

Midlothian Steel Industry

on Target for Growth

In 2004 Governor Rick Perry announced his vision of building the future economy of the state of Texas. That vision, which is known as the Texas Industry Cluster Initiative, focuses on building competitive advantage through six target industry clusters.

One of the six target industry clusters is Advanced Technology and Manufacturing. This cluster includes companies that produce architectural and structural metals, turbine and power transmission equipment, and metal products, as well as threaded products and machine shops.

In Midlothian, Texas, the metal manufacturing industry is in full production with a major steel manufacturer, Gerdau Long Steel North America, and a number of smaller steel operations such as Niagara LaSalle Corporation and Qualico Steel Company, Inc. There are also a number of machine shops and support companies that are a part of the industry cluster.

Niagara LaSalle Corporation

Niagara LaSalle Corporation is North America's largest independent cold finished steel bar producer. They offer the world's widest and most diverse product range and technical capability for engineered cold finished bars. Their products are found in a myriad of different industries including automotive, construction equipment, agricultural equipment, rail industry, mining industry, power and hand tool industry, power generation equipment, machine tool builders, aerospace and oil and gas industries. Their Midlothian location employees 40 – 50 employees and has an estimated \$25 million in sales each year.

Qualico Steel Company, Inc.

Qualico Steel Company, Inc. provides structural steel fabrication solutions. The company offers structural steel, steel joist, metal deck, miscellaneous steel, and various types of pre-engineered and design build components. They specialize in medium to heavy industrial and commercial projects. They also offer structural steel design, detailing, erection, and professional project management services. Based in Alabama, the privately

held company also has locations in Tennessee and Texas. Qualico has close to 50 employees at their Midlothian location and has over \$10 million in sales annually.

These companies and the service companies that support them have been successful for decades in Midlothian for several reasons. Close proximity to the DFW Metroplex with excellent transportation corridors, a highly skilled workforce of over 500,000, and a business friendly community are just a few.

Much like the state of Texas, Midlothian is committed to job creation

and economic development with a pro-business mind-set and a thriving business climate.

Midlothian is also a family friendly community with a quality school system including higher education, a low crime rate, beautiful neighborhoods, and easy access to the many entertainment and shopping options of a metropolitan area.

For companies looking to expand or relocate, Midlothian, Texas is the ideal location with class "A" industrial parks, competitive incentives packages, and close proximity to the DFW Metroplex for services, supplies, and customers. 🏭

Gerdau Ameristeel

Gerdau Ameristeel is the second largest mini-mill steel producer in North America, with an annual manufacturing capacity of over ten million tons of steel products. They currently rank as the second largest recycler of ferrous scrap in North America as well, consuming over seven million tons of scrap materials annually; which garnered them the prestigious Steel Manufacturers Association (SMA) Distinguished Recycler of the Year Award.

Gerdau Ameristeel has been a vital part of Midlothian's industrial community since STAR Recycling began commercial operations in 1998. Gerdau's Midlothian operation shreds over 600,000 tons of scrap metal and produces over 175,000 tons of reusable materials each year. The Midlothian plant produces structural products such as I-beams, H-beams, and Bantam beams, rebar, hot rolled steel, sheet piling, and bearing piles for bridges and deep foundations. They employ close to 1,000 employees at the Midlothian plant.

