



# MonoSol moves headquarters to Merrillville

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Water-soluble film maker MonoSol is expanding beyond its Portage locations.

The company recently split off its pharmaceutical branch, MonoSol Rx, which will be headquartered in New Jersey.

MonoSol Rx develops and manufactures dissolve-on-the-tongue strips, containing medicines and other health aids, at its facility on Melton Road in Portage.

The non-pharmaceutical wing, MonoSol LLC, has moved its administrative offices to Merrillville while continuing to manufacture dissolvable detergent packets and other products at its County Line Road plant, also in Portage.

The Merrillville location makes the growing company's headquarters more accessible, MonoSol LLC President and Chief Executive Officer P. Scott Bening said.

"We wanted it to be a little bit closer to the airports," Bening said, "and there are more places for people to stay, as far as hotels."

The new headquarters, on 80th Place, will house MonoSol LLC's accounting and marketing teams, as well as executive offices, Bening said.

MonoSol introduced its first water soluble film in 1953 and moved into the pharmaceutical business with its 2004 acquisition of British based Aquafilm.

An expansion of the County Line Road facility earlier this year added office space and room for a 600-square-foot laboratory.

The factory produces water dissolvable plastics, including a packet that delivers a combination of detergent and grease-cutting liquid into the dishwasher.

Alexander Schobel was named Monday to head MonoSol Rx as part of the pharmaceutical wing's separation from MonoSol LLC, according to a company announcement.

Schobel had previously developed programs and products for health-care product manufacturer Novartis, the announcement said.

His addition to MonoSol Rx coincides with moving company headquarters to New Jersey.

Splitting off MonoSol Rx from MonoSol LLC was part of a long-term plan, along with the decision to hire a separate CEO to head the company, Bening said Monday.

"We really needed to hire somebody who has a pharmaceutical background," Bening said. "It's the best thing to grow that company."

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