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Press Release

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Monosem Inc. to locate in Ithaca Industrial Park

Precision Planter manufacturer will boost multiple area firms

Ithaca, Michigan – Kansas-based Monosem Inc. announced its decision today to invest in a new manufacturing facility in the Ithaca Industrial Park in Ithaca, Gratiot County, Michigan. Monosem is a global manufacturer/distributor of precision planters for the agricultural sector. The company expects to create 2 to 5 direct jobs this year, and up to 25 within 5 years.

Tony Bakker, President of Monosem Inc. notes, "Our Monosem Representative Loren Roslund and his wife Becky started talking to me two years ago about the possibility of opening a satellite facility in Ithaca. After seeing how well a temporary site worked out during the 07-08 season, we were convinced to purchase a building. It is an added value that Ithaca is located in a strategic area for the distribution of Monosem planters. We look forward to the continued growth of Monosem in the agricultural community of Gratiot County and Central Michigan."

In addition to the direct economic impact of its assembly facility, the company anticipates supplier relationships with at least eight local firms supplying steel, wheels/tires, fasteners, machining, welding, sandblasting, and powder coating. New tractors will also likely be sold throughout the region to accommodate the specialized planters.

Don Schurr, Greater Gratiot Development, Inc. President comments, "It is truly remarkable how well Monosem fits into Gratiot County's emerging agricultural-industrial cluster. We expect multiple area firms to experience significant boosts as a result of Monosem's investment." The company expects to begin production within one month.

The Ithaca facility will be Monosem's fourth North American assembly facility, adding to its Kansas, Georgia, and Mexico locations. The Ithaca Industrial Park is a Michigan Certified Business Park. Gratiot County hosts four Michigan Certified Business Parks and five Tax-Free Renaissance Sub-Zones, with hundreds of acres of available property. Visit www.gratiot.org/ggdi for more information. For more information about Monosem Inc. visit www.monosem-inc.com.