

Les Schwab Names New CEO, Moves Corporate Office to Bend

by Bend Weekly News Sources

Les Schwab Tire Centers recently named Dick Borgman its new Chief Executive Officer. Phil Wick remains the company's chairman. Les Schwab also has announced it will be moving its corporate offices from Prineville, Ore., to Bend, Ore.

Borgman, 51, previously was president for the Les Schwab Holding Company Division. He has worked closely with Wick and company founder Les Schwab during the last 16 years.

"Both the board of directors and the Schwab family have complete confidence that he is the right person to lead the company over the next phase of continued growth and expansion," said Wick in earlier reports.

"With Les' retirement and my reduced work schedule, Dick's appointment reaffirms our commitment to Les Schwab's customers and employees."

The dealership's new 120,000 square-foot corporate office is slated for completion by the fall of 2008.

About 350 employees will work out of the Bend office, and 800 employees will remain in Prineville at Les Schwab Tire Centers' distribution center and retread facility.

"We wanted to remain in Oregon but also looked at areas beyond the state," Wick said. "The Bend location provides the land and infrastructure needed to support our business and reinforces our commitment to the central Oregon region that has supported us."

According to the company web site, Les Schwab began his business venture in 1952 with one small tire store in Prineville. Les Schwab Tire Centers is now one of the largest independent tire dealership in the U.S. with more than 400 locations in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California, Nevada, Utah, and Montana.

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