

Waste and Recycling Program

Our railcar leasing and Great Lakes shipping businesses offer efficient ways to ship goods in an environmentally sustainable manner.

- Our customers ship their products in our railcars and vessels in bulk, significantly reducing the amount of packaging waste produced.
- At the end of a railcar's useful life, the entire railcar is scrapped. GATX recycles an average of 88,200 gross tons of steel per year.



Photo of Erman Corporation railcar recycling facility, located in Kansas City.

Operational Waste Streams

We are committed to taking steps to reduce the environmental impact of our operations, as stated in our Environmental Policy. We strive to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills by evaluating which waste streams can be eliminated, reduced, reused or recycled.

Examples of waste stream reduction efforts in our railcar repair facilities include:

- Production — segregation of operational waste for recycling and battery recycling. Additionally, we recycle metal scrap from serviceable parts. On average, 4,456 gross tons of scrap metal is recycled every year from our repair facilities.
- Finishing — grit reuse/recycling and paint system upgrades to maximize application and minimize paint waste.
- Residual Commodity Waste — we collaborate with our third party waste vendor to identify reuse options for residual commodity waste remaining in railcars returned to us by our customers. As an example, our Plantersville location reused 43,300 lbs of sulfuric acid in 2018.
- Chemical — solvent recycling. When feasible operationally, we aim to reduce the amount of hazardous chemicals used by substituting non-hazardous alternatives. For example, several of our facilities utilize a closed-loop cleaning system to reuse diesel fuel washing solutions.

In addition, our Great Lakes shipping business actively seeks opportunities to reduce waste. Our ASC subsidiary collaborates with vessel repair yards and facilities to recycle approximately 270 gross tons of scrap steel annually.