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Wise Alloys Pledges Support to Its Reservists and Guardsmen

MUSCLE SHOALS, ALA. – Jan. 20, 2003 – The management of Wise Alloys today announced the company will continue to provide all employee benefits and pay the difference between military and civilian salary for any employee called to active duty.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld last week ordered about 62,000 more U.S. troops to the Persian Gulf region, doubling the size of the existing force in regions near Iraq. Guard and reserve units throughout the United States are also answering the call, including in Alabama, where recently mobilized units include the Army Reserves' 417th Chemical Detachment in Sheffield and the Alabama Army National Guard's Detachment 1, 200th Materials Management Center based in Birmingham.

“Wise Alloys appreciates the sacrifices these employees make to protect our country, our families and our way of life,” said Wise Alloys Chairman David F. D’Addario. “This gesture will lessen the burden and ease concerns among our reservists and their families.”

Wise Alloys President and Chief Executive Officer John Cameron said the company plans to treat any mobilized worker as “employees on a special assignment” while they are serving on active duty.

“To leave home and community for military duty is a difficult challenge in itself,” Cameron added, “and we believe our efforts will make the transition easier.”

Based in Muscle Shoals, Ala., Wise Alloys is the third-leading U.S. producer of aluminum can stock for the beverage and food industries. It is an environmentally friendly company that relies heavily on recycled aluminum in the production of its can stock. Its sister company, Wise Recycling, is one of the largest, direct-from-the-public collectors of aluminum beverage containers in the United States, operating shipping and processing locations east of the Mississippi River that support a network of neighborhood collection centers.

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