

BULK & COLLATED FASTENERS

AS CORDLESS TOOLS BROADEN APPLICATIONS, FASTENERS RESPOND

The new materials in use on job sites today are challenging fastener and tool technology, as is the trend toward cordless tools for previously air-compressor-powered applications. The newest tool and fastener systems are being designed hand-in-hand to deliver greater productivity and less user strain regardless of the material being worked. These seven top manufacturers are at the front of their fields.

FASCO AMERICA

"To keep pace with innovations in the tool sector and to deliver their own value to the mix, today's fasteners need to provide increased speed and efficiency while driving higher

performance values," says Brett McCutcheon, general manager of FASCO America, the North American Master Distributor for BECK Fastener Group products. "An example of this innovation-driven product development is our patented Diamond Coating technology that provides superior holding power and reduced drive energy."

Diamond Coating allows a fastener to be fired from a tool with a smaller motor, while increasing holding power. This reduction in the level of drive energy (more than 10 percent on average) overcomes the issue users encounter with cordless tools that aren't able to countersink ring shank nails (for instance, a 3 1/2-inch ring shank nail).

Fasco America's patented Diamond Coating is now featured on all SubLoc PRO SCRAIL, jumbo strip nails, fence and utility pole staples for easier installation with lower-powered pneumatic or cordless tools and greater holding power in a range of environments.

"We initially applied Diamond Coating to our fence staples, but once we established that it requires less drive energy from the tool and provides better holding values (20 percent more on average), we made it available on all of our 30,000-plus fasteners. Diamond Coating is now a standard feature on SubLoc PRO SCRAIL, jumbo strip nails, fence staples and utility pole staples."



McCUTCHEON

Diamond Coating on jumbo nails makes them easier to drive on challenging applications like connecting laminated beams and hard lumber like Southern Yellow Pine and MSR-rated wood. The coating also provides improved withdrawal



PneuTools is pleased to announce that all of its collated plastic cap production is coming to the USA this year. Stay tuned for a new cap slap hammer coming this year too.

values. The amount of benefit depends upon the length of the fastener, and can be substantial when using larger fasteners. When Diamond Coating is applied to a six-inch jumbo nail, 155 percent better holding power is achieved.

PNEUTOOLS

PneuTools is proud to announce two exciting advancements to the plastic cap industry. As of the third quarter of 2017, all the PneuTools collated plastic caps will be 100 percent made in the USA and a brand-new cap slap-hammer will be on its way.

"Nearly 20 years ago, PneuTools transformed the plastic cap market by launching the market's first collated cap stapler," says Alex Gaggin, product manager, PneuTools, Inc. "At the time, many competitors scoffed at the idea of replacing a coil nail with a staple, but they were ultimately compelled to admit that this invention had changed the market. In the end, customers voted for the lighter, easier-to-use tool, which was less expensive and used cheaper fasteners."



GAGGIN

Today, PneuTools is ready to challenge the status quo again with a less expensive, more durable tool which uses affordable, American-made plastic caps. This means that customers will receive a higher quality

product at an attractive price while still supporting American jobs.

"For us, the decision to move the production of our caps to the United States is a practical solution," Gaggin states. "It enables us to accomplish our goal to deliver a better product, with shorter lead-times, at a more competitive price. As for the new cap slap hammer, I can only tell you that we are building a very nice little pet rock of a tool. It will be reliable, surprisingly feature rich and very affordable."

SENCO

"Customers are continually asking for fasteners designed for specific applications and needs," begins Ryan Schuler, SENCO product manager. "SENCO has been a leader in designing fasteners that address a range of challenges, incorporate higher grade materials, and perform more efficiently and consistently. One way we've done this recently is with the use of nontraditional metallic materials for fasteners."

SENCO's new line of plastic composite nails and staples are an excellent alternative for applications where metal fasteners create a problem. They are specifically designed for timber and lumber processing, cellular PVC millwork, CNC fixturing, wood casket manufacturing, laminates, fiberglass fabrication and boat building where metal fasteners

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SENCO plastic composite fasteners can be sanded, shaped and cut without damaging bits, blades or belts. SENCO WhisperGrip nails feature a step ring design and a SENCOTE coating that aids installation speed and holding power.



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cause costly damage to equipment. They are a blend of polymer resin and fiberglass that can be sanded, shaped and cut without damaging router bits, cutting blades or sanding belts.

Another example of SENCO's answer to a contractor problem — costly call-backs for squeaky subfloors and raised fasteners — is its new line of subfloor fasteners. Patented WhisperGrip nails feature a step ring design that was developed to improve holding power. The lower rings are designed to fully engage and grip the floor joist or studs to ensure superior holding power. The upper rings are designed to ensure that nails remain countersunk even if the joist or stud is missed.

