

November 20, 2007

## **Construction of New Headquarters for SB Knit Co., Ltd.**

SB Knit Co., Ltd., an affiliate of Sumikin Bussan Corporation, has constructed a new headquarters in front of Gosenshi Station in Gosen City, Niigata Prefecture.

SB Knit was established in June 2005 to take over the roles of the Textile Company's Niigata and Fukushima offices and promote a resurgence of the "Made in Japan" designation by enhancing domestic manufacturing capabilities for knitted products and collaborating with selected local businesses.

Since its establishment, SB Knit has created a supply chain for high-value-added knitted products, constructed a manufacturing system closely tied to production areas and steadily expanded utilization of Japanese products across the Sumikin Bussan Group.

The new headquarters combine style with functionality to offer more advanced design ideas for knitted products, meet the growing need for converter capabilities and revitalize Japanese knitted product production areas.

Aluminum curtain walls along the exteriors and entryways and a wooden deck alongside the building will contribute to the stylishly original appearance of the new offices. With a permanent showroom, the headquarters should function as a center for introducing product ideas from local knitters while developing product presentation skills.

The new facilities were built through "system construction," a construction method employed by Steel Company affiliate Sumikin System Buildings Corp. System construction systematizes the whole construction process from design to actual building by standardizing and normalizing the parts and materials that make up the structure. System construction thereby realizes lower costs and substantially faster project completion than conventional methods. Another benefit is enhanced resistance to earthquakes, wind and snow accumulation, thanks to consistent quality achieved by eliminating welded joints in favor of high-strength bolted connections for pillars and beams.

Construction on the new headquarters is slated to begin in December 2007 and finish in May 2008.

### Overview of New Headquarters

Location:	In front of Gosenshi Station, Gosen City, Niigata Prefecture
Area of Premises:	995.99 m <sup>2</sup>
Floor Area:	692.32 m <sup>2</sup>
Structure:	Two-floor, steel "system construction"
Design:	SO architects & associates Co., Ltd.
Construction:	HONMA Corporation

