

REGIONAL



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North Central Zone

TRW Italian operations coming to Chihuahua. TRW has attracted an operation from Italy to Chihuahua which will allow the full manufacture of steering wheels for automobiles, from casting of magnesium-aluminum structures, all the way to leather padding, production and installation of safety air bags and harness assemblies. Until last year the steering wheel's core, its magnesium and aluminum structure, was cast in Italy and brought to Chihuahua for padding. It is then added to build-in safety air bags. But due to an exponential increase in productivity the Company decided to transfer Italy's operation to Mexico and produce steering wheels in Chihuahua.

Electrolux Electrolux inaugurates second factory at Ciudad Juarez. President Felipe Calderon and several representatives from state and municipal government attended the inauguration ceremony of the new Electrolux washer and dryer factory in Ciudad Juarez. Electrolux has invested more than US\$100 million to build and equip the new highly advanced Washer and Dryer Manufacturing Center. The new plant will employ more than 1,000 workers. They will be recruited and trained mainly at Ciudad Juarez and Chihuahua City. Together with the refrigerators plant located at the complex, Electrolux will employ more than 3,500 workers.

Regional NEWS

Central Zone

VOLVO Volvo will manufacture heavy machinery for construction. The Swedish manufacturer of trucks and buses, Volvo, announced the construction of a new plant at Tultitlan, State of Mexico, where bulldozers will be manufactured. The new complex will officially start operating in the first quarter of 2009 and will be one of the Company facilities already operating in Tultitlan where they assemble buses. Currently all the heavy machinery meant for the construction segment is supplied from the complex located in Poland.

BOMI Bomi de Mexico invests US\$3 million. Bomi de Mexico will invest US\$3 million in Mexico, an investment which is part of the Company's growth and expansion plans for 2000. This is an investment providing for a 129,160 square foot expansion of their warehouse in the State of Mexico. It is currently 107,600 square feet. A significant part of the investment will be channeled mainly to infrastructure of refrigerating and freezing chambers, computer systems and lifts. Bomi will also make an additional US\$1.5 million investment in 60 transportation units generating 70 direct jobs.

TAFIME Tafime will expand its plant in Queretaro. Tafime will invest €50 million to expand their facilities in Queretaro Industrial Park. This will allow producing one million monoblocks per year for Chrysler engines. The first stage has already started with the installation of two important machines. The project, it is reported, is expected to be completed in 2010. Tafime has 180 workers now, but with the announced investment the plans are to reach 600 employees by 2010. The Company decided to invest in expanding their plant in Queretaro due to the fact that Mexico consumes one million monoblocks per year.

HINO Hino Motors announces plant in Mexico; US\$100 million investment. Hino Motors set the cornerstone for their plant in Mexico which will be located in the State of Guanajuato, with an anticipated US\$100 million investment. The plant will assemble Class 5 to Class 8 cargo vehicles, i.e. medium to heavy trucks. They will be imported from Japan as CKD to have their assembly completed in Mexico. With this measure, Hino will avoid paying tariffs for up to 50% for importing Class 5 to Class 8 trucks into Mexico. The plant to be built in Mexico will be Hino's 13th in the world.

South Zone

ADMINISTRACIÓN PORTUARIA INTEGRAL DE VERACRUZ S.A de C.V. US\$20 billion invested in Vera Cruz Port. With a US\$2 billion investment, the Vera Cruz Integral Port Administration

US\$26 million to be invested in Chiapas. Steve, the worldwide coffee growing and processing group, will install, with the support of the Chiapas State Govern-

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