



NFDA TODAY

YOUR NATIONAL FASTENER NEWS



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Nick Ruetz

The fall season means a few things for me. First, the end of our golf season up in northern parts of the country is approaching quickly as the leaves turn and eventually fall, football is in full swing at all levels of competition, playoff baseball is heating up, and finally another set of opportunities to connect with industry peers at events like the International

Fastener Expo (IFE) in Las Vegas and the NFDA Executive Summit hosted in Naples this year.

Our hearts and prayers go out to everyone impacted by the devastation hurricane Ian caused in Florida. When the NFDA found out the Naples Grande Beach Resort sustained minimal damage, and was up and fully operational, the Board had a thoughtful conversation about whether to still have the event given the losses many are facing in the immediate area of the resort. We decided that pressing on and supporting the local economy was the right thing to do, and we thank all of you who have registered and are attending.

I hope those who attended the IFE had meaningful meetings and connected with suppliers or distributors. It was energizing for me to connect with many whom I haven't seen since 2020. I was especially elated to be able to shake hands with some suppliers from abroad, some of who I wasn't sure the next time I'd see in person. I'd also like to acknowledge the inductees of the 2022 class to the Fastener Hall of

Fame: Andy Cohn of Duncan Bolt, Rick Rudolph of Rick Rudolph Associates, Tim Malone of Spring Bolt and Nut Manufacturing, and Joseph Volltrauer of Volt Industrial Plastics. Congratulations to Bryan Wheeler of Star Stainless on receiving the Young Fastener Professional of the Year award this year as well.

In the coming weeks the NFDA will be launching a member survey via email and some phone reach-out to help guide the Board and committees in our next round of strategic planning. The survey is aimed at understanding where our membership perceives the most value from the NFDA and what we can do different to both attract and retain members. We have engaged with a third party who specializes in this kind of outreach within associations to ensure we collect beneficial and useful responses. It is my personal plea that you make the time to fill out the survey to help the NFDA in our strategic planning. Member feedback is the single most important driver to making our association thrive. As many before me have said, and I'll echo, you only get out of an association what you put into it. This is one of those times that the association needs you all to contribute.

Finally, a brief word on premier partnerships. The NFDA offers the opportunity for partnerships outside of your regular dues. I would invite you to check out the levels and benefits you'll receive should you partner with NFDA on the website under the "join" section.

Enjoy this fall weather wherever you are. For us northerners, it will be snowing before we know it.



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Interested in having an ad in the next issue of NFDA Today? Contact Amy Nijjar to make the arrangements: amy@nfda-fastener.org or 562-799-5519. You also can view information on our website. Click on Advertising in the menu.

NFDA CALENDAR

Visit the NFDA website at www.nfda-fastener.org for more information

JOIN US FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:

November 9-11, 2022

Executive Summit
– Naples, FL

December 14, 2022

NFDA/YFP Virtual
Holiday Celebration

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE 2023 EVENTS!

March 16, 2023 – Virtual Program

May 11, 2023 – Virtual Program

June 13-14, 2023 – Annual Meeting – Chicago, IL

September 28, 2023 – CEO/Executive Virtual Roundtable

October 25-27, 2023 – Executive Summit – Scottsdale, AZ

November 30, 2023 – Virtual Program

December 14, 2023 – NFDA/YFP Virtual Holiday Celebration



ASSOCIATE CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Mike Robinson

and everyone out there from the fastener world.

2022 has been a busy year for everyone; acquisitions, mergers, record months of sales, backlogs, in-person events, virtual events, constant updates on the economy, and supply chain getting back to a little bit of normalcy. I enjoyed our NFDA in-person events including the ESPS as well as our quarterly virtual

It seems like yesterday I was writing this for our summer newsletter and somehow the leaves are already changing, so as my wife would say "Happy Fall Y'all!" Hopefully everyone enjoyed the IFE show in Vegas as it seemed to be well attended. We were able to see manufacturers, master distributors, distributors, software companies,

events. I found these to be invaluable opportunities to discuss various challenges and opportunities with fellow members of the NFDA. If you want to receive all the benefits of our organization, it is imperative that you participate in these events. I strongly encourage attending one of our upcoming events. We have our Executive Summit coming up on November 9th in Naples, Florida where you will get the chance to see a presentation by NFDA's Fastener Professional of the Year Tim O'Keefe, and a panel discussion with Jun Xu (BBI), Bryan Wheeler (Star Stainless), and Sebastian Janas (Sems and Specials). We also have our virtual YFP/NFDA Holiday Party on December 14th. This event is full of laughs, holiday fun, and great comradery by all. If you can't make it to any of those events, please mark your calendars for next year's in-person events:

- June 2023 Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois
- October 2023 Executive Summit in Scottsdale, Arizona

WELCOME NEW NFDA MEMBERS!

