

SUPPORTING INNOVATION THROUGH EXPERIENCE

With its 70-year-long history, **Growermetal** has grown into a global fastener industry leader, driving innovation and precision in washer manufacturing

From a small workshop in 1950s Italy to a global leader in the fastener industry, Growermetal has turned washer manufacturing into a tradition. But in a world where innovation is key, resting on past achievements is not an option. So, how does a company with decades of experience stay ahead of the curve? “More than just relying on our know-how, it is essential for us to combine our heritage with a relentless focus on innovation, investing in cutting-edge technologies and fostering partnerships that drive new ideas,” says Paolo Cattaneo, CEO of Growermetal.

“By staying agile and responsive to the ever-evolving needs of our customers, we ensure that our products not only meet the highest standards today but also anticipate the demands of tomorrow. Of course, we must extend this approach to every part of our work, from the variety of the washer range to the efficiency of our processes.”

With a customised approach, comprehensive service and in-house production, today Growermetal supports not only local and European customers but also the US and South American markets through its sales branches. This is reflected in many advantages offered, which include greater flexibility, in-time delivery services and the personalisation of orders to customer’s specific requirements.

As mentioned, one of the main strengths of the system lies in the structure of the Calco facility. With the departments strictly connected, Growermetal keeps workflow running smoothly and is supported by several services, including coating lines and surface treatments.

“The choice of design isn’t the only aspect to take into consideration: the different treatments are pivotal for effective performance, also because we work across many challenging sectors including railway, automotive, aerospace, oil & gas extraction and many more,” points out Paolo.

Growermetal ensures its products can withstand all types of weather conditions, offering heat treatments, mechanical zinc plating and zinc flaking combined with material and design choices.

The variety of geometries is another factor that has contributed

to Growermetal competitiveness, with a portfolio of 4,500 washers and over 2,500 special parts created on customers’ requirements. This array meets every need and includes external and internal toothed washers, flat washers, conical elastic washers, spring washers and spherical washers. Among others, the company manufactures sealing push-in caps, metallic parts with EPDM inserts, and special stamped components.

In addition, since 2019 Growermetal has launched its branded product line, with the first exclusive safety washer Grower TenKeep® followed by the innovative preassembled set Grower SpheraTech® in 2023. It’s no surprise that the company has obtained third and second place at the Route to Fastener Innovation for these designs during the 2019 and 2023 editions.

“Where there is innovation, there is also Growermetal,” says Paolo. “Our products are the expression of this constant research for the most efficient solutions. We work to make customers’ applications and assemblies easier, more reliable, and long-lasting, and then we study and test the best designs to achieve this goal.”

After the launch of Grower Detecto® and Grower Reaction® exclusive designs, the company prepares to announce a new product, which is making its first appearance at the 2024 edition of the IZB – International Supplies Fair from 22 to 24 October.

“Having the opportunity to show a design tailored for automotive application for the first time, in front of an international audience of key automotive industry players is incredible,” adds Michela Mauri, Growermetal’s Marketing Manager. “The transition towards electric vehicles has pushed the fastener industry towards lightweight materials and the integration of technology 4.0. Not to mention, the improvement in safety and reliability of performance is paramount. Growermetal’s new washer design is born from the desire to enhance application in EVs, combining efficiency and technical expertise.”

While Fastener Fair Italy 2024 and AEROMART 2024 approach, the company is getting ready to welcome some more news by the beginning of 2025.

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