WhisperGrip nails come with SENCOTE coating, which acts as a lubricant when heated during the drive for maximum speed and efficiency and provides superior holding power.

"For customers that prefer a screw fastener for subfloor applications, we have also launched our new 08F175YKX subfloor screw, which features an asymmetric double-thread design that drives twice as fast as traditional structural flooring screws while improving holding power. The 2/3 coarse thread allows the screw to pull the subfloor tight, eliminating squeaks and costly call-backs.

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THE PNEU-FAST COMPANY

The new administration in Washington plans to bolster American manufacturing by executive order to 'Buy American, Hire American,' begins Reno Joseph, CEO of The



Joseph Pneu-Fast Co. "The order declares that our governments aggressively promote and use American made goods and also ensure that American labor is used on all government projects."

Steel wire rod is the raw material for construction nails and unfairly priced raw materials also give offshore nail manufacturers an unfair pricing edge over domestically manufactured nails and that must change. In March of this year, four U.S. steel producers filed complaints

Pneu-Fast is justifiably proud both of the quality of its fasteners as well as the fact that they are made right here in the United States, where Washington is placing a renewed emphasis on American-made products.

to the U.S. Dept. of Commerce about unfairly traded steel wire rod imports (dumping) by producers in 10 countries. The petitions were also filed with the U.S. International Trade Commission.

"Despite the influx of cheap nails, Pneu-Fast has managed to keep our collated nail prices competitive and still deliver superior value for nails that are exclusively made in the USA," Joseph adds. "We have always said, 'Buy American for quality and keep jobs here in the USA.' Pneu-Fast nails are guaranteed to be



jam-free in all brand guns. Our nails are stronger and have the best holding power in the industry."

Pneu-Fast's most widely-used high-performance nail is the SP10D, a 3 x .131-inch smooth finish, bright nail strip, ideal for most frame-ups. Manufactured exclusively in the USA, Pneu-Fast SP10D collated nails are the ideal choice for all name brand 30- to 34-degree nailers because they deliver trouble-free performance. Their rigid, resin-impregnated paper strips will not fall apart even

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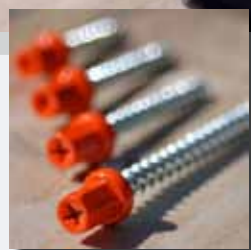
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outdoor projects such as PTL decks and fencing, which requires special Ballistic NailScrew coatings made by PPG and PT2000 ZI/NI alloy.

UFO has designed Ballistic NailScrews for almost every pneumatic and gas tool in the market today. Every user, from a professional manufacturer or contractor to a weekend DIYer can select a Ballistic NailScrew that will fit their tools and finish the projects in half the time.

In addition, Ballistic NailScrews enhance green building initiatives by their very "Drive them In; screw them out" nature.

"Green manufacturing is huge in North America and we hear many stories from around the world about crates and pallets being unscrewed and the wood being repurposed worldwide into houses, sheds and picture frames," Boyd says. "Resource repurposing is the future of our species and we are proud to be on the cutting edge of fastener designs that make it possible."

NATIONAL NAIL

"National Nail's CAMO Edge Fastening system has changed the face of fastener-free surfaces by eliminating fastener-caused splitting and cracking, so consumers can enjoy a lasting outdoor space," says Greg Palmer, marketing director, National Nail. "The result is a beautiful deck surface that is safer for bare feet with no splinters or popped screw heads. The system works with all types of wood, composites and PVC decking, and saves time, labor and money on fasteners."

The CAMO system consists of
CONTINUED ON PAGE 74

UFO's "Patented — Tested — Approved" Ballistic Nail Screws deliver 123 percent more productivity in major projects and, by virtue of being easily removable, are also perfect for green construction.

Lower torque fasteners enhance cordless power tool efficiency and Simpson's new low-torque collated fastener designs enable contractors to drive 500 to 600 screws on a single battery charge. These tools are also beneficial for deck and dock construction because installers don't have to run a generator or worry about tripping over electrical cords.

UFO/UNIVERSAL FASTENER OUTSOURCING

"After twelve years in the market, UFO Ballistic NailScrews (BNS) remain the fastest way to assemble projects with real screws," states Jim Boyd, co-owner and director of sales and marketing for UFO. "Time studies consistently show 123 percent increased production in subfloor installation and other major projects."



BOYD

"Our new slogan, 'Patented — Tested - Approved' reinforces that point. We have also just uploaded a new four-page line card to our website, which also has installation tips, training videos, project photos, testing reports, and technical information for designers, architects and engineers. UFO pneumatic and gas tools and many other applications are covered in our 90-page digital catalog."

