

<MISA sets up a Coil Center in Mexico>

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Marubeni-Itochu Steel America Inc. (MISA), which is a 100%-owned subsidiary of Marubeni Itochu Steel Inc., has decided to set up a new Steel Service Center in Queretaro City, Mexico. Production capacity of the new facility will be 170 thousand tons per year. It will be equipped with slitters for 76 inches width and 60 inches width.

The total investment in the new company will be 8 million dollars. Paid up Capital will be 4 million dollars. MISA, having National Material LP in the U.S. as a partner, will hold the major share and play the leading role in the management of the new company.

Recent growing demand for processed steel from manufacturers such as for automobiles and home appliances in Mexico has prompted MISA to decide on the new investment. Construction of the new factory will start in April for completion in December 2006.

<Company Profile of National Material>

Major Steel Service Center with operating bases in USA, Canada, Mexico and China.
They also deal with processing of non-ferrous material.
In Mexico, they are operating steel service centers in Monterrey and Hermosillo.

URL: <http://www.nmlp.com>

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