

Closure of plant delayed

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Bombardier Recreational Products has delayed the closing of its Beloit distribution facility.

The company announced plans to close the facility located at 3225 Prairie Ave., Beloit, in September 2013. The company recently stated the closure would be postponed for two to three years.

“We have a lot of projects ongoing at the moment and we have realigned our priorities,” said Johanne Denault, manager of corporate communications at Bombardier Recreational Products.

Denault said the company told its 60 Beloit employees that the closure wouldn’t happen earlier this year.

The number of employees has remained the same since 2013 when the announcement for closure was initially made.

“We won’t revisit the issue for another three years,” Denault said.

The distribution center in Beloit ships parts and other merchandise made by the company.

Bombardier said in 2013 that the company was outsourcing its distribution center services in North America, which meant the Beloit facility and other facilities in the United States would be closed.

Bombardier Recreational Products acquired the Johnson and Evinrude brands of boat motors from Outboard Marine Corporation in 2001, along with the Outboard Marine Corporation warehouse facility in Beloit.

Bombardier Recreational Products, based in Canada, specializes in recreational motorized vehicles.

Brands include Ski-Doo and Lynx snowmobiles, Sea-Doo watercraft and boats, Evinrude and Johnson outboard engines, Can-Am all-terrain and side-by-side vehicles and roadsters, as well as Rotax engines.

Bombardier products are distributed in more than 100 countries and employs more than 6,000 people worldwide.