Old Mill District welcomes the Orvis Company

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World-famous sporting traditions retailer chooses Bend for its first Oregon location BEND, Ore. â€“ The Orvis Company Store, a world-renowned â€œsporting traditions lifestyleâ€• store, will open its first Oregon location at the Old Mill District in the fall of 2008, according to Old Mill District Marketing Director Noelle Fredland. Orvis Company stores each feature their iconic trout image, captured in stained glass. â€œWe are delighted to welcome Orvis to the Old Mill District,â€• said Fredland. â€•It is the oldest mail order catalog company in the country and its lifestyle stores are a perfect fit for Bendâ€™s fishing and hunting aficionados. The addition of Orvis to the Old Mill District is an excellent complement to our other merchants.â€• With more than 60 retail locations and more than 500 dealer stores in the U.S. and the U.K., Orvis has just five retail stores on the West Coast, including four in California and one in Washington. According to Fredland, Dara Smith, broker with COLM Commercial Real Estate Services, was instrumental in bringing the retailer to Bend. Orvis retail stores offer a full line of fly fishing and hunting gear along with a gunroom, menâ€™s and womenâ€™s apparel, furniture and a full line of dog products. At the Old Mill District, outdoors enthusiasts can access the Orvis-endorsed Fishing and Hunting Lodge program and adventure travel services for sport-oriented vacations throughout the world. Orvisâ€™s Fly Fishing and Wing Shooting schools can help anyone from the beginner to the expert refine their skills and knowledge. Orvis also will offer Fly Tying and Fishing Schools out of its Old Mill District location. Each year, Orvis donates 5 percent of pre-tax profits to organizations that protect fish and wildlife habitat. Over the last 10 years, Orvis has donated nearly $10 million to these organizations, including Trout Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy, Coastal Conservation Association, Ducks Unlimited, The Conservation Fund, Ruffed Grouse Society, and The Atlantic Salmon Fund. According to Land Trust executive director Brad Chalfant, â€œOrvis was instrumental in helping the Land Trust reach fishermen and conservationists around the world during our campaign to forever protect the Metolius Preserve. Weâ€™re looking forward to working with the company on protecting more land now that it has a new store in the Old Mill District.â€• The Orvis Company Store will occupy 10,500 square feet of space in a stand-alone building that will be constructed in the North Parking Lot of the Old Mill District. Orvis joins a roster of 47 national retailers and unique shops, art studios and restaurants that can be found only at the Old Mill District. The North Shops Phase 2 development opened in the fall of 2007 with Acadia Footwear, Ann Taylor Loft, CafÃ© Yumm!, Chicos, Desperado and White House/Black Market. The mix of upscale and diverse retailers includes several restaurants set to open their doors in the coming months. Allysonâ€™s Kitchen will open in February, followed by Flatbread Community Oven and Pizzeria in June and Pastini Pastaria in July. ABOUT THE OLD MILL DISTRICTThe Old Mill District is one of the Pacific Northwestâ€™s most distinctive and dynamic mixed-use developments. Located on 270 acres that formerly housed one of the largest sawmill operations in the world, the Old Mill District offers a rich history along with spectacular mountain views and scenic river vistas. More than 47 retail shops and businesses call the Old Mill District home, including 20 specialty retailers, art galleries and restaurants that are unique to the Bend area, and national retailers such as Banana Republic, REI, Victoriaâ€™s Secret, Ann Taylor Loft and the Gap. In addition, the Les Schwab amphitheater is Bendâ€™s premier music venue, accommodating up to 8,000 patrons in its park-like locale. The Old Mill District â€“ Bendâ€™s most unique shopping, dining, living, and working experience. The Old Mill District is open Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. For complete information on The Old Mill District, visit their web site.