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New warehouse means new jobs

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By Bob Tita

Crain's Chicago Business



A Florida company plans to open an automotive tire distribution warehouse this fall in south suburban Monee that will employ about 100 people.

TNT Logistics North America Inc. will distribute tires for South Carolina-based Michelin North America, according to Monee village officials. Construction on the 721,000-square-foot building is scheduled for completion in October.

The warehouse will be the inaugural project in the 335-acre Bailly Ridge industrial park near Interstate 57 and Monee-Manhattan Road. The property was once part of a proposal for a giant shopping mall, hotel and convention center to rival north suburban Gurnee Mills. Those plans never got off the ground.

Locations Finders International Inc. of Mokena is developing the industrial park. TNT has a 10-year lease with Location Finders, village officials said.

Monee has agreed to divert about \$4 million in property taxes for the cost of infrastructure improvements for the \$16-million warehouse.

TNT already operates distribution centers for Hoffman Estate-based Sears Roebuck and Co. merchandise in Romeoville, Carol Stream, Melrose Park and Park City. The company also distributes parts for Ford Motor Co. from a Chicago Ridge warehouse.

Monee officials say TNT intends to hire about 56 people for the new warehouse. The remainder of the workforce will come from existing TNT facilities.

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