The SOOLOCKS
LIFTING AMERICAN PROSPERITY

THE GREAT LAKES SEAWAY PARTNERSHIP
GREATLAKESSEAWAY.ORG
The Soo Locks are critical infrastructure for Great Lakes-Seaway shipping and the North American Economy. As one of the largest and busiest waterways on earth, a combination of locks and canals swiftly lift and lower around 7,000 vessels annually. This network helps ships navigate the 21-foot drop in elevation between Lake Superior and Lakes Michigan and Huron.

Each year, vessels passing through the Soo Locks haul an estimated 70 million tons of cargo to critical industries in the U.S. and Canada. In total, the infrastructure supports more than 123,000 jobs and $22.6 billion in economic activity.

The new Soo Lock project will construct a second, 1200-foot long lock, to handle thousand-foot vessels on the Great Lakes. The new lock will be situated on the site of the existing Davis and Sabin Locks. Over its 10 year construction period, the new Soo Lock project will support over 1,000 quality jobs and an estimated residual effect of $559 million in labor income impacting the Sault Ste. Marie local economy.

Learn more about the new Soo Lock project at greatlakesseaway.org/soolocks

**ECONOMIC IMPACT**

- **$22.6 Billion** in economic activity
- **$3.8 Billion** in tax revenue
- **70 Million** metric tons of cargo
- **123,170+** jobs supported

**JOBS BY STATE**

- **IL** 10K
- **IN** 50K
- **MI** 40K
- **MN** 20K
- **NY** 30K
- **OH** 50K
- **WI** 60K
‘MADE IN AMERICA’ STARTS AT THE SOO LOCKS

MAKING
Iron ore is used to make steel, which in turn is used to make cars, appliances, buildings, etc.

MOVING
90% of the world’s iron ore moves through the Soo Locks

SUPPORTING
123,000 jobs across North America

LIFTING
the North American economy by generating $22.5 billion in economic activity

THE GREAT LAKES SEAWAY PARTNERSHIP
The SOO LOCKS
CONNECTING AMERICA’S ECONOMY
AMERICAN ANCHOR

There is no one hero in the story of Great Lakes shipping. The economic prosperity of the region is due to the efficient and symbiotic connection of the Great Lakes-Saint Lawrence Seaway, Great Lakes ports, foreign and domestic vessels, manufacturers, labor farmers, and their relationship to their local communities. This supply chain is a foundation of our country’s economy and the backbone of our society. It is America’s Anchor.

The American Anchor series artfully captures the impact of the Great Lakes-Saint Lawrence Seaway System.

The first American Anchor short film tells the tale of the steel-making supply chain, beginning at the iron ore mines of Minnesota, then moving through Lake Superior and the Soo Locks on a freighter destined for the steel making complex at Burns-Harbor, Indiana. From there, the iron ore is followed through production as it’s made into steel that’s used to construct the world around us.

The second American Anchor short film tells the tale of the agricultural supply chain, beginning at farms across the Midwest. After the harvest, agricultural commodities, like grain and soy, make their way to a Great Lakes port. There, the commodities are loaded on a freighter and moved through the largest freshwater lakes in the world. The vessel then makes its way through the St. Lawrence Seaway to the Atlantic Ocean until it reaches its overseas port of call. There, the exported agricultural products are used to produce everything from bread, pasta, soy milk, and vegetable oil to beer, ethanol, and animal feed.

Each year, waterborne transportation in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence region is responsible for supporting over 237,000 jobs and $35 billion in economic activity by moving necessary cargos that support the agriculture, construction, automotive and energy industries.

WATCH THE SERIES HERE.
greatlakesseaway.org/american-anchor-series/