

COLLATED & BULK FASTENERS

FOR HIGH-SPEED OR FINE-FINISH, THESE COMPANIES HAVE IT NAILED

Job sites are busier, there aren't enough workers for the work in the pipeline, contractors are scrambling to keep up and productivity is the key to profits. In fastening applications, collated is king, and these manufacturers are satisfying the end-users' need for speed.

SIMPSON STRONG-TIE

"A recent trend in collated fastening is the growing demand for cordless auto-feed options. In response, Simpson Strong-Tie now offers the FEIN ASCS6.3 motor for use with all of our Quik Drive auto-feed screw-driving systems," begins Clark Allen, senior product manager, Fasteners, Simpson Strong-Tie.

"We are designing all of our new fasteners with torque reduction features for easier drive and longer battery life, making them ideal for use with a cordless motor. This is part of the overall trend the past few years for faster and easier auto-feed screw systems that help customers get the job done quicker and with less fatigue."



ALLEN

Adding the cordless driver gives the user more flexibility on the job site by eliminating trip and shock hazards cause by extension cords, saves time by not having to string cords and pick them up, and lets him keep working when there's no power on the job site.

A key factor in developing the Quik Drive systems is ensuring that the tools are consistently reliable on the job. Builders and contractors want tools that avoid skipped screws, do not jam, have unparalleled durability and offer the fastest screw-loading time possible.

Simpson Strong-Tie continues to develop and deliver collated fastening systems like the Deck-Drive DSV wood screw and the WSNTL subfloor screw for productivity-driven contractors.

"Customers choose collated fasteners to get the job done quicker and easier. On large jobs, a few seconds per screw can add up. We took that into consideration when designing the Deck-Drive DSV wood screw for preservative-treated decking. It offers a thread design that greatly reduces driving torque, resulting in faster installation."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 56





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Simpson Strong-Tie's WSNTL subfloor screw system is a dream come true for productivity-driven contractors who want installation speed and squeak-free floors at the end of the job.

With frequent shortages in skilled labor, Simpson also sees growing demand for collated fasteners in drywall work. Contractors need auto-feed systems that help them get the job done faster and potentially with fewer workers. An added benefit is the consistent depth settings that auto-feed systems can provide, making mudding easier.

"With housing starts on the rebound, there's increased demand for subfloor screws," Allen adds. "Contractors want to screw down the subfloor to avoid squeaks and callbacks. Simpson Strong-Tie's Strong-Drive WSNTL subfloor screw is the only 2012 code-listed subfloor screw on the market that provides the optimal solution for securing subfloors while keeping inspectors happy."

SENCO

"Battery operated tools have become commonplace in a number of applications, but corded tools have remained the tool of choice in collated screw system applications until recently," begins Mike Desmond, product manager, SENCO. "Drywall has been the latest segment to adapt to collated fastening systems due to increased speed, safety and efficiencies."



"A number of factors are driving this and one of the most important is job site safety. Safety regulations have been instituted to improve workplace safety and a number of companies have instituted programs designed to avoid lost time and reduce workers compensation claims."

Additionally, the use of collated fastening systems allows users to be more productive with less waste compared to loose screw construction. Advances in tool technology has led to an increased acceptance in traditionally loose applications such as metal to metal framing and sheathing.

"Recently, SENCO received an evaluation report (ESR #3558) from ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) certifying

that 24 self-piercing, self-drilling tapping collated screws meet the 2009 and 2012 International Building Code (IBC) and International Residential Code (IRC) codes."

The fasteners which gained approval are commonly used for connections involving cold-formed steel framing. Common applications include joining drywall/gypsum sheathing to steel, steel to steel framing, steel sheathing to steel framing, and certain wood to steel framing.

"To help professionals be more productive SENCO developed a patent-pending corner-fit feed system that is fully collapsible for better screw placement in tight spaces," Desmond continues. "The belt-drive mechanism delivers smooth operation and requires less user force per drive. The nose piece can accommodate one- to three-inch screws and can be adjusted without the need of tools. With multiple nosepieces, attachment kits and accessories, professionals can create a fully customizable auto-feed solution for any application."

ITW RAMSET

"Since labor is a high percentage of the job cost and steel and concrete demands appear to get harder with every job, the job contractor wants fasteners that will go and stick into concrete and structural steel the first time," states Dave Jablonski, project engineer, ITW Commercial Construction. "ITW Ramset has developed the TE (True Embedment) series of powder actuated fasteners to meet the need to fasten into concrete and steel. Several attributes such as shape, length and fastener hardness make this fastening success rate possible. These fasteners are designed to fit into a variety of Ramset and other competitive powder actuated tools to offer the contractor a choice for their tool and fastener needs."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 58



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The Ramset .157-inch TE pin is sized to provide users with true embedment depths in track up to 14 gauge. Users no longer have to increase the pin size to achieve required embedment. For example, using the one-inch-long .157 TE Pin, produces an actual embedment depth into concrete of one inch. There is no longer a need to use a 1 1/4-inch pin for one-inch embedment.

ITW Ramset TE True Embedment powder actuated fasteners ensure correct embedment depths when fastening steel track up to 14 gauge into concrete. Head markings allow easy inspection.



JABLONSKI

Plus, Ramset's Power Point technology and unique pin design provide easier penetration into hard steel, which reduces failures and increases holding value.

