



Loup Power District

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NEWS RELEASE

News Release: Loup Power District - page 1 of 1
For Immediate Release: July 30, 2007

KATANA Summit Holds Groundbreaking Ceremony

The Columbus Economic Council, City of Columbus, and Platte County officials welcomed KATANA Summit to the area and participated in the groundbreaking ceremony, Monday, at the site of the new manufacturing plant east of Columbus.

KATANA Summit, LLC, a partnership of Sumitomo Corporation of Tokyo, Japan, and KATANA Industries, Inc., of Ephrata, Washington, will manufacture tubular wind towers at the new Columbus location. The project will have 75 acres and over 250,000 square feet of building space. Construction of the new facility will be performed by Columbus-based general contractor B-D Construction.

Participating in the groundbreaking ceremony were the following dignitaries: Neal Suess and David Bell, Co-Chairs of Columbus Economic Council; Mike Moser, Mayor of Columbus; John Woerth, Chair of Platte County Supervisors; Senator Arnie Stuthmann, State Senator for 22nd District; Richard Baier, Director of Department of Economic Development for State of Nebraska; Darrell Lehmann, President and CEO of KATANA Summit, LLC; Kathleen Lehmann, KATANA Summit, LLC; Tom Kaji, Senior Vice-President, Sumitomo Corporation of America; Sawato Hayashi, Product Manager of Sumitomo Corporation of America and Secretary of KATANA Summit, LLC; Shinobu (Scott) Nakada, Product Manager, Steel and Non-Ferrous Metal Group, Sumitomo Corporation of America; K.C. Belitz, President, Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce; Jim Gerhold, Columbus Development Corporation; Senator Chris Langemeier, State Senator for 23rd District; Ed Wagner, Vice President of Customer Services and Delivery, Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD); Chris Langan, B-D Construction.

Plans are to begin manufacturing by March of 2008. KATANA Summit plans to employ 100 to 120 in Columbus at full production during 2008. Recruitment of employees will begin in the fall of 2007.

For more information on the project, please contact Dave Bell at Loup Power District at 402-564-3171, ext. 257.

END

(Photos and caption on next page.)

For more information, please contact:

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News Release: Loup Power District - photo/caption page
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KATANA Summit, LLC, Groundbreaking Ceremony, July 30, 2007.

Pictured left to right:

Anne Hall, Chairman, Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce

Jim Gerhold, Columbus Development Corporation

Ed Wagner, Vice President of Customer Services and Delivery, Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD)

Chris Langan, B-D Construction

John Woerth, Chair of Platte County Supervisors

Arnie Stuthmann, State Senator for 22nd District

Sawato Hayashi, Product Manager of Sumitomo Corporation of America and Secretary of KATANA Summit, LLC

Neal Suess, Co-Chair, Columbus Economic Council

Tom Kaji, Senior Vice-President, Sumitomo Corporation of America

Darrell Lehmann, President and CEO, KATANA Summit, LLC

Kathleen Lehmann, KATANA Summit, LLC

Richard Baier, Director of Department of Economic Development for State of Nebraska

David Bell, Co-Chair, Columbus Economic Council

Mike Moser, Mayor of Columbus

Shinobu (Scott) Nakada, Product Manager, Steel and Non-Ferrous Metal Group, Sumitomo Corporation of America

K.C. Belitz, President, Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce

