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Michelin North America (Canada) Inc. will make a \$74 million (\$73 million CDN) project investment at its Waterville, Nova Scotia, truck tire plant. Michelin says it anticipates the investment will create 50 new jobs. “Today’s announcement shows once again that Michelin believes in both the province of Nova Scotia and our highly skilled employees,” says Dana LeBlanc, president, Michelin North America (Canada) Inc. “The demand is growing in North America for our wide-based tire products like the Michelin X One, and this manufacturing investment at Waterville will help us meet that demand.” The Michelin X One was recently SmartWay-verified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (see SmartWay verifies 3 Michelin retreads).

LeBlanc said Michelin is proud of its 40-year history of manufacturing in Nova Scotia. The Waterville plant celebrated 30-years of manufacturing in 2012.

Michelin says its Waterville Plant will make capital investments in equipment improvements and increased production capacity over the next four to five years. The project will include the installation of new technologies in all aspects of the manufacturing process.

The expansion will support the success and continued growth of wide-based tire products like the Michelin X One for commercial trucking in North America. In addition, the project will include an assembly building expansion.

Opened in 1982, Michelin Waterville manufactures radial truck and off the road (OTR) and heavy-duty earthmover tires. During Waterville’s last significant expansion period from 2005-2007, Michelin invested \$92 million to begin production of the Michelin X One wide single truck tires in Waterville for the North American marketplace. Michelin Waterville celebrated the production of its 30 millionth tire in October 2010, which coincidentally was a Michelin X One tire.