

# NEWS RELEASE

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## 2002 ANNUAL FORGING INDUSTRY SALES RELEASED BY FORGING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

### *Orders/shipments reflect bleak economy*

CLEVELAND, OHIO -- Final revised figures showing 2002 sales of metal forgings produced by independent (custom) forging plants in the United States, Canada and Mexico have been released by Forging Industry Association (FIA). Figures are broken out by the three major forging processes.

#### CUSTOM FORGING INDUSTRY SALES IN NORTH AMERICA <sup>(1)</sup> (encompassing all metals forged in millions of U.S. \$)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Impression Die</u>	<u>Open Die</u>	<u>Seamless Rings</u>
2002	4041.2	682.2	532.9
2001	4460.2	763.1	662.6
2000	4694.7	745.1	606.6
1999	4637.5	725.2	607.7
1998	4842.9	874.9	751.0
1997	4584.8	898.3	671.7
1996	3816.2	860.7	506.3
1995	3625.8	817.2	455.3
1994	3322.9	716.8	383.8
1993	2793.6	678.4	347.4
1992	2812.2	658.8	399.8

## CUSTOM IMPRESSION DIE FORGING

Total industry shipments for the custom impression die forging industry decreased to \$4,041,199,000 in 2002, 9% below the \$4,460,236,000 in 2001. Bookings of impression die forging orders during 2002 decreased to \$3,745,032,000 14% below the 2001 figure of \$4,363,378,000. The automotive sector (passenger cars/light trucks/SUV's and parts) made up the largest percentage of impression die industry sales at 37.5% share of total custom impression die market, up from 32.1% in 2001. Aerospace applications (including engines, aircraft parts, auxiliary equipment and guided missiles and space vehicles) composed the second largest segment at 23.9%, down from 30.6 % in 2001.

## CUSTOM OPEN DIE FORGING

Total industry shipments by the custom open die forging industry in 2001 dropped to \$682,208,000, 10.6% below 2001's volume of \$763,051,000. Bookings of open die forging orders during 2002 amounted to \$674,611,000, 10.2% below the \$750,999,000 in 2001. In 2002, construction, mining and materials handling equipment remained the leading open die market segment with 15% of total industry sales, about the same as 2001. Steel works, blast furnaces and rolling & finishing mills rose to the second largest market segment, accounting for 11 % of industry output, up from 10.4 % in 2001. General industrial machinery and equipment moved up to the third largest market category at 10.8%, up from its 9.8% market share in 2001.

## CUSTOM SEAMLESS ROLLED RING FORGING

Total 2002 industry shipments for the custom seamless rolled ring forging industry fell to \$532,904,000, 19.6% below 2001's volume of \$662,586,000. Bookings of seamless rolled ring forgings during 2002 amounted to \$515,132,000, 17% below 2001's \$621,946,000. Aerospace engines and engine parts accounted for the majority of seamless rolled rings produced, with a market share of 49.8% in 2002 vs. 52.8% in 2001. Aircraft auxiliary equipment and missiles, space vehicles and parts came in second with 7.2% market share, down from 8.1% reported for 2001.

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1. *NOTE: FIA's Annual Report of industry sales is based on information compiled from companies believed to have produced over 90% of 2002's total custom forging sales. The report is statistically treated to represent 100% of industry shipments in the custom forging industry. Figures quoted in this release do not include forgings produced for captive use or standard catalog products. Components produced via the cold forging process are also excluded from this report.*

**Detailed reports are available for sale at the FIA office at 216-781-6260.**

***FORGING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION, with headquarters in Cleveland, Ohio, is comprised of over 130 North American producers of forged metal components, accounting for about 63% of the custom forging volume produced annually. Forged metal parts are pressed, pounded or rolled into countless configurations, and used for critical applications in the aerospace, automotive, construction, materials handling, ordnance, hand tool, agricultural and industrial equipment industries -- to name a few! Some 75 firms supplying equipment, materials or technical services to the forging industry are also members of FIA. The Association, with its predecessor organizations, has served the metal forging industry since 1913.***

***For more information on metal forging processes, the forging industry or FIA member companies, visit the forging industry website at [www.forging.org](http://www.forging.org).***