product orders from its vast stock of 2.1 million items and how long products are stored in the warehouse.

DAY3

The group visited Sunco Industries' suppliers, Isshin Industries Co., Ltd., a metalworking manufacturer, and Fuji Seisakusho Co., Ltd., a nuts cutting manufacturer. The first stop was Isshin Industries, where they observed rolling machinery and NC lathe machining. Participants showed great interest, closely examining the machines and asking many questions. After the tour, a representative of Isshin Industries expressed their deep appreciation for the visit of the group from Taiwan. During the company introduction, it was explained that Isshin Industries specializes in high-mix, small-lot production and that the company has a very active, young staff profile. During the tour the participants had seemed very quiet and serious, so the Isshin Industries' representative was delighted to find that the participants had many questions at the end, that they happily answered.

The group then visited Fuji Seisakusho, where the person in charge thanked the group for their visit and said, 'We hope you will see, what we call, 5S* ideas throughout the factory'. During the tour, participants were impressed by the company's 5S activities and the well-organised plant. Various 5S activities were introduced, such as colour-coding materials for easy identification to prevent material errors during production and managing gauges. Measures to maintain a clean working environment, such as the storage of cleaning equipment and rules for employee bicycle parking, were also introduced.

*5Ss: 5S stand for the Japanese words seiri (organising), seiton (tidiness), seiso (cleaning), seiketsu (cleanness) and shitsuke (discipline), which are activities aimed at improving operational efficiency and the workplace environment.





9th October 2024

German Chamber of Commerce and Industry Delegation Toured Japanese Logistic Centre

On 9th October 2024, a delegation of 16 people from the German Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan (AHK Japan), the Bielefeld Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Germany and various German companies visited Sunco Industries' logistic centre in Higashiosaka City. The visit aimed to exchange information about logistic functions and Sunco's business operations, particularly for the German companies specialising in logistics present.

Before the tour, Sunco Industries made a video presentation that provided an overview of the company, its services and its strengths. Ms. Petra Pigerl-Radtke, a representative of Bielefeld Chamber of Commerce and Industry, delivered a speech highlighting the longstanding good relations and history between Germany and Japan. She expressed her gratitude, saying, 'I would like to thank for the warm welcome. I hope this visit will further strengthen the relationship between our two countries'.

Following the introduction, Sunco representatives guided the participants through the small box picking area, the Rotary Rack, the packing area, the automatic product matching floor and the quality assurance department. The tour showcased the company's logistics capabilities, emphasizing the importance of barcode management and the enhanced operational efficiency achieved through automated small box picking.

The Rotary Rack, a machine capable of shipping single items, garnered particular interest, promoting numerous questions during the tour.



Left) The representative of Bielefeld Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ms. Petra Pigerl-Radtke

Afterwards, a Q&A session addressed future facility investments, the introduction of the Rotary Rack, the cost-effectiveness of shipping single fasteners and the reason behind the company's penguin mascots.

Sunco Industries actively welcomes tours of its distribution centres. In October 2024, they also hosted a delegation of about 20 people from Chinese screw companies. Each year, approximately 10 groups of interested parties visit Sunco's logistics centres.

- The German Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan (AHK Japan)

Since 1962, AHK Japan has been supporting companies to enter markets and business activities abroad. It has the largest German-Japanese business network in Japan and acts as a bridge between the Japanese and German economies as a foreign trade promotion agency.





An Industry First CBAM Seminar for Domestic Suppliers

Regular Quality Improvement Seminars

Sunco Industries held a seminar regarding Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) on the 25th of September last year. It was the very first time in the industry that a Japanese trading company independently organised a large-scale seminar on CBAM. Sunco Industries regularly holds quality seminars for members of Sunco-kai to enhance their ability to provide higher quality products. About 190 members of the Sunco-kai, a cooperative association with Sunco's main suppliers, attended the CBAM seminar. Mr. Keishi Okamura from Zeroboard Inc. was invited to give the presentation on CBAM, which will be fully implemented from January 2026.

Feedback From Suppliers After Attending the Seminar

The seminar provided detailed explanations of the CBAM mechanism and the measures needed in the future. It was explained that it will also affect Japanese companies and that their products may lose competitiveness if measures are not taken. After the seminar, one supplier said, 'The seminar was very informative, as I was not very aware of CBAM. We will have to educate our employees about it'. There were several positive comments on CBAM initiatives, such as 'We hope to receive more information on CBAM from

Sunco Industries' or 'It is inevitable for the future development of the fastener industry in Japan. Penetration will be the theme for the future'.