UFO Ballistic NailScrews applications include crating and pallets, where a testing report ranked BNS at the highest level, Multi-Use; subfloors and shear walls (IAPMO ES Report #0133 / recognized internationally by IBC and IRC); and wooden trailer flooring: TRAILER MASTER, the fastest way to install. More applications include in-plant manufacturing, using 16- to 12-gauge steel members; and

with glues and composite materials used to make the wood sheathing more environmentally stable.

"The biggest trend in deck fasteners is the growth of hidden fastening systems," says Clark Allen, market segment manager, fasteners, Simpson Strong-Tie. "Homeowners love these systems because they give decks a clean, premium look. Simpson Strong-Tie recently released the EB-TY Premium Hidden Deck-Fastening System that offers a concealed connection to showcase the natural beauty of a deck."



ALLEN

This latest system features a stainless-steel reinforcement plate on top of a polymer fastening biscuit that adds stiffness to hold boards in place securely, while maintaining enough flexibility when seasonal contraction and expansion occur. EB-TY Premium also comes with an innovative pre-drill guide that provides much easier installation.

Simpson Strong-Tie introduced several structural screws in the past year with a special SawTooth tip that provide lower installation torque and eliminate the need for pre-drilling. The new multipurpose Strong-Drive SDWS framing screw, for example, is a load-rated, code-listed fastener that installs quickly and easily and is an ideal replacement for nails, including 16d nails, in a wide range of framing and structural applications.

"Our new collated Strong-Drive WSV Subfloor screw has an aggressive thread design that generates 25 percent less torque during installation in dense sheathing products," Allen continues. "WSW screws can improve long-term fastener performance in subfloor attachment (better than nails) and help reduce floor squeaks, allowing contractors to avoid costly callbacks."

comes 2,500 to a carton.

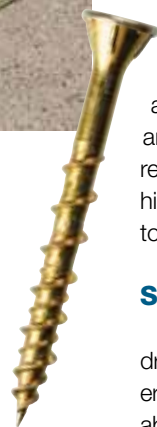
"Because Pneu-Fast is domestic, we are virtually a warehouse for our distributors who do not have to tie up capital for shipments from offshore suppliers," Joseph says. "Yes, at Pneu-Fast we all appreciate a level-playing field, but we aren't depending on it. Our future relies on providing a consistently higher-quality product at a fair price to our partner distributors."

SIMPSON STRONG-TIE

New building materials continue to drive the development of new fasteners. Industry consolidation has enabled companies to increase product development resources and spend more on innovation and R&D — a positive benefit for end users. Subfloor sheathing also continues to advance,

Simpson Strong-Tie engineers are working miracles with the lowly screw. The Strong-Drive SDWS framing screw can replace 16d nails and the WSV subfloor screw generates 25 percent less torque during installation.

when left out in the rain and their acrylic Hi-Bond coating assures what Pneu-Fast says is the strongest holding power in the industry. The SP10D



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National Nail's CAMO Edge Fastening system has been a contractor-preferred method for creating high-end decking projects. Now the CAMO Edge Pro system brings collated speed to beautiful decking work.

proprietary hand-held guides and a stand-up collated version that takes installation speed to the next level called CAMO Edge Pro — all used with proprietary deck screws and driver bits, driven with a power drill into the side of each board and into the joist.

The hand-held guides are designed to fit standard and narrow boards, with a variety of spacing choices. The guides range from \$20 to \$50. The CAMO Edge Pro is powered by a Milwaukee drill and delivers 2 3/8-inch CAMO collated edge deck screws. The package includes the drill, the Edge Pro attachment and a carrying bag.

“With CAMO Edge Fastening, having the boards fastened on both sides makes them more stable and

less likely to warp or twist, for better durability and longevity,” Palmer continues. “National Nail recently expanded its warranty on CAMO Edge Deck Screws to cover the replacement of deck board products, including wood, composites and PVCs, when replacement is directly related to the non-performance of the CAMO system. This adds more assurance that decks will perform as expected no matter the decking material.” **CS**

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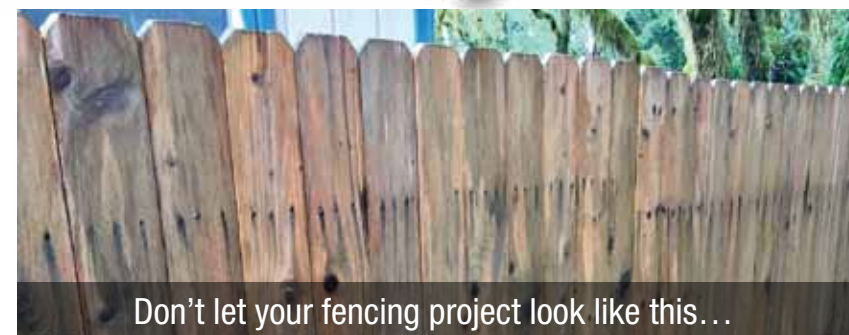
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