

2004 ECONOMIC FACT SHEET

SAUK COUNTY

INDUSTRIES SERVED BY FREIGHT RAILROAD SYSTEM

In Sauk County, 14 industries ship freight via rail with the Wisconsin & Southern Railroad. Shipping freight by rail provides these industries listed below a low cost, efficient alternative to shipping by truck or other means.

CIRCUS WORLD MUSEUM
Baraboo

COOP COUNTRY PARTNERS
Baraboo

COOP COUNTRY PARTNERS
Reedsburg

COOP COUNTRY PARTNERS
Rock Springs

COOP COUNTRY PARTNERS
Sauk City

FRONTIER FARM SERVICES
Baraboo

FLAMBEAU PLASTICS
Baraboo

HARTJE LUMBER
LaValle

LAKESIDE FOODS
Reedsburg

MARTIN MARIETTA
Rock Springs

MIDWEST HARDWOODS
Reedsburg

PACE INDUSTRIES
Reedsburg

PERRY / JUDDS
Baraboo

SENGER LUMBER
Baraboo

2004 Economic Benefits From Industries Utilizing Freight Rail Transit

2004 Employees (Includes Seasonal)	Total Property Taxes Paid	Property Tax to Sauk County	Property Tax to State of Wisconsin	Total Railcar Loads
2,002	\$829,021.86	\$190,675.03	\$7,650.21	6,234

- With the railroad system in place today, over **\$12 million** is being saved in highway maintenance costs on an annual basis in Wisconsin.
- Rail service preserves existing highway infrastructure. There were **22,432 fewer trucks** on Sauk County roads in 2004 due directly to utilization of the railroad within the county. WSOR handled **18%** more railcars in Sauk County in 2004 than in 2003.
- Rail service to industries in Sauk County provides a vital transportation resource linking these businesses to thousands of other businesses in national and international markets.
- Most of the employees working at these rail served industries live within the county less than 25 miles from work.
- Railroads today provide a very high level of customer service to Sauk County. This efficient service helps industries save thousands of dollars in transportation costs yearly. Many of these industries could not operate profitably today without these cost savings.

In order to further facilitate savings to Sauk County industries, it is imperative to improve rail efficiencies by providing larger capacity railcars on the system. This can be accomplished by improving the existing infrastructure to allow for 286,000 lb capacity – the industry standard.

