

# GameChange cuts BOS install time with rivets

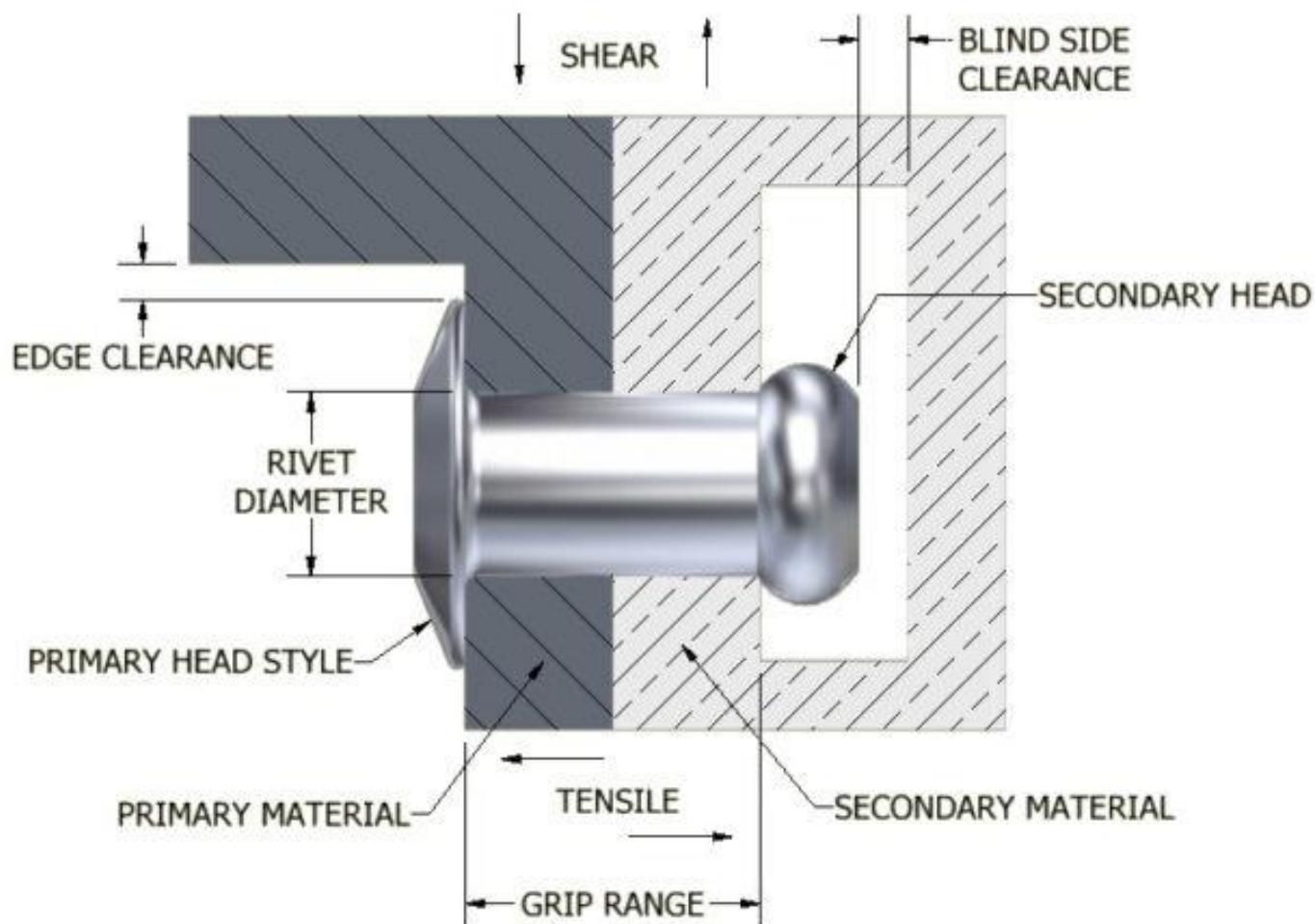
GameChange Solar has begun using rivets to mount PV modules in order to speed installation. Rivets are now being used on Max-Span pile driven systems, as well as with ballasted fixed-tilt and tracker systems.

NOVEMBER 29, 2016 CHARLES W. THURSTON

INSTALLATIONS

UTILITY-SCALE PV

UNITED STATES





At one recent 85 MW riveted installation in North Carolina, installers averaged 2.5 MW per week per 20 man crew including staging and installation.

The company recently completed grounding and bonding testing under ETL/UL 2703 for use of rivets as alternate panel-mounting hardware, as well as in some cases for attachment of certain components in racking structures.

Rivets allow customers to have rapid installation rates for mounting modules. They also require no torque marks, reducing complexity of O&M checks. Rivet as well as bolt and serrated flange nut options are currently available for use on all GameChange Solar pile driven and ballasted ground fixed tilt as well as tracker systems with both framed modules and thin film modules. Standard rivets and rivet guns may be used for the rivet option and standard drivers for bolt option.

Max Johnson, Business Development Associate at GameChange Solar stated: "We are constantly thinking about different ways to reduce installation time for customers. Every little bit adds up to substantial savings, especially for large utility scale projects. At GameChange, it is our mission to reduce the cost of solar and our passion to do our best to make every customer happy."

Rivets are increasingly being used in the automotive industry to attach tubular steel to sheeting, especially in cases in which the tube is not thick enough to hold a thread. Apart from simple pressure-compacted rivets, threaded rivet nuts — also called blind threaded inserts — also are increasingly utilized for more secure fastening after initial use in the aviation industry.

## AUTHOR

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Charles specializes in renewable energy, from finance to technological processes. Writing for pv magazine since 2010, he focuses on balance of systems, tracking, the EPC sector, and the Brazilian market.

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