Ramset TE pins are offered in lengths from 1/2 to 1 1/2 inches and are tested to ASTM E1190 & ICC-ES AC70

(March 1, 2010) standards. Head stamps on each pin indicate the embedment depth for easy inspection.

SPI / SCREW PRODUCTS INC.

"In high-end fastening applications, the aesthetic look of the finished project is critical to the overall success of the job," says Rick Pully, vice president of sales, Screw Products, Inc. "Recognizing this, Screw Products, Inc. (SPI) a leading provider of 305 stainless steel and heat-treated hardened steel Star Drive wood screws, has designed its C-Deck Star Drive composite deck screws to virtually eliminate the mushrooming and blemishes that often occur with composite and other plastic materials."

Available in ACQ-compatible coated and stainless steel, these fasteners are also ideal for interior and exterior applications, as well as wood decks, where the top threads work to pull down and hold warped lumber and lock the boards together.



PULLY

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Screw Products' C-Deck Star Drive deck fasteners are available in ACQ-compatible and stainless steel versions in 17 colors to match a wide assortment of composite materials.



coated C-Deck composite deck screws, these products are available in 17 colors to match a wide assortment of composite materials. SPI's CD134 9 x 1 3/4-inch coated composite railing, fence and fascia screws are now also available with a white head in addition to brown, tan, red, white and gray. The extra-sharp point and coarse threads handle even the toughest composite boards.

In addition, SPI also offers a C-DECK composite deck screw assortment kit for the deck builder. Fully loaded with SPI C-Deck fasteners, these kits are easy to carry and slim enough to store just about anywhere.

"Since 1999, Screw Products, Inc. has been a quality provider of fasteners backed by unrivalled customer service," Pully says. "Our complete line of fasteners is available online and at retailers across the country."

FASCO AMERICA

"Big trends in the fastener industry are few and far between, but it's the smaller changes that have us sitting up and taking notice," says Brett McCutcheon, general manager of Fasco America, master distributor of BECK Fastener Group products. "One area in particular is the idea of systems — tools and fasteners designed and partnered to meet the needs of a particular application. Systems are an excellent addition to our 'tool box' because they get us closer to our goal of helping contractors get the job done faster. We understand that increased efficiency equals profit, so we are constantly looking for ways to do just that."

SCRAIL collated fasteners offer unprecedented speed and versatility because they can be driven with a pneumatic nailer at a rate twice as fast as collated screws

CONTINUED ON PAGE 60

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FASCO's Jumbo Scrail comes in 4.5 and 5 inch lengths for attaching high-R-value foam insulation board. Used with a FASCO Jumbo nailer, the system fires off foam installation jobs.

and eight times faster than bulk screws.

The new Jumbo SCRAIL fastener comes in 4.5 and 5 inch lengths, perfect for foam insulation boards that have higher R-values and require longer fasteners to install. Used with the Jumbo nailer, which features a washer



MCCUTCHEON

holder for thick foam board insulation panels, this tool-and-fastener combination can reduce installation times and increase productivity immensely.

BECK Fastener Group's recently launched SCRAIL Metal Roof System for attaching metal to wood, features the SteelThread SCRAIL. The system delivers more than 400 pounds of holding power. It also includes a leak-proof washer and FasCoat coating for improved corrosion resistance and is available in an array of colors.

"SubLoc PRO SCRAIL was developed to avoid the infamous 'squeaky subfloor,' which occurs over time due to micro-movement with the wood," McCutcheon adds. "Driven with a pneumatic nailer, these fasteners reduce the need for callbacks, and inevitably increase customer satisfaction. SubLoc PRO SCRAIL also meets 2012 IBC/IRC standards."

"Another system that continues to perform well this year is the INVISIDECK Hidden Fastening System. Designed for grooved and non-grooved board applications, INVISIDECK dramatically reduces application time while creating deck surfaces that are safe, smooth and free of fastener heads."

MURO NORTH AMERICA

"Muro collated fasteners and tools continue to be a strong category for many of our dealers, particularly since the revival of the construction industry," says Victor Horvath, sales and marketing manager, Muro North America. "We are continually working with our loyal

Muro co-developed collated auto feed fastener systems in the 1980s and has been refining these systems and broadening their applications ever since.

network to provide them avenues for annual growth."

"Collated screws and auto feed tools are what Muro specialize in. Since co-developing the technology back in the 1980s, we remain at the forefront of this industry."

While auto feed technology has been around for several years, Horvath observes that as more of the younger generation enters the industry, they are more apt to trying different things. As a result, Muro is fostering additional new growth through these entities.

"We have many projects on the drawing board to expand our ability to provide logical/practical solutions to people who currently manually drive screws. Some of these initiatives are alliances with visionaries who see opportunities to provide tangible solutions; others are internal projects which we expect will continue to revolutionize the construction/manufacturing industries. Stay tuned for more details on these in the coming months or check out our updated website at www.muro.com."



HORVATH

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Fasteners keep evolving by adding features to streamline steps. For example, pre-drilling, countersinking and even reaming are now one step operations all completed while simply driving the screw. Muro continues to watch the marketplace for new fastener applications.

"We are often contacted to develop unique fasteners for customers, so this part of the business is forever under development," Horvath adds. "Overall, we continue to see a growing trend in the auto-feed markets as we continue to overtake the bulk screw segment. Our motto is simple — Demand the Best!" **cs**



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