

<MISA Subsidiary WML Adding New Plant in Sacramento>

Marubeni-Itochu Steel Inc.
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Marubeni-Itochu Steel America (MISA) has announced that Western Metal Lath, Inc. (WML), has decided to invest approximately \$5 million in the construction of a new plant in Sacramento, California, in a move aimed at significantly expanding the company's production facilities.

WML, a wholly owned MISA subsidiary, is active in the manufacture of light steel framing, currently a high growth market in the United States. The company's sole production base to date has been the head office plant located in Riverside, a suburb of Los Angeles.

The addition of this new production base in Sacramento will raise WML's annual production capacity by 50,000 tonnes, enabling an expansion of its services to customers in the U.S. northwest (primarily Seattle and San Francisco), a region that has steady demand and which is projected to experience robust demand growth over the years to come.

Production is scheduled to begin in May 2006.

WML Company Profile

Official name : Western Metal Lath, Inc.
President : Angelo Gentile
Head office : 6510 General Drive, Riverside, CA 92509, USA
Established : August 1986
Employees : 175
Capitalization : \$3.3 million

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