



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Wisconsin's First Publicly-Owned Transload Terminal Brings Benefits to Businesses**

*New Oshkosh-based facility offers cost-effective shipping*

OSHKOSH, WIS. (June 15, 2018) – After many years of planning, the new Oshkosh transload terminal is operating and available for local and regional businesses to use. The new terminal is located east of Clairville Road in Oshkosh's Southwest Industrial Park and will be operated by Watco Terminal & Port Services a division of Watco Companies LLC. The facility is served by the Wisconsin & Southern Railroad, also a division of Watco Companies. The 11-acre, \$2 million terminal was funded by the City of Oshkosh, Watco Companies LLC and a transportation economic assistance grant received from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. The terminal is the first of its kind in northeast Wisconsin and the first publicly-owned terminal in the state.

The transload terminal is a location where goods or products are transferred from truck to rail, or rail to truck. Businesses that do not have direct rail access will now have the ability to ship via rail by utilizing this new facility and will have access to all North American Class I Railroads and ports through the Wisconsin & Southern Railroad.

“This project started as an opportunity to help Oshkosh Corporation, our leading employer; other companies located in the region can now share access to the transload,” said Jason White, CEO of the Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corporation.

The new terminal will give businesses the opportunity to diversify ways they ship their products. The impact of costs and truck availability related to long-haul trucking can be minimized by utilizing rail transportation. Fewer long-haul trucks on the roads create safer roadways and travel, along with greater and longer lasting infrastructure. Businesses that use water systems to ship now have an easier way to transport goods year-round, as water transportation shuts down in the winter and rail transportation continues to operate.

As the first publicly-owned terminal in the state, the relationship between the operator and government is strong. This is beneficial for businesses when going through the permitting process, applying for variances, receiving approvals and overall support of new projects. Additionally, the terminal will be held to a higher standard of cleanliness and what types of products are allowed on site based on it being publicly-owned.

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Watco Companies views the opening of the new transload terminal as the start of something larger.

“Of the many communities we serve in Wisconsin, Oshkosh is the hottest area for growth. Transload terminals have become a primary pillar of our service offering, and we expect the Oshkosh transload terminal to be a great benefit to many businesses in Wisconsin, ” said Jason Murphree, Commercial Director for Watco Companies.

The City of Oshkosh has available lots for sale in the Southwest Industrial Park near the new transload terminal that can be accessed by rail spurs. Businesses interested in learning more about potential developments, with the assurance of confidentiality, can contact the Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corporation at 920-230-3321 for an initial discussion.

*Greater Oshkosh EDC was established in 2015 and exists to preserve the health of existing companies, foster a positive entrepreneurial environment, connect companies to workforce and talent development resources, enhance the business climate and promote the quality of life in the greater Oshkosh area. For more information, visit: [www.greateroshkosh.com](http://www.greateroshkosh.com).*