



For Immediate Release

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Pac-West creates nonprofit subsidiary for Fastener Training Institute and new Fastener Education Foundation

For years the Pacific-West Fastener Association has been at the forefront of fastener training, particularly with its Fastener Training Institute advanced technical programs on standards and specifications.

Pac-West's commitment to fastener industry professional development has taken a leap forward, by creating a new nonprofit corporation for the Fastener Training Institute (FTI), as well as a new nonprofit foundation, the Fastener Education Foundation (FEF).

The core purpose of the Fastener Training Institute is to enhance fastener use, reliability and safety. By providing fastener product and technical training at all levels of industrial distribution, FTI can achieve its goal of strengthening the industry and its personnel in all segments.

In addition to its current range of product training and advanced technical training programs delivered at sites throughout the United States, FTI is embarking on development of online, on-demand fastener training.

The inaugural Board of Directors for the new Fastener Training Institute nonprofit corporation includes:

- John Wachman (Desert Distribution, Scottsdale, Arizona)
- Andy Cohn (Duncan Bolt, Santa Fe Springs, California)
- Kelly Cole (WCL Company, City of Industry, California)
- Jennifer Harder (Empire Bolt & Screw, Spokane, Washington)
- Dallas Puckett (Valley Nut & Bolt, Olympia, Washington)

The purpose of the newly created Fastener Education Foundation is to enhance public safety through fastener education. Its goal is to raise funds for fastener education and research that will develop, strengthen and educate the entire industry.

The Foundation will be led by a full spectrum of fastener industry companies. The FEF Board will include a team from FTI and Pac-West to insure its sustainability while it develops the vision and strategic goals laid out by its founders, along with the insights of other industry leaders.

In announcing the creation of FTI and FEF, Pac-West president Tracy Lehman (Pacific Warehouse Sales, Chino, California) said, "This is a historic endeavor that will support knowledge and professionalism in our industry. My thanks go to all who have worked so hard to develop our Fastener Training Institute into what it is today: John Wachman, Carmen Vertullo, Andy Cohn, Jim Law, Kelly Cole, Joe Greenslade, Salim Brahim, and Laurence Claus."

For more information about the Fastener Training Institute and its programs, visit www.FastenerTraining.org or contact FTI president John Wachman, john@desertdistribution.com

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