"BEAUTIFUL STATE LANDMARK" BEGINS TO TAKE SHAPE



Minneapolis, MN – For the past year, the future home of the Minnesota Twins looked more like a typical dusty construction site than the state-of-the-art, aesthetically pleasing big-league ballpark it will be by Opening Day 2010.

But the look of the ballpark project is beginning to change for the better. Mortenson Construction crews are now installing the natural limestone that will adorn the ballpark's exterior walls.

"This is yet another milestone for the ballpark,"



Mortenston Construction crews install the limestone on the 7th Street side of the ballpark. Mortenson Construction Executive Dan Mehls said to members of the media who watched crews put up the first stone panels on the 7th street side of the ballpark. "This is when we all begin to see the transformation from a development site to a beautiful state landmark."

Mehls says more than 100,000 square feet, or 100 semi-truck loads, of limestone will be used to cover all faces of the ballpark. Crews began installing the stone on July 18, 2008 and will complete the installation in the summer of 2009.

The ballpark's



Mortenson Construction Executive Dan Mehls talks to the media about the latest project milestone.

exterior walls are designed to emulate the naturally exposed ledges of stone visible along the banks of the Mississippi River. Vetter Stone Company, a family owned business based in Mankato since 1954, is the supplier of the stone and has one of the most modern stone quarrying and fabrication facilities in the United States.

Mehls says rough and smooth earth-toned stones will be mixed to display different colors and shapes. The stones, known for their strength, are durable dolomitic limestone formed more than 400 million years ago.