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U.S. Cutting Tool Consumption Grew 8.3 Percent in 2017

December U.S. cutting tool consumption totaled $175.00 million according to the U.S. Cutting Tool Institute (USCTI) and AMT – The Association For Manufacturing Technology. This total, as reported by companies participating in the Cutting Tool Market Report collaboration, was down 5.4 percent from November’s $185.00 million and up 10.0 percent when compared with the $159.17 million reported for December 2016. With a year-to-date total of $2.195 billion, 2017 is up 8.3 percent when compared with 2016.

These numbers and all data in this report are based on the totals reported by the companies participating in the CTMR program. The totals here represent the majority of the U.S. market for cutting tools.

“After posting two years of a shrinking cutting tool market, it is great to see 2017 turned the corner and finished in the black with a solid increase over 2016. The economy appears to be firing on all cylinders with companies expanding, manufacturing jobs being added and overall productivity improving,” said Phil Kurtz, President of USCTI. “These trends all look to continue into 2018. The last-minute new tax cuts will further bolster the growth as companies use the savings to replace old machines or buy new ones to expand capacity. We hope for continued growth through 2018.”

(more)
“Because cutting tool demand is directly associated with industrial output, it is my opinion that our cutting tool data is a leading indicator of industrial activity,” said Costikyan Jarvis, President of Jarvis Cutting Tools. “Early in 2015, the cutting tool data started showing year-over-year contraction, and unfortunately, the data was correct and 2015 and 2016 saw declining demand. Happily, 2017 ends with total cutting tool demand showing very strong growth. When you combine the cutting tool data with other December indicators (PMI of 59.3, Manufacturing Capacity Utilization at 76.4 percent, and Consumer Confidence at 122.1), all indicators are pointing to a strong 2018.”

The Cutting Tool Market Report is jointly compiled by AMT and USCTI, two trade associations representing the development, production and distribution of cutting tool technology and products. It provides a monthly statement on U.S. manufacturers’ consumption of the primary consumable in the manufacturing process – the cutting tool. Analysis of cutting tool consumption is a leading indicator of both upturns and downturns in U.S. manufacturing activity, as it is a true measure of actual production levels.

Historical data for the Cutting Tool Market Report is available dating back to January 2012. This collaboration of AMT and USCTI is the first step in the two associations working together to promote and support U.S.-based manufacturers of cutting tool technology.

(CTRM data is also available at www.AMTonline.org)

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AMT – The Association For Manufacturing Technology represents U.S.-based builders and distributors of manufacturing technology – the advanced machinery, devices, and digital equipment that U.S. manufacturing relies on to be productive, innovative, and competitive. Located in McLean, VA, near the nation’s capital, AMT acts as the industry’s voice to speed the pace of innovation, increase global competitiveness and develop manufacturing’s advanced workforce of tomorrow. With extensive expertise in industry data and intelligence, as well as a full complement of international business operations, AMT offers its members an unparalleled level of support. AMT also produces IMTS – The International Manufacturing Technology Show, the premier manufacturing technology event in North America. The CTPG report is compiled by AMT and all data in the report is based on the totals of actual data reported by companies participating in the CTPG program.

The United States Cutting Tool Institute (USCTI) was formed in 1988 and resulted from a merger of two national associations representing the cutting tool manufacturing industry. The Institute works to represent, promote, and expand the U.S. cutting tool industry and to promote the benefits of buying American-made cutting tools manufactured by its members. Membership includes North American manufacturers and/or remanufacturers of cutting tools, as well as tool surface treatment providers. Members, which number over 70, belong to ten product divisions: Carbide Tooling, Drill & Reamer, Metal Cutting Saw Blades, Milling Cutter, Polycrystalline Diamond & Polycrystalline Cubic Born Nitride, Substrate Materials, Surface Coating, Tap & Die, Tool Holder and All Other Tooling. A wide range of activities include a comprehensive statistics program, human resources surveys, development of product specifications and standards, and semi-annual meetings to share ideas and receive information on key industry trends.