Sunco Is Taking Action to Apply CBAM

During this transition period, few Japanese fastener companies are taking action to comply with CBAM's regulations. Although CBAM will be applied from 2026, Sunco Industries has already started responding to a gradual increase in customer enquiries about CBAM and requests for documentation.

Cooperation with key suppliers is essential for delivering high-quality Japanese fasteners to the rest of the world. It is expected that the company will continue to lead in sharing information on CBAM with its suppliers and guide the Japanese fastener industry.

What is CBAM?

CBAM is a tariff system for the imported products from outside the EU based on their greenhouse gas emissions. All imports from outside the EU, including Japan, are subject to CBAM's tariff system.

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...



Aspen Fasteners

Transforming the Fastener Industry with AI

Aspen Fasteners is not your typical distributor but rather a global, tech-driven powerhouse reshaping the fastener industry. By blending decades of expertise with cutting-edge AI and automation, Aspen is redefining fastener sourcing and delivery.

Founded in 2010, Aspen's mission is to tackle the industry's toughest challenges through innovation. Their digital-first model streamlines inventory tracking, optimizes shipments, and enables rapid global delivery. Aspen's catalog is vast but it's their technology that truly sets them apart.

Aspen specializes in sourcing specialty and hard-to-find fasteners, an essential service for demanding industries like aerospace, manufacturing, and medical. Known for their responsiveness, Aspen frequently steps in to secure critical parts during emergencies, helping clients avoid costly delays.

When a last-minute need arises, Aspen's advanced AI and agile supply chain delivers hard-to-source fasteners at a moment's notice, proving invaluable for clients under tight deadlines. Aspen's technology boosts speed and efficiency, positioning the company to serve global markets with specialized needs. They've become a trusted source for inch-standard products in Europe and Asia, helping customers worldwide meet fastening requirements seamlessly. "We're not just a fastener company; we're a technology company that happens to sell fasteners," says CEO Chris Nissen. This mindset shines in their latest AI investments, which enhance both speed and customer experience.

Whether using AI to forecast demand or building a marketplace to connect buyers and sellers efficiently, Aspen Fasteners is redefining what it means to be a distributor in the 21st century. Aspen Fasteners isn't just keeping up with industry demand; it's setting the pace. With a sharp focus on technology, Aspen empowers customers to stay ahead, backed by a partner as committed to innovation as they are.



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Las Vegas, NV 89104
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TEL: +1 (818) 584-8869
Email: sales@aspenfasteners.com
Contact: Sales Department



Offshore Milling & Sourcing

Bridging the Gap Between Asia and the US

Offshore Milling & Sourcing, based in Little Rock, Arkansas, USA, was founded with a mission to bridge the gap between U.S. customers and global manufacturing. With a strong focus on sourcing and supply chain efficiency, the company has developed robust relationships with factories worldwide, particularly in Taiwan. Their bilingual communication skills and in-person factory visits have set them apart in the industry.

Rooted in a 50-year family manufacturing background, Offshore Milling & Sourcing has become a trusted partner for competitive and reliable sourcing solutions. They provide fasteners, metal components, and other manufacturing items sourced from factories across Asia, crucial for U.S. industrial and manufacturing sectors needing high-quality, cost-effective components for their operations. Their products are key in various industries, including manufacturing, construction, and industrial applications, playing vital roles in assembling durable, reliable equipment and infrastructure.

Offshore Milling & Sourcing excels at building personal and professional relationships with factory leaders, ensuring seamless communication and trust. Their profound understanding of manufacturing processes, combined with decades of family knowledge, allows them to negotiate effectively and provide customized solutions. The company prides itself on delivering timely quotes, competitive pricing, and unparalleled service, fostering long-term partnerships with their clients.

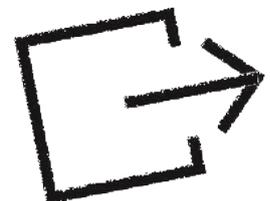
Looking ahead, Offshore Milling & Sourcing aims to become a top-tier sourcing partner known for reliability and value. They plan to expand their customer base and operations while maintaining a strong focus on customer service and personal connections. Ultimately, the goal is to have a fully independent team managing operations, allowing the founders to focus on strategic growth, enjoy meaningful experiences, and travel, all while ensuring the company continues to thrive.



