



Fig A.12b shows the overall view of one stage 1 sorting module, with gap wall labelled and the gap distance labelled for M3-M4 sorting

The process starts with a mix of fasteners being dropped into the “catching area”, where male fasteners of smaller threads may slip and hang on the slot of the gap wall. Larger male fasteners will continue sliding down the slot. You will also notice two angled walls which just funnels the dropped fasteners into the slots. A vibrating module will facilitate in shaking the fasteners downstream. Below is an example.



Fig A.13 shows the stage 1 fastener catching area