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TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



The Fastener Training Institute® offers the following opportunities to increase your fastener knowledge:

FASTENER TRAINING WEEK:

- **November 14-18, 2022** – Los Angeles
- **April 3-7, 2023** – Cleveland
- **August 21-25, 2023** – Chicago
- **December 4-8, 2023** – Los Angeles

NFDA members receive discounted registration on all FTI classroom seminars. For more information and a list of all FTI events visit www.fastenertraining.org

MEET THE 2022-2023 NFDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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NFDA STANDARDS ACTIVITY UPDATE Q3 2022 — John Medcalf

A common theme in distribution over the past year plus has been the tug of war between high customer demand and increasing lead times from suppliers. As a result, the technical resources in many organizations have spent more time evaluating alternatives and fill-in parts than working on their traditional projects. Standards work then falls even further down the priority list. However, well-defined fastener standards are a key element in ensuring those interchangeable fill-in parts work in the first place.

A second common theme in many industries is the amount of knowledge being lost as the great retirement of baby boomers continues at an increasing rate. The industry joke is that once you get into fasteners you never get out, and fastener standards meetings certainly reflect that with many long-standing contributors. However, whether it is fastener users or suppliers, our industry and the related standards committees are starting to see the effects of retirement – even though many have stuck it out well past 67 for love of the work. Fortunately, participation in the committees is a great way to learn from those resources before they step away.

So where am I going with all of this? If you are reading this article, you likely realize you are a stakeholder in the fastener standards process. In fact, distributors have a valuable role in writing effective standards, as they use them both as purchasers and sellers of the products. This viewpoint helps ensure a balance of technical requirements with commercial viability. As a result, I challenge those reading this to consider prioritizing participation in standards development. The part shortages will pass, but the knowledge gap will only grow wider, and standards development will suffer, unless we increase engagement.

How and where should you get involved? If you sell inch fasteners, participation in ASME Committee B18 covers most dimensional standards, and B1 covers thread standards. ASTM F16 is the predominant committee for material, coating, and testing standards, with some still found within the SAE Fastener Committee. If you sell metric fasteners, you will want to participate in ASME B18 Subcommittee 4 to get involved in ISO standards development, and ASTM covers some metric material, coating, and testing requirements as well as the link to the ISO coatings

subcommittee. If you are interested but unsure of the process for joining any of these committees, feel free to reach out to me and I can get you connected to the proper channel.

The ROI of participation can be hard to quantify, but just a few benefits to individuals and organizations as published by ASME include:

- Interact and network with and learn from the foremost technical experts in a given field.
- Become aware of technical issues in the industry, learn how others deal with them, and how to avoid or resolve similar issues in your organization.
- Realize the satisfaction of seeing your own efforts incorporated into a globally recognized body of work.
- Be confident your organization's interests are thoroughly considered in standards development, revisions, and requirements.
- Ensure your organization is aware of revisions to standards and understands their technical basis.
- Enhance public health and safety.
- Enhance access to global markets and reduce barriers to trade.

In closing, fastener standards play a vital role in our industry, and active participation by key stakeholders is essential. Please consider the benefits participation will provide to the industry, your company, and the participant, and get involved!

Please email your standards related comments, concerns, or questions to John at standards@nfda-fastener.org

Communication between NFDA members and the NFDA technical standard representative (the "Representative") through email or otherwise is provided by NFDA as a courtesy to its members. NFDA provides no assurance as to the accuracy, completeness, or timeliness of any statement made by the Representative to the member or fastener technical standards organizations. Neither NFDA nor the Representative makes any representation as to whether any statement of the Representative is consistent or compliant with fastener technical standards. Neither NFDA nor the Representative shall be responsible for any loss or damage suffered by the member or any other person as the direct or indirect result of any statement made by the representative.



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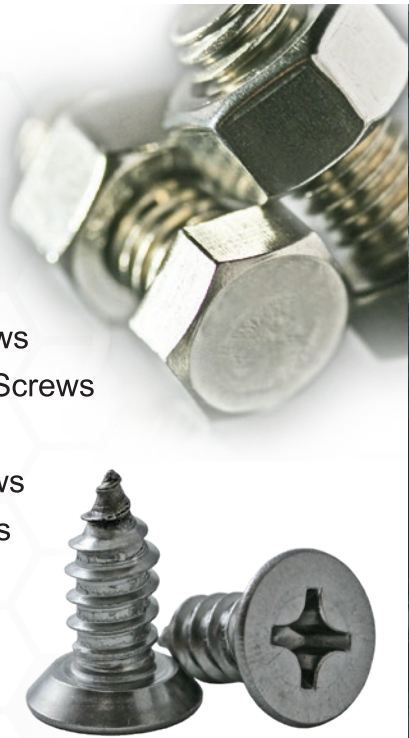
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We look forward to seeing you next year in Las Vegas.

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OCTOBER 9-11 | LAS VEGAS, NV



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