



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Union Ironworkers Provide Ohio Contractors with Significant Benefits**

Canton, Ohio – December 18, 2008--Researched by Industrial Info Resources (Sugar Land, Texas) -- Union Ironworkers throughout the state of Ohio are doing more to provide construction contractors with a well-trained workforce in the Ohio industrial construction market. More than 170 industrial projects totaling nearly \$23 billion are planned to begin as contractors prepare for the coming year.

To address the coming work, Union Ironworkers are committing to the development of a more productive workforce, which is the most significant benefit that Union Ironworkers provide.

Additionally, Union Ironworkers offer flexible help, lower safety-related costs and the development of strong project supervision. Union Ironworkers also provide significant business benefits to contractors including no benefits administration costs, savings from utilizing apprentices to lower overall crew costs and lower turnover, as most of our members are working for a career, not just a job.

“It is important for our Union and Local to tell contractors and owners of the many benefits so they are aware of what a relationship with Union Ironworkers presents,” says Tim Litman, business manager and financial secretary/treasurer for Ironworkers Union Local No. 550, Canton, Ohio.

A more productive workforce will be required as the current economic downturn begins to impact the construction industry throughout Ohio.

“Union Ironworkers are preparing for the increase in work once the economy is back on track. This preparation includes an accreditation program for our apprenticeship training programs, certifying more apprentices and journeymen in current welding techniques and working closely with our contractors to ensure a safe and well-trained workforce,” says Litman.

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For the industrial market alone it is estimated that 170 projects will begin in 2009, which will require some 2,580 Ironworkers. Litman adds, "We continue to work with our signatory contractors to ensure that their needs are met. This requires our organization to continually re-evaluate our training programs as well as continue to improve our facilities to ensure that the highest level of skill is available, which results in a highly productive workforce. We all believe strongly that this positions us as a leader, but also as a partner who brings value to our contractors, owners and members."

For more information about the [Ironworkers Union](#) click here.

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