

## Economic Profile

# John Deere Waterloo-Works Drivetrain Operations Facility

Waterloo, Iowa

### CONTINUED USE



Farm  
Equipment  
Manufacturing



Museum



Higher  
Education



Hotel

Since 1918, John Deere has been building its iconic tractors in Waterloo, Iowa. The factory is a major employer in the region and plays an important role in the multinational farm machinery industry. Over a hundred years of industrial operations in the area resulted in contamination of soil and groundwater.

With oversight by EPA's RCRA Hazardous Waste Cleanup Program (formerly the RCRA Corrective Action Program), John Deere continues to implement long-term corrective action measures at the facility. Corrective action includes covering areas with physical barriers (concrete, asphalt, clean soil) to prevent exposure, monitoring groundwater, installing an indoor air mitigation system and restricting land use with an environmental covenant. Throughout ongoing corrective action, John Deere continues to operate and play a vital role in the regional economy, providing 1,400 jobs and \$118 million per year in employee income. These actions are also enabling new development, including a technology campus and industry innovation center, a hotel and a volunteer center.

### CLEANUP OVERSEEN BY EPA



ANNUAL SALES

**\$653 million**



EMPLOYEES

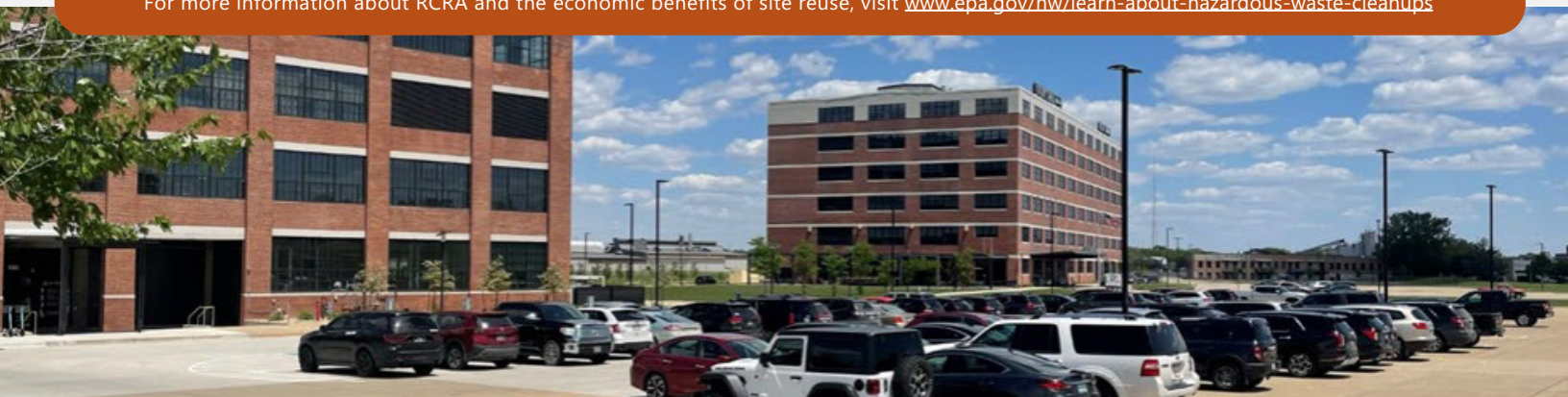
**1,516**



ANNUAL WAGES

**\$125 million**

For more information about RCRA and the economic benefits of site reuse, visit [www.epa.gov/hw/learn-about-hazardous-waste-cleanups](http://www.epa.gov/hw/learn-about-hazardous-waste-cleanups)





THROUGHOUT ONGOING CLEANUP ACTIVITIES, JOHN DEERE CONTINUES TO OPERATE AND PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN THE REGIONAL ECONOMY.

At its Waterloo facilities, John Deere tests and manufactures tractors, engines and equipment. In addition to its manufacturing facilities, John Deere runs the John Deere Tractor & Engine Museum. The museum offers free entry and provides education about John Deere's operations as well as the history and innovation of the farm machinery produced by the company.

In the mid-2000s, John Deere transferred 30 acres to Techworks for redevelopment as a technology park for universities and businesses. The campus provides an environment where higher education institutions and industry partners can come together to innovate the metal casting industry. For example, the University of Northern Iowa's Additive Manufacturing Center helps the industry adopt new technologies. The Additive Manufacturing Center and the University of Northern Iowa Department of Technology also provide demonstration space and workforce education opportunities for university students and industry professionals. Lincoln Savings Bank at the Techworks Campus building employs 150 staff, with 100 to be added over five years.

A recipient of grant funding from EPA's Brownfields program, Techworks also hosts other organizations dedicated to the economic development of the state of Iowa and the region. The Cedar Valley Regional Partnership and the Grow Cedar Valley Alliance are economic development organizations focused on regional and local advancement and business investments. The city of Waterloo is planning the development of a regional recreational Hard Court Tournament Center at the facility. The city is also developing a marina with boat slips, pontoon rentals and a fisherman's pub along the banks of the revitalized Cedar Riverfront. In addition, a 166-room Courtyard by Marriott hotel and the Volunteer Center of Cedar Valley are also located on the transferred portion of the facility.

With dedicated collaboration, the facility is being redeveloped and expanded into an education, recreation and industry hub for the Waterloo community.



The John Deere Tractor & Engine Museum has interactive displays and workshops providing a hands-on educational experience for visitors.



The University of Northern Iowa's Additive Manufacturing Center provides technical support to about 100 foundries, foundry suppliers and manufacturers each year.