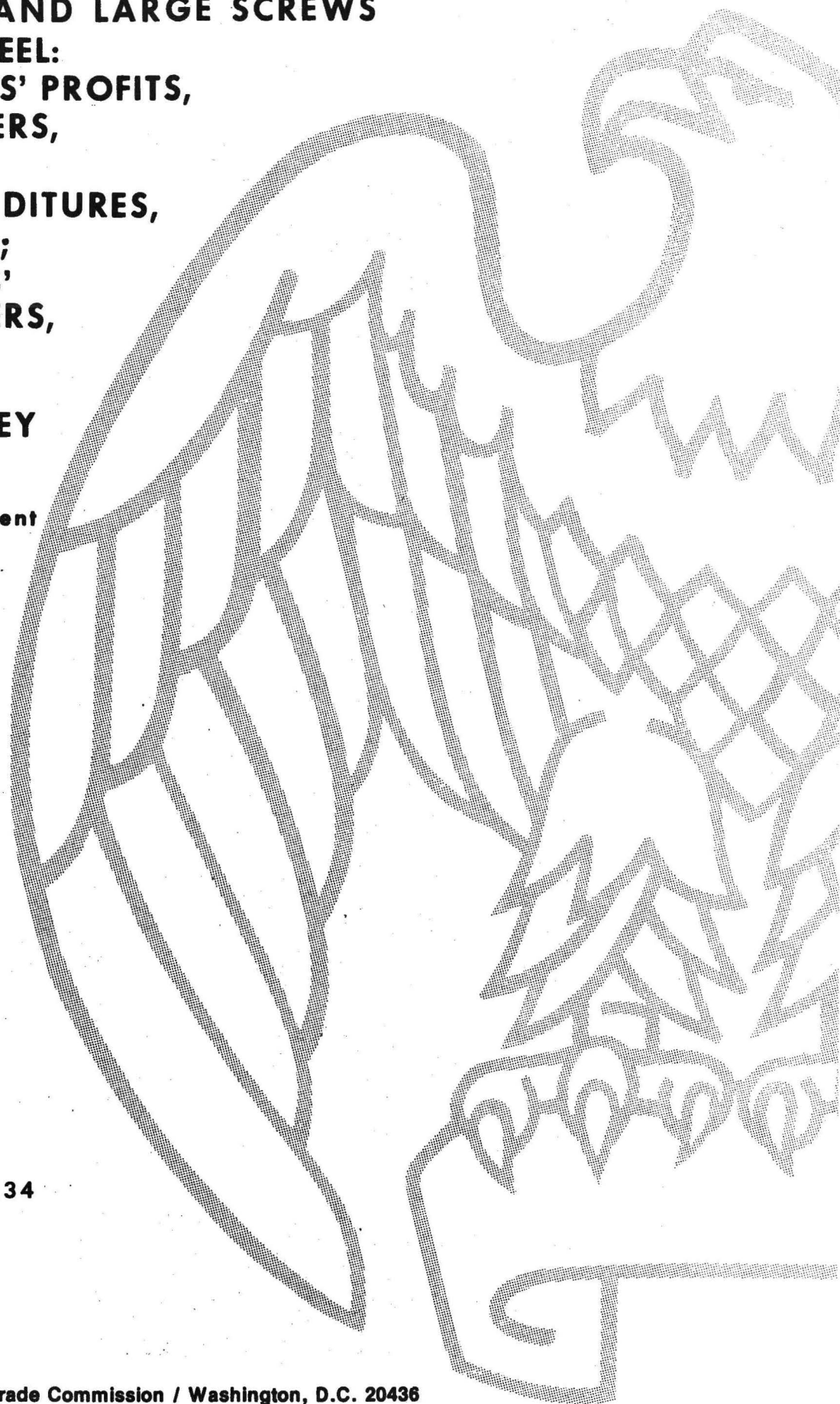


**BOLTS, NUTS, AND LARGE SCREWS
OF IRON OR STEEL:
U.S. PRODUCERS' PROFITS,
UNFILLED ORDERS,
INVENTORIES,
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES,
AND CAPACITY;
U.S. IMPORTERS'
UNFILLED ORDERS,
INVENTORIES,
AND PRICES --
ANNUAL SURVEY
1980**

