Chief Minister meets with Total Steel Australia’s Japanese owners

Tokyo: Chief Minister Paul Henderson today met with the President of Marubeni Corporation and Itochu Corporation (MISI), Mr Kenichiro Ushino.

MISI trade and manufacture steel on a global scale through six separate operating divisions.

Chief Minister Paul Henderson said “MISI’s Iron and Steel Division 1, manage Total Steel Australia which supplies steel to the mining and construction sectors in most Australian capital cities including Darwin.”

“Discussions with Mr Ushino were constructive. I reiterated that our proximity to Asia is a key and critical difference to the rest of the country, as is our size - we are small enough to make it easy to make things happen.”

“My Government supported Total Steel’s efforts in establishing in Berrimah to supply products to the mining and construction sectors.”

“We will also support Total Steel efforts to target mining operations and civil construction across northern Australia and mining operations in eastern Indonesia using Darwin as its distribution facility.”

“My Government will provide assistance in export efforts to Indonesia’s mining sector, through our commercial networks and the use of Darwin’s Indonesian Customs Pre-Inspection Facility.”

“Total Steel’s Darwin operation supplied steel plate product to Monadelphous for the Eni Blacktip project. It currently employs some 8 people.”

“Further encouragement for business to invest will lead to much needed industry expansion and job creation.

“The more business Total Steal can generate the more jobs that they help create for Territorians.”

In January of this year MISI’s Tubular Steel division was awarded a contract to supply 172,000 tonnes of pipe to Chevron’s Gorgon and Jansz projects off the coast of Western Australia.

“This visit continues our investment efforts. I want to ensure our message is loud and clear to business and finance leaders in Japan that the Northern Territory is open for business.”

“More and more companies like Total Steel are choosing Darwin to set up operations and my Government is committed to maximising every opportunity to grow industries beyond petroleum and LNG – selling Darwin as a business hub on Asia's doorstep,” Mr Henderson said.

Media Contact: Brett Murphy 0427 741 469