

**<CLARKWESTERN Building Systems Inc. to Construct New Plant  
in Connecticut>**

Marubeni-Itochu Steel Inc.  
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We are pleased to announce that CLARKWESTERN Building Systems Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Marubeni-Itochu Steel America Inc. (MISA), has decided to invest US\$10 million in the construction of a new plant in Bristol, Connecticut in the northeastern region of the U.S. The new plant, which will be 250,000 square feet in area, is scheduled to commence operations in September 2007.

CLARKWESTERN is presently active in the manufacture and sales of steel frame products at eight separate plants throughout the U.S. The selection of Bristol, Connecticut as the site for this new facility expansion stems from the company's desire to bolster its services in the New York and New England regions - both of which rank as major markets for steel framing.

The company moved from early on to build up a manufacturing and sales network capable of serving the entire U.S., and thereby mount prompt and speedy responses to a wide range of customer needs. While in October 2001 it was operating only three manufacturing bases, it has since followed a fast-paced program of new plant construction and acquisition to expand to the current total of eight plants.

The present annual demand for steel frame products in the Northeast U.S. is said to amount to 440,000 tonnes. The opening of a new plant in this region will enable CLARKWESTERN to cover the entire U.S. market, and to solidify its position as the industry's second largest player in the U.S.

<Reference>

**Outline of CLARKWESTERN Building Systems Inc.**

- (1) Company name : CLARKWESTERN Building Systems Inc.  
(a new company established on January 1, 2007 through the merger of  
Clark Cincinnati, Inc. and Western Metal Lath Inc.)
- (2) Address : 101 Clark Boulevard, Middletown, OH 45044
- (3) Employees : 903
- (4) Paid-in Capital : US\$8.6 million
- (5) Shareholder : Wholly owned by Marubeni-Itochu Steel America Inc.  
(US subsidiary of Marubeni-Itochu Steel Inc.)

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