**Report to the President
on Investigation
No. 332-103
Under Section 332
of the Tariff Act
of 1930**

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UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

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Summary Highlights of the Third Annual Surveys of U.S. Producers and
Importers of Bolts, Nuts, and Large Screws of Iron or Steel

Profits

The profit performance of U.S. producers of bolts, nuts, and large screws registered a downward trend during the first three quarters of 1980, before increasing about two percentage points during the last quarter of 1980. The ratio of net operating profit to net sales decreased from 10.4 percent in the first quarter to 8.1 percent in the last quarter. The annual ratio of net operating profit to sales, however, was 7.9 percent in 1980 compared with 8.3 percent in 1979.

U.S. producers' and importers' unfilled orders

U.S. producers' unfilled orders of bolts, nuts, and large screws totaled 212 million pounds in the first quarter of 1980, which was 20 percent less than the first quarter of 1979 but 12 percent larger than unfilled orders in the last quarter of 1980. Importers' unfilled orders totaled 126 million pounds in the first quarter of 1980, representing a 30 percent increase over the first quarter of 1979, and a 47 percent increase compared to the last quarter of 1980.

U.S. producers' and importers' inventories

During the first quarter of 1980, U.S. producers' inventories of bolts, nuts, and large screws totaled 159 million pounds, about 2 percent less than in the first quarter of 1979 but about the same as inventories in the last quarter of 1980. Inventories reported by U.S. importers increased during each of the periods under discussion and totaled 302 million pounds in the last quarter of 1980.

II

Capital expenditures

U.S. producers' capital expenditures totaled \$34 million in 1980, which was about 30 percent less than capital expenditures in 1979.

Capacity

The manufacturing capacity of U.S. producers of bolts, nuts and large screws in 1980 decreased 10 percent from the 1979 level. For bolts and large screws, producers' capacity declined from 1.2 billion pounds to 1 billion pounds. U.S. producers' capacity to manufacture nuts, however, increased from 431 million pounds to 476 million pounds.

Importers' prices

The average lowest net selling prices received by importers on sales of six representative fastener products during each quarter of 1980 were, on an average about 7 percent higher than prices received by importers during the comparable periods of 1979.

III

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
1. Profit-and-loss experience of U.S. producers on their bolt, nut, and large screw operations, 1976-Dec. 1980-----	1
2. Bolts, nuts, and large screws: Unfilled orders held by U.S. producers and importers, by specified dates, June 30, 1976-Dec. 31, 1980-----	2
3. Bolts, nuts, and large screws: Inventories held by U.S. producers and importers, by specified dates, June 30, 1976-Dec. 31, 1980-----	3
4. Bolts, nuts, and large screws: Total capital expenditures by U.S. producers, 1976-1980-----	4
5. Bolts, nuts, and large screws: U.S. producers' capacity 1976-80-----	5
6. Bolts, nuts, and large screws: Ranges and averages of lowest net selling prices received by importers to distributors, by specified periods, January 1976-Dec. 1980-----	6
7. Bolts, nuts, and large screws: Ranges and averages of lowest net selling prices received by importers to distributors, by specified periods, January 1976-Dec. 1980-----	7
8. Bolts, nuts, and large screws: Ranges and averages of lowest net selling prices received by importers to distributors, by specified periods, January 1976-Dec. 1980-----	8

Table 1.—Profit-and-loss experience of U.S. producers on their bolt, nut,
and large screw operations, 1976-Dec. 1980

