

Contacts:

Mark Woodling
Marketing Manager
Nikko Tanaka Engineering U.S.A., Ltd.
1028 – 4th Street Southwest, Building B
Auburn, WA 98001
(253) 333-1200 extension 215
markw@nikko-tanaka-usa.com
tanakapowerequipment.com

Abby Levy
Sr. Manager- Marketing Communications
Hitachi Koki USA, Ltd
3950 Steve Reynolds Blvd
Norcross, GA 30093
(770) 925-1774
abbyl@hitachi-powertools.com
www.hitachipowertools.com

NIKKO TANAKA ENGINEERING USA TO BE ABSORBED INTO HITACHI KOKI USA

AUBURN, WA & NORCROSS, GA (November 19, 2008) Nikko Tanaka Engineering USA., Ltd (Nikko Tanaka USA); the sales and support company for Tanaka branded outdoor power equipment in North America and Hitachi Koki USA, Ltd (Hitachi Power Tools); manufacturer of professional grade power tools and accessories, today announced that as of January 1, 2009 the business functions of Nikko Tanaka USA will be, in effect, absorbed into Hitachi Koki, USA. This will improve business efficiencies; allow the product lines to collaborate and benefit from technological innovations as well as share in R&D endeavors going forward.

Nikko Tanaka USA has been a subsidiary of Hitachi Koki USA since May 2007 and both companies have been operating independently since then. At the start of the New Year, Tanaka's customer service, technical service, order placement, order processing, and accounting functions will be shifted from the current Auburn, Washington headquarters for Nikko Tanaka USA to Hitachi Koki USA's headquarters outside of Atlanta, Georgia. However, all Tanaka sales and marketing staff will remain in place.

“Both companies have been working together and we are confident that this will be a smooth transition,” said Jeff Wright, vice president of sales and marketing for Nikko Tanaka USA. “For the last 28 years, Hitachi Koki USA has a proven record of providing outstanding customer service and technical support.”

All product, parts and accessories will continue to ship from the distribution and service center in Auburn, WA and the Tanaka brand will continue to be sold through the independent dealer network. Technical service support will continue at the Auburn location, however all initial calls will be processed through Hitachi Koki USA.

During this transition leading up to January 1, 2009, Tanaka customers can continue to use the existing Nikko Tanaka USA phone and fax numbers and e-mail addresses to make inquiries and place orders. Customers will be notified with more detailed information over the next several weeks.

-more-

About Nikko Tanaka Engineering U.S.A., Ltd.

Nikko Tanaka Engineering U.S.A., Ltd. (“Nikko Tanaka USA”) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Hitachi Koki U.S.A Ltd. (Hitachi Power Tools) and is responsible for all sales, marketing, and support activities for the Tanaka power equipment brand in North America. Tanaka’s innovative product line provides professional landscapers, homeowners, and utility professionals with two-stroke powered, commercial outdoor power equipment solutions. Nikko Tanaka USA is headquartered in Auburn, WA, and Tanaka products are sold through independent dealers, W.W. Grainger, and other specialty accounts.

About Hitachi Power Tools (Hitachi Koki USA, Ltd)

Hitachi Power Tools (Hitachi Koki USA, Ltd) offers an extensive line of professional grade power tools and accessories for woodworking, metalworking, drilling and fastening, concrete drilling and cutting as well as a complete line of pneumatic nailers, staplers, compressors and collated fasteners. From headquarters in Atlanta, GA, and satellite offices in the United States and Canada, Hitachi Power Tools supports nearly 2000 retail locations carrying Hitachi tools and over 1000 authorized service centers.

Hitachi Koki USA, Ltd. is the North American division of Hitachi Koki Japan, a subsidiary within the over \$112 billion, 390,000 employee Hitachi Ltd of Japan. Using world class standards of development and production with a priority of social and environmental sustainability, Hitachi produces countless products and services. From home electronics to social infrastructure, materials, logistics, and services, Hitachi can be found throughout the world breathing life into the next era.

###