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**W.Va. governor, senators issue statements
on Wheeling-Nisshin announcement**

*Company intends to invest $28 million in the Follansbee facility*

    WHEELING, W.Va. – Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin, Senator Rockefeller and Senator Manchin today issued the following statements following Wheeling-Nisshin’s announcement to invest $28 million in their current operations. The company plans to expand operations at its Follansbee facility to prepare for the production of the new steel product, ZAM®.

    “Today is a terrific day for West Virginia. Wheeling-Nisshin’s announcement to invest $28 million into their current operations at the Follansbee facility is another vote of confidence for both our state and its workforce,” said Gov. Tomblin. “When I met with the Nisshin executives in Japan a couple months ago, they noted time and time again how impressed they were with their West Virginia employees—we truly have a world-class workforce. We have done a tremendous job of creating a business climate that recruits companies to the Mountain State, and our hard work is paying off.”

    “Wheeling-Nisshin has been a key part of the Follansbee community and a crucial part of the steel industry in West Virginia, and I’m proud to have helped bring them here 26 years ago,” said Sen. Jay Rockefeller. “And, today, it’s great to see them advancing their efforts and continuing their commitment to the state by announcing their new product line, ZAM. This is the company’s largest investment to the Aluminum and Galvanizing line since it was commissioned. With this diversification, the company continues to meet the needs of the industry with the next generation of building materials.”

    “Throughout the company’s 25 year history in West Virginia, Wheeling-Nisshin has produced a wide range of high-quality steel products so today’s news is not only great for the Northern Panhandle, but also for our entire state,” Sen. Joe Manchin said. “Wheeling-Nisshin has witnessed firsthand our outstanding workforce and understands that West Virginia is a great place to do business. Today’s announcement is a testament of this company’s confidence in our talented workforce and our state’s strong business climate. I look forward to seeing this new product line, ZAM, in production.”

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