Item	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980 ^{1/}	1980			
						Jan. - Mar.	April - June	July - Sept.	Oct. Dec.
Net sales-----1,000 dollars--	692,694	694,280	852,779	843,235	665,093	189,923	162,733	151,986	160,451
Cost of goods sold-----do----	524,326	522,879	683,709	690,005	522,725	147,929	130,220	117,828	126,748
Gross profit-----do----	168,368	141,401	169,070	153,230	142,368	41,994	32,513	34,158	33,703
Selling and administrative expenses 1,000 dollars--	89,708	88,548	105,683	83,032	89,656	22,309	21,819	24,760	20,768
Net operating profit-----do----	78,660	52,853	63,387	70,198	52,712	19,685	10,694	9,398	12,935
Other income or (expenses)-----do----	145	(411)	(6,112)	(10,813)	(11,121)	(132)	(409)	373 ^{2/}	(10,953)
Net profit before income taxes-----do----	78,805	52,442	57,275	59,385	41,591	19,553	10,285	9,771	1,982
Ratio of net operating profit to Net sales-----percent--	11.4	7.6	7.4	8.3	7.9	10.4	6.6	6.2	8.1

^{1/} Data were submitted by 35 producers.

^{2/} Reflects a substantial expense of one producer.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 2.--Bolts, nuts, and large screws: Unfilled orders held by
U.S. producers and importers, by specified
dates, June 30, 1976-Dec. 31, 1980

(In millions of pounds)

Date	U.S. producers' unfilled orders	Importers' unfilled orders ^{1/}
June 30, 1976-----	176 :	152
Dec. 31, 1976-----	189 :	131
June 30, 1977-----	196 :	113
Dec. 31, 1977-----	198 :	142
Mar. 31, 1978-----	183 :	109
June 30, 1978-----	202 :	116
Sept. 30, 1978-----	207 :	94
Dec. 31, 1978-----	223 :	101
Mar. 31, 1979-----	265 :	97
June 30, 1979-----	289 :	94
Sept. 30, 1979-----	250 :	95
Dec. 31, 1979-----	218 :	91
Mar. 31, 1980-----	212 :	126
June 30, 1980-----	183 :	108
Sept. 30, 1980-----	184 :	68
Dec. 31, 1980-----	186 :	67

^{1/} Estimated from a survey of importers which accounted for approximately 50 percent of the quantity of total U.S. imports in 1977.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 3.--Bolts, nuts, and large screws: Inventories held by
U.S. producers and importers, by specified dates,
June 30, 1976-Dec. 31, 1980

(In millions of pounds)

Date	U.S. producers' inventories	Importers' inventories <u>1/</u>
June 30, 1976-----	230 :	233
Dec. 31, 1976-----	245 :	319
June 30, 1977-----	215 :	320
Dec. 31, 1977-----	208 :	283
March 31, 1978-----	164 :	276
June 30, 1978-----	194 :	303
Sept. 30, 1978-----	151 :	304
Dec. 31, 1978-----	148 :	315
March 31, 1979-----	163 :	229
June 30, 1979-----	174 :	245
Sept. 30, 1979-----	174 :	248
Dec. 31, 1979-----	176 :	281
March 31, 1980-----	159 :	271
June 30, 1980-----	155 :	310
Sept. 30, 1980-----	147 :	328
Dec. 31, 1980-----	157 :	302

1/ Estimated from a survey of importers which accounted for approximately 50 percent of the quantity of total U.S. imports in 1977.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 4.--Bolts, nuts, and large screws: Total capital expenditures by
U.S. producers, 1976-1980

(In thousands of dollars)

Period	Total capital expenditures
1976-----	32,194
1977-----	38,314
1978-----	35,404
1979-----	48,652
1980-----	34,439

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the
U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 5.--Bolts, nuts, and large screws: U.S. producers' capacity, 1/ 1976-80.

(In millions of pounds)						
Item	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	
Bolts and large screws-----	1,651	1,598	1,544	1,264	1,044	
Nuts-----	538	533	452	431	476	
Total-----	2,187	2,131	1,996	1,695	1,520	

1/ Capacity is defined as the normal sustained production that can be achieved on an annual basis and is based upon a firm's average product mix during 1976-80 with allowance made for anticipated maintenance downtime.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 6.--Bolts, nuts, and large screws: Ranges and averages of lowest net selling prices received by importers to distributors, by specified periods, January 1976-Dec. 1980

Period	Import price	
	Range	Average
	Per 1,000 pieces	Per 1,000 pieces
Cap screws, grade 2, 3/8" - 16 x 1"		
1976:		
Jan.-Mar---	11.37- 15.90 :	13.50
Apr.-June---	12.28- 15.90 :	14.32
July-Sept---	12.85- 15.95 :	14.74
Oct.-Dec---	10.16- 16.90 :	14.50
1977:		
Jan.-Mar---	13.44- 17.25 :	15.06
Apr.-June---	13.36- 17.25 :	14.79
July-Sept---	12.70- 18.15 :	14.88
Oct.-Dec---	12.67- 18.15 :	14.99
1978:		
Jan.-Mar---	13.66- 19.06 :	16.24
Apr.-June---	15.03- 19.93 :	17.83
July-Sept---	16.09- 22.00 :	19.10
Oct.-Dec---	16.72- 22.36 :	19.85
1979:		
Jan.-Mar---	17.89- 20.12 :	19.16
Apr.-June---	19.15- 21.48 :	19.88
July-Sept---	19.49- 23.20 :	20.88
Oct.-Dec---	18.99- 23.20 :	20.60
1980:		
Jan.-Mar---	17.70- 26.25 :	21.34
Apr.-June---	17.45- 25.41 :	21.07
July-Sept---	16.92- 25.41 :	21.49
Oct.-Dec---	17.32- 24.86 :	21.26
Cap screws, grade 8, 3/8" - 16 x 1		
1976:		
Jan.-Mar---	20.24- 29.79 :	25.02
Apr.-June---	22.09- 27.82 :	24.96
July-Sept---	21.40- 29.77 :	24.86
Oct.-Dec---	21.40- 29.77 :	24.72
1977:		
Jan.-Mar---	22.54- 40.30 :	27.63
Apr.-June---	21.40- 40.30 :	27.87
July-Sept---	21.28- 40.30 :	26.41
Oct.-Dec---	21.67- 40.30 :	27.12
1978:		
Jan.-Mar---	22.70- 44.10 :	29.38
Apr.-June---	23.90- 44.10 :	31.76
July-Sept---	26.39- 55.00 :	37.93
Oct.-Dec---	28.42- 52.50 :	38.16
1979:		
Jan.-Mar---	28.42- 36.52 :	32.40
Apr.-June---	28.42- 36.52 :	32.52
July-Sept---	29.41- 38.18 :	33.92
Oct.-Dec---	20.62- 36.94 :	30.78
1980:		
Jan.-Mar---	28.01- 36.31 :	32.94
Apr.-June---	21.25- 34.52 :	33.67
July-Sept---	28.01- 39.51 :	33.15
Oct.-Dec---	25.60- 36.80 :	30.59

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 7.--Bolts, nuts, and large screws: Ranges and averages of lowest net selling prices received by importers to distributors, by specified periods, January 1976-Dec. 1980

Period	Import price	
	Range	Average
	Per 1,000 pieces	Per 1,000 pieces
Hexagon Nuts, 1/4" - 20		
1976:		
Jan.-Mar---	1.71- 2.70 :	2.21
Apr.-June---	1.71- 2.61 :	2.17
July-Sept---	1.68- 2.84 :	2.31
Oct.-Dec---	1.80- 3.01 :	2.35
1977:		
Jan.-Mar---	2.10- 2.94 :	2.47
Apr.-June---	2.10- 2.94 :	2.40
July-Sept---	2.00- 3.10 :	2.47
Oct.-Dec---	2.20- 3.10 :	2.52
1978:		
Jan.-Mar---	2.44- 3.50 :	2.84
Apr.-June---	2.87- 4.60 :	3.96
July-Sept---	3.65- 4.91 :	4.24
Oct.-Dec---	3.55- 4.91 :	4.16
1979:		
Jan.-Mar---	3.50- 4.43 :	3.97
Apr.-June---	3.60- 4.50 :	3.86
July-Sept---	3.30- 4.50 :	3.75
Oct.-Dec---	3.20- 4.50 :	3.67
1980:		
Jan.-Mar---	2.99- 5.04 :	4.03
Apr.-June---	3.19- 4.88 :	4.01
July-Sept---	3.00- 4.88 :	3.94
Oct.-Dec---	3.20- 4.88 :	3.84
Hexagon Nuts 1/2" - 13		
1976:		
Jan.-Mar---	9.15- 13.50 :	11.79
Apr.-June---	9.00- 14.98 :	12.22
July-Sept---	8.84- 15.44 :	12.78
Oct.-Dec---	10.67- 15.73 :	13.07
1977:		
Jan.-Mar---	10.60- 15.19 :	12.76
Apr.-June---	10.58- 14.02 :	12.51
July-Sept---	9.13- 16.90 :	12.66
Oct.-Dec---	10.04- 16.90 :	12.77
1978:		
Jan.-Mar---	10.49- 18.50 :	14.01
Apr.-June---	10.68- 23.28 :	18.59
July-Sept---	14.49- 24.60 :	20.54
Oct.-Dec---	17.00- 24.60 :	20.73
1979:		
Jan.-Mar---	18.00- 22.02 :	19.78
Apr.-June---	17.00- 22.02 :	19.26
July-Sept---	15.30- 22.02 :	18.35
Oct.-Dec---	16.20- 22.02 :	18.01
1980:		
Jan.-Mar---	16.53- 25.02 :	20.25
Apr.-June---	16.80- 24.75 :	20.23
July-Sept---	16.30- 24.75 :	20.35
Oct.-Dec---	16.50- 24.75 :	20.19

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 8.--Bolts, nuts, and large screws: Ranges and averages of lowest net selling prices received by importers to distributors, by specified periods, January 1976-Dec. 1980

Period	Import price	
	Range	Average
	Per 1,000 pieces	Per 1,000 pieces
Structural bolts, A325, with nut, 3/4" x 2		
1976:		
Jan.-Mar---	212.50- 282.00	238.95
Apr.-June---	189.00- 282.00	239.13
July-Sept---	217.00- 282.00	238.62
Oct.-Dec---	194.00- 298.73	231.91
1977:		
Jan.-Mar---	204.09- 283.74	232.33
Apr.-June---	203.00- 283.74	230.17
July-Sept---	205.29- 283.74	243.65
Oct.-Dec---	205.97- 288.31	248.71
1978:		
Jan.-Mar---	246.00- 293.69	275.18
Apr.-June---	267.72- 346.00	306.03
July-Sept---	295.42- 373.69	333.29
Oct.-Dec---	310.75- 411.06	344.06
1979:		
Jan.-Mar---	264.50- 359.86	319.07
Apr.-June---	239.00- 369.09	311.48
July-Sept---	222.05- 378.04	338.06
Oct.-Dec---	238.85- 385.00	345.93
1980:		
Jan.-Mar---	319.49- 386.58	358.07
Apr.-June---	331.13- 381.37	354.64
July-Sept---	331.13- 381.37	358.29
Oct.-Dec---	269.23- 400.67	358.58
Carriage bolts, 3/8" x 3"		
1976:		
Jan.-Mar---	21.94- 37.77	31.21
Apr.-June---	24.93- 37.77	32.32
July-Sept---	29.60- 39.20	32.94
Oct.-Dec---	29.23- 38.85	34.01
1977:		
Jan.-Mar---	29.50- 41.36	36.14
Apr.-June---	28.50- 42.02	35.09
July-Sept---	26.00- 47.08	35.37
Oct.-Dec---	29.58- 47.08	35.85
1978:		
Jan.-Mar---	31.29- 47.08	38.47
Apr.-June---	34.24- 46.35	41.86
July-Sept---	40.10- 47.61	44.75
Oct.-Dec---	42.00- 50.93	45.09
1979:		
Jan.-Mar---	41.00- 46.66	44.79
Apr.-June---	40.00- 47.56	45.31
July-Sept---	41.00- 50.39	46.57
Oct.-Dec---	42.00- 52.29	46.30
1980:		
Jan.-Mar---	42.35- 64.60	51.47
Apr.-June---	42.00- 64.60	52.12
July-Sept---	42.00- 64.60	51.02
Oct.-Dec---	43.00- 64.60	51.81

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

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