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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**HBI ASSOCIATION OFFICE
MOVES TO CHARLOTTE AREA**

MATTHEWS, NC (October 5, 2007) – The HBI Association Ltd. (HBIA) has relocated its US administrative office to 344 W. John Street in Matthews, NC, approximately 10 miles southeast of Charlotte, NC, as the final step in the transition of the executive director position. The HBIA office previously was based in Pittsburgh, PA.

Ralph Smailer, who served six years as the first executive director of HBIA, resigned in July 2007 to devote more time to his metallurgical consulting business. His duties have been assumed by Frank Griscom, a 25-year direct reduction industry veteran. Prior to HBIA, Griscom held commercial management and executive positions with Midrex Technologies, Inc. in Charlotte.

HBI Association, Ltd. (HBIA) is a not-for-profit, international trade organization whose purpose is to promote hot briquetted iron (HBI) as a preferred source of high quality, merchant iron units and to assist the global steel industry in the effective handling, shipping, and use of HBI. HBIA members include all major producers and exporters of HBI, suppliers of process technology, equipment, materials, and services including transportation to the HBI Industry, and traders and brokers involved in buying and selling HBI worldwide.

For more information about HBI or HBIA, visit www.hbia.org or contact Frank Griscom, Executive Director at: phone: (704) 815-3285, fax: (704) 841-4251, or e-mail: director@hbia.org.