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



Address:
18798 AR-10, Danville, AR 72833
U.S.A.
TEL: +1 (501) 516-7718
Email: weston@offshoremilling.com
Contact: Weston Schillinger





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.



ONE TEAM! / KISHU FASTENER CO., LTD.

With their plant located in Gobo City in Wakayama, Kishu Fastener produces a wide range of fastening parts, including nuts with conical spring washers. The company manages the entire production process in-house, from material processing to plating and packaging.



Nuts with conical spring washers



Employees enjoy freshly prepared daily special lunch in the company canteen!



President Yoshikazu Nakae

Address (Head Office): 5-3-53 Wakaeminamimachi, Higashiosaka, Osaka
TEL: +81-6-6723-8800

Towards the World's Best Hand-Tightening Fasteners /

MITSUBOSHI C.I. CO., LTD.

Mitsuboshi is a specialist manufacturer of wing bolts and nuts, a rarity in Japan. They produce fasteners that can be fastened without tools, making them particularly useful in high places, such as on roofs.

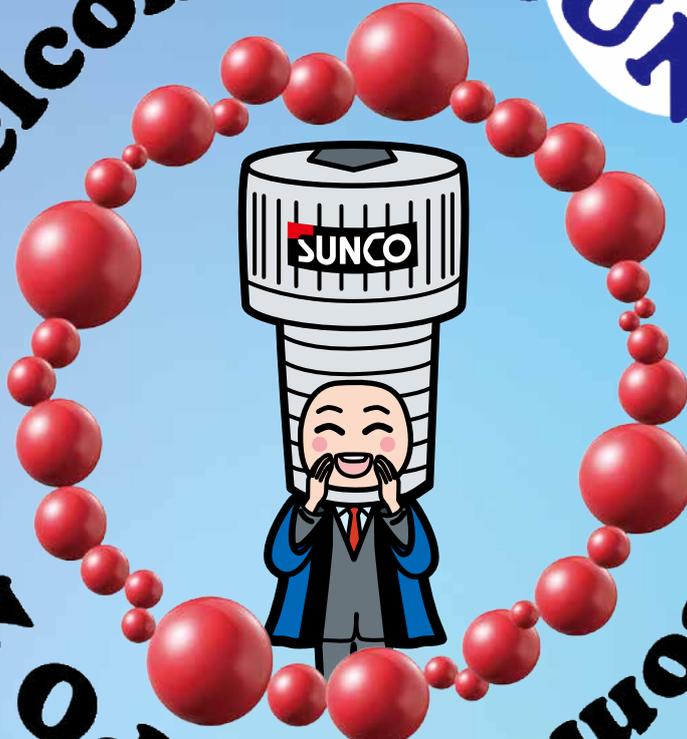


The boss has such a nice voice!



President Juzo Nakamura

Address: 2-15-12 Takaidatomomachi Higashiosaka, Osaka
TEL: +81-6-6782-3151



Welcome to EXPO 2025

Welcome to SUNCO



State-of-the-art technologies and possibilities can be explored in Osaka.
For more details, visit the official website!



| Date

April 13th, 2025 ~ October 13th

EXPO 2025



You can also enjoy the expo if you visit Sunco's distribution centre during this time!



Website



Linkedin Account



Sunco Industries Co., Ltd. 

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Seasonal Events in Higashiosaka

What kind of seasonal changes can you experience in an industrial city like Higashiosaka City? Starting from January, the beginning of the year in Japan, let's look at the seasonal and traditional events.



9th to 11th January Tokaebisu

A festival dedicated to Ebisu God, the God of commerce, to ask for business prosperity and good harvests. It is said that the Ebisu statue in Fuse Ebisu Shrine in Higashiosaka is the biggest Ebisu statue in Japan.



11th January Kayuura Ritual

This Shinto divination ritual hopes to predict the weather and harvests for the coming year. This is registered as a Folk Cultural Assets of Osaka Prefecture.



3rd February Setsubun

Fukumame, roasted soybeans, and Fukumochi, traditional rice cakes, are thrown to ensure good health and fortune throughout the year.



29th April Danjiri Parade

Danjiri - large wooden carts built to resemble shrines, gather from the region, for a parade.



2nd Sunday in May Higashiosaka Citizens' Fureai Festival (city festival)

This is the largest festival in Higashiosaka. There is a parade and many stalls - all organised by local residents.



3rd & 4th August Summer Festival

A festival to mark purification from diseases and disasters is believed to have started in the Edo Period. At the Ishikiri Tsurugiya Shrine, a portable shrine is paraded through the town to purify the town and rid it of bad luck.



September Fuse Festival

A traditional Japanese Bon Odori folk-dance festival is held in the shopping street in Fuse. Additionally, there are also various dance contests.



Mid to End of October Autumn Festival

Autumn festivals are held throughout the city to give thanks for the harvest.



23rd December Shimekake Ritual

A ritual held at the Hiraoka Shrine, where worshippers are traditionally encouraged to laugh for 20 minutes to bring good luck in the coming year!



End of December to Early January National High School Rugby Tournament

The tournament is held annually at Higashiosaka Hanazono Rugby Stadium.



TENKING CO., LTD.

■TENKING CO., LTD.

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Ultra-Precision Machining Technology Passed on to the Next Generation with μ -metre Accuracy.

Tenking is a well-established company renowned for its ultra-precision machining technology. Their flagship product, the VCR cylinder, plays a crucial role in accurately reading magnetic information on tapes while rotating at high speed. This requires extremely high processing accuracy, showcasing their technical ability.

Founded 50 years ago, Tenking initially produced metal parts for audio equipment. Over time, they accumulated extensive know-how in ultra-precision machining, eventually succeeding in manufacturing VCR cylinders.

The company experienced rapid growth

in the late 1980s with the rise of home-use VCRs. They developed the machine technology for the mass production of high-precision cylinder parts, previously only made by hand, significantly reducing the cost of VCRs.

In the 2000s, as DVDs became more popular, the demand for VCRs declined. Since then, Tenking has focused on manufacturing products requiring μ m precision, such as special video cylinders and semiconductor-related components. They also apply their ultra-precision machining technology to inspect bottles and droppers for high-end cosmetics.

In addition to their Osaka head office, Tenking has plants in Oita, Japan and Thailand, with the Thai plant achieving a lower defect rate than the one in Japan.

The current president, Akihiro Kanaboshi, joined Tenking after graduating from graduate school of Osaka University and working as a researcher at an electronic manufacturer. With his background and perspective as a researcher, he stated 'Ultra-precision cutting technology may no longer be necessary in the future but the techniques developed here should be applicable. We will always continue to challenge ourselves in new fields.'



Higashiosaka Revitalises the City with a Curry Bun

Higashiosaka City, known as 'rugby city' or 'craftsmanship city', is now gaining fame as the 'City of Curry Buns'. Curry buns, oval-shaped loaves filled with curry, are a popular snack in Japan. The most orthodox version is deep-fried but there are also baked varieties. Some curry buns are quite spicy, while others are mild enough for children to enjoy. Why is Higashiosaka known as the city of curry buns? When asked, people usually just shake their head. This is because it doesn't have a long history. Instead, in 2009, the 'Higashiosaka Curry Bun Association' was established mainly by local bakeries in the city to create a specialty and revitalise the city through local food delicacies.



Regional Revitalisation through Local Gourmet Food



There are many variations, including ones with pickles.



'Higashiosaka Rugby Curry' with Osaka's famous beef tenderloin.

There are two main reasons why they chose curry buns as a local delicacy.

1. The oval shape resembles a rugby ball.
2. Japan's leading curry maker, House Foods has a factory in the city and the city often smells of curry!

It may seem rather contrived, but the idea of curry buns reminding people of rugby balls serves as a PR tool for the city and when people hear the reasons behind the shape, they are always amused – which is the aim!

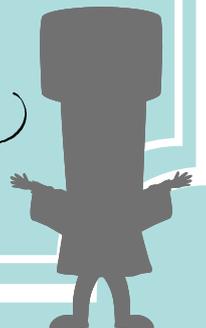
Today, more than 20 bakeries in the city offer creative variations of these curry buns, not sticking only to its original shape. You can find a wide variety; hotdog-shaped buns with sausages, sandwich-shaped or just the traditional rugby shaped buns. If you come to the city, you will be able to experience something spicy!

Are you looking for JIS fasteners to repair cars or motorcycles?



For companies struggling
to find JIS fasteners, or customized fasteners,
you can rely on Sunco.

Guess who I am.



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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!



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Information



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