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## ASX Release

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### NEW BLUESCOPE STEEL INVESTMENTS IN CHINA

BlueScope Steel today announced investments in two new manufacturing facilities in China, both expected to be operational by mid calendar 2006.

A new facility will be constructed in Guangzhou to manufacture a range of BUTLER<sup>TM</sup> and LYSAGHT<sup>®</sup> quality branded products for customers in the growing building and construction markets in China's south. The new plant will incorporate a BUTLER<sup>TM</sup> manufacturing facility for PEBs (pre-Engineered Buildings) and will complement an existing LYSAGHT<sup>®</sup> rollforming plant in Guangzhou. Investment cost will be A\$45 million.

In addition, the existing BlueScope Lysaght plant at Langfang, near Beijing, will be expanded at a total cost of A\$16 million to produce architectural and sandwich panels for the China market. Architectural and sandwich panels are widely used in premium architectural building facade systems, and are expected to feature prominently in signature buildings to be constructed ahead of the Beijing Olympics.

BlueScope Steel CEO and Managing Director Kirby Adams said, "The further expansion of BlueScope Steel's manufacturing capability in China reflects strong demand in that country for our high quality branded building products, and our enthusiasm for China as a destination for manufacturing capital investment. The Guangzhou investment again demonstrates BlueScope Steel's strategy in action, and our commitment to expanding our network of operations supplying high quality BUTLER<sup>TM</sup> pre-Engineered Buildings and LYSAGHT<sup>®</sup> building solutions."

Each of the new operations will consume the ZINCALUME<sup>®</sup> and Clean COLORBOND<sup>®</sup> product to be manufactured at the new A\$280 million metallic coating and paint line facility BlueScope Steel has under construction at Suzhou, west of Shanghai.

#### About BlueScope Steel Limited (ASX: BSL)

BlueScope Steel is the leading steel producer in Australia and New Zealand, supplying the majority of the flat steel products sold in these markets. BlueScope Steel's principal customers are in the building and construction, automotive, packaging and general manufacturing industries. The Company's steelworks at Port Kembla is Australia's largest and one of the world's lowest cost producers of hot rolled coil. Steel rolling, coating and painting plants are located in Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia, and the Company has a network of roll-forming facilities across the Asia Pacific region that is unmatched by any other steel company. Additional metal coating and painting lines are under construction in China, Vietnam and Thailand.

BlueScope Steel also has a 50 per cent interest in a steel mini-mill in Delta, Ohio, USA. In April 2004, the Company completed the acquisition of Butler Manufacturing, with operations in North America and China, creating a strong, global steel building components and pre-engineered buildings business.

For further information about BlueScope Steel Limited: [www.bluescopesteel.com](http://www.bluescopesteel.com)

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