

KWBS Signs Agreement with Kansas Department of Commerce

For immediate release in Japanese markets

TOPEKA – Tokyo-based KWBS Marketing & Trading today announced it has partnered with the Kansas Department of Commerce to represent the state’s interests in Japan. KWBS will promote foreign direct investment (FDI) into Kansas from Japanese corporations considering global business opportunities or seeking access to the U.S. market.

Japan consistently has been one of Kansas’ top sources of FDI and a leading supporter of the largest number of jobs in Kansas among all international employers. More than 76,000 Kansas workers are employed as a result of global investment. The billions invested and thousands of new jobs being created by Panasonic Energy in De Soto and Kubota Corp. in Salina likely will push Japan to the number one position in both categories.

Continued attention to Kansas by Japanese companies prompted Commerce to secure local representation. In 2022 alone, announced FDI from Japan totaled more than \$4.1 billion

KWBS is an established consulting firm that supports overseas expansion projects of governments, trade and investment organizations, industry groups and private-sector companies. KWBS Representative Director and Chief Executive Officer Masao Kumori has more than 30 years of direct investment experience for Japanese companies and has landed numerous successful projects in key sectors such as electric vehicles, lithium-ion batteries and semiconductors.

About the Kansas Department of Commerce:

As the state’s lead economic development agency, the Kansas Department of Commerce strives to empower individuals, businesses and communities to achieve prosperity in Kansas. Commerce accomplishes its mission by developing relationships with corporations, site location consultants and stakeholders in Kansas, the nation and world. Our strong partnerships allow us to help create an environment for existing Kansas businesses to grow and foster an innovative, competitive landscape for new businesses. Through Commerce’s project successes, Kansas was awarded [Area Development Magazine’s](#) prestigious [Gold Shovel award](#) in 2021, 2022 and 2023, and was awarded the 2021 and 2022 Governor’s Cup by