

## **Automotive business moving headquarters from California**

**Investment expected to reach \$10.5 million, create 50 jobs over three years.**

By [Matt Cunningham](#)

Staff Writer

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FAIRFIELD — A Japanese automotive business plans to consolidate operations and make Fairfield its new U.S. headquarters.

Iwata Bolt USA, the American branch of a company that makes fasteners and bolts for automakers including Honda and Nissan, plans to build a 115,000-square-foot office and manufacturing plant on a 17-acre site on Union Centre Boulevard east of Seward Road.

Fairfield City Council on Monday approved a community investment agreement tax abatement for the company's \$10.5 million investment that would add more than 50 jobs to the city over the next three years as the company consolidates its plants in Vandalia and Garden Grove, Calif., which serves as its current headquarters.

"Most of the products come to this area," said Akira Kayama, executive vice president of IBUSA, noting its major customers are auto manufacturing plants in Indiana, Kentucky and Georgia. "That's why we decided to move the factory from California to this area."

Kayama said construction will begin in October, with completion expected next summer. The fast time line is essential, he said, as the new facility already has orders to fill for its Japanese clients.

"We are pleased as we can be to have you in Fairfield," said 2nd Ward Councilman Mary Judd.

In return for the investment, IBUSA will receive a 50 percent property tax abatement for seven years, during which the company will pay Fairfield City School District \$9,105 per year.

Contact this reporter at (513) 755-5127 or [mcunningham@coxohio.com](mailto:mcunningham@coxohio.com).