

RCRA Corrective Action Cleanup + Productive Use

Economic Profile

Willow Run Bomber Plant

Ypsilanti, Michigan

BEFORE

Aircraft and automotive manufacturing

AFTER



Automotive Research & Development

CLEANUP OVERSEEN BY

Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy

The Willow Run Bomber Plant was built in 1941 to build B-24 bombers for World War II. The plant was a crucial part of the Arsenal of Democracy – at the peak of operation, aircraft were produced at a rate of one per hour. After the war, General Motors purchased the plant and produced automobile transmissions until 2010. The site's industrial history resulted in soil and groundwater contamination. Cleanup is being overseen by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy.

The site is now home to the American Center for Mobility – a 500-acre high-tech testing facility for self-driving cars. The Center also includes a technology park to help incubate mobility companies, and demonstration facilities to showcase self-driving vehicle technologies.







For more information about RCRA and the economic benefits of site reuse, visit www.epa.gov/hw/learn-about-corrective-action



The RACER Trust was created in 2011 to clean up properties owned by General Motors and position them for redevelopment. The Trust is cleaning up the site's soil and groundwater under the oversight of the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy. A prospective purchaser agreement in 2016 paved the way for redevelopment by making clear that the Trust would be responsible for the site's cleanup.

Government, industry and academic groups collaborated to create the American Center for Mobility – the nation's premier facility for advanced automotive testing. Automotive developers are taking advantage of the facility's state-of-the-art capabilities to test cutting edge technologies. The Center now employs 10 people and has \$787,000 in annual sales.

The Smart Mobility Test Center offers vehicle testing capabilities found nowhere else in the world. Its customizable test environments provide a comprehensive Intelligent Transportation System and the world's first 5G network designed for connected and self-driving vehicles. With cleanup and redevelopment, this historic site is leading the way into the technological future.



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TO DATE, OVER 500 GLOBAL COMPANIES HAVE COME TO WILLOW RUN TO USE THE AMