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**Trexel Licenses TOPLA to provide MuCell® Modular Upgrades to Japanese Customers**

*Equipment Service Company will sell, install and warranty MuCell Modular Upgrades for all models of molding machines in Japan*

*The Japan Steel Works (JSW) will provide MuCell Upgrades for its own current models*

**July 18, 2003 – Woburn, MA and Nishisawada Numazu-Shi Japan**– Trexel, Inc. and TOPLA announced today that TOPLA, the service company of Toshiba Machinery, has been licensed to offer MuCell Modular Upgrades to MuCell injection molding customers in Japan. Trexel is the exclusive worldwide developer and licensor of the MuCell microcellular process technology. TOPLA is a full service injection molding equipment service company specializing in machine retrofits, upgrades, and installations. The MuCell Modular Upgrades allows customers to convert their existing injection molding machines to MuCell machines quickly and efficiently and will be available from TOPLA on both Toshiba injection molding machines and most other brands as well. The Japan Steel Works, Ltd. (JSW) will have first rights to provide Upgrades on its current model machines.

David Bernstein, President and CEO of Trexel, states, “There is great interest in Japan among companies who would like to convert their existing molding machines to MuCell Molding Machines. These customers have been looking for assurances that there will be a respected Japanese company available to carry out the upgrade and to provide long-term support and maintenance. TOPLA is a highly respected service company that has experience working with all types of injection molding machines. JSW brings superb MuCell expertise to their existing customers on JSW machines”

Hideo Tanaka, President of TOPLA, states: “The interest in the quality and cost-savings advantages from MuCell has been growing steadily, but the market has been waiting for an easier way to use the technology. We have carefully studied Trexel’s MuCell Modular Upgrade and we are impressed with the straightforward and efficient design. The Upgrade can be installed by TOPLA on both Toshiba injection molding machine and most other brands as well.”

Mr. Kenji Kasugai, General Manager Strategic Marketing Group of JSW, said, “JSW will take advantage of the new shorter screw designs from Trexel and will follow a policy of providing MuCell Upgrades on its own current machine models to its customers.”

### **About Trexel**

Trexel is the exclusive developer of the MuCell microcellular process technology and has an extensive portfolio of patents in the U.S., Canada, Europe, Japan, and Asia. Trexel’s primary business is licensing the MuCell technology for the production of injection molded and extruded articles. It also provides to licensees world-class engineering support, training and other services, and the equipment and components integral to the MuCell process. In support of these activities, Trexel operates a plastics development laboratory in its Woburn, MA facility. Other MuCell support facilities are located throughout the U.S., Europe, Japan, Korea, and Singapore.

### **About the MuCell Technology**

Trexel’s patented MuCell process, which is used worldwide to produce injection molded parts as well as some extruded products, provides significant cost savings and unique quality improvements. By introducing small, precise amounts of supercritical nitrogen and carbon dioxide gas into the molten resin during the molding process, the MuCell process enables the otherwise unattainable production of stress free parts that maintain strict dimensional stability.

### **About TOPLA**

TOPLA (Toshiba Machine Plastics Engineering Co., Ltd.) is the after-sales servicing company for Toshiba Machine`s injection molding and extrusion machines in the Japanese market.

Nineteen conveniently located offices throughout Japan provide such quick and reliable services as machine repair, upgrade, retrofitting and other value added modifications.

### **About Japan Steel Works Ltd. (JSW)**

JSW was founded in 1907 in Muronan, Hokkaido- the center of steel production in Japan-as a joint venture with Britain`s Armstrong Whitworth Co., Ltd., and Vickers Sons and Maxim, Ltd.. Today, JSW manufactures products such as injection molding machines, blow molding machines, pelletizers, compressors, steel castings and forgings for huge reactors, steam turbines for nuclear power plants, crankshafts for marine diesel engines, and sheet metal equipment. JSW is also in the fields of optics, magnetics, electronics, biotechnology, and new materials, and is active in urban redevelopment and environmental areas. JSW is one of the leading manufacturers of plastic injection molding machine in Japan featuring to cover from 20 ton up to 3000 ton clamping force. JSW now specialize manufacturing fully electric AC servo injection molding machines as well as hydraulic models and also is the first manufacturer to start MuCell process in Japan.

### **About Trexel Japan**

Trexel Japan is an independent Japanese company responsible for the licensing and promotion of the MuCell Process to Japanese companies. Trexel Japan also manages Trexel`s various business partner relationships in Japan.

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