



News Release
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Contact:
Craig Clark for Midlink Business Park
(616) 550-2736
Geoff Mordock for Kaiser Aluminum
(323) 762-1818



Kaiser Aluminum's Construction Project Starts at Midlink Business Park

*Company intends to open world-class facility in fall 2009;
site could eventually employ 300*

MIDLINK BUSINESS PARK - COMSTOCK TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN—Construction at Midlink Business Park has started for California-based Kaiser Aluminum which, when fully operational, will occupy 464,519 square feet and could eventually employ 300 people here.

Kaiser Aluminum, a leading producer of fabricated aluminum products, intends to use the Midlink space to enhance the market position of its broad offering of general engineering products. The company anticipates beginning production at Midlink by fall of 2009. At full operation, Kaiser Aluminum will occupy over half of Midlink's East building.

Kaiser Aluminum signed a long-term lease with Midlink Business Park, a move, area economic development officials say that demonstrates Midlink's abilities and commitment to its tenants.

"The continued growth at Midlink is a testament to the spirit and commitment of the Kalamazoo region to be innovative in not only the products we offer but the space in which we make them," said Ron Kitchens, chief executive officer of Southwest Michigan First. "Kaiser Aluminum's Midlink location brings tremendous opportunity for the company and our community as our manufacturing base continues to expand and diversify."

"We found the combination of Midlink's unique attributes—its robust facilities, central location, building size and depth, overall flexibility— and the region's pro-business environment impressive," said Jack A. Hockema, chairman, president and CEO of Kaiser Aluminum. "These qualities combined help to convince us that the Kalamazoo area is the place for Kaiser Aluminum."

Incentives such as the state's Ren Zone designation are helpful to the business park, and Midlink officials credit Charter Township of Comstock, Southwest Michigan First and Michigan Economic Development Corporation for providing a pro-business environment that makes Midlink attractive to out-of-state companies. "Kaiser's selection of Midlink demonstrates the power our collaborative efforts have had to lure major corporations to Kalamazoo," notes Midlink's President David Smith. "In turn, Kaiser's presence will be a catalyst for other national companies to come to Midlink," Smith adds, referring to new activity that Kaiser has already generated at the site.

Midlink's broker representative Signature Associates also played a big role in getting Kaiser to the Kalamazoo area. Cathy Bottema, associate broker with Signature Associates, added "Collaboration

between all parties involved is truly what made this deal come together. Ceiling height was an issue initially, but in working together, it was determined we could accommodate Kaiser's requirement by going through the floor to the basement and literally raising the roof!"

In addition to raising the building's roof by nearly 20 feet to accommodate Kaiser Aluminum's need to pull aluminum out of a 60 foot deep mold, other enhancements to the space include painting, re-lighting and landscaping. Midlink will also be installing 10 interior truck docks, creating 20,000 square-feet of office space and providing additional parking to accommodate the company's needs.

When Kaiser Aluminum is fully operational at Midlink East, the park's buildings will be 78 percent occupied. Additional East building tenants include W. Soule & Company and Polymer Solutions.

Kaiser Aluminum's operations at Midlink will provide a boost to the Kalamazoo area economy too. The construction phase of the Kaiser Aluminum space at Midlink will provide jobs to a talented and available Kalamazoo-area construction workforce, and adding 300 new jobs to the area will help with new home sales.

About Midlink Business Park

www.midlink.com

Midlink Business Park is a world-class development that offers two, state-of-the-art, multi-tenant industrial buildings totaling more than 1.6 million SF. Also available is an 88-acre build-to-suit industrial zone designed for single- and multi-tenant use. Plans for the development include an additional 38-acre office campus and 41-acre retail area. The original 340-acre site was renovated and repurposed after Hackman Capital Partners purchased the property in 1999.

About Kaiser Aluminum

www.kaiseraluminum.com

Kaiser Aluminum, headquartered in Foothill Ranch, Calif., is a leading producer of fabricated aluminum products, serving customers worldwide with highly-engineered solutions for aerospace and high-strength, general engineering, and custom automotive and industrial applications. The company's North American facilities annually produce more than 500 million pounds of value-added sheet, plate, extrusions, forgings, rod, bar and tube products, adhering to traditions of quality, innovation and service that have been key components of our culture since the company was founded in 1946. The company's stock is included in the Russell 2000(R) index.

About Signature Associates

www.signatureassociates.com

With offices in Southfield, Lansing, Grand Rapids, Muskegon, Kalamazoo, Michigan and Toledo, Ohio, Signature Associates is the region's leading commercial real estate firm. Signature Associates provides a diversity of services, including industrial, office and retail brokerage, investment sales, property/asset management, market research, mortgage banking and advisory services. Signature has been the exclusive leasing agent for Midlink since May, 2007.

Media Information

For additional information or interviews with Midlink officials, or for more information on this topic, contact Craig Clark at (616) 550-2736 or craig@clarkcommunication.com

For Kaiser investor relations information, contact Melinda Ellsworth at 949-614-1740 or melinda.ellsworth@kaiseraluminum.com.

For Kaiser public relations inquiries, contact Geoff Mordock at 323-762-1818 or geoff.mordock@fleishman.com. For Midlink leasing information or tours, please contact Cathy Bottema or Ryan Sytsma at Signature Associates at 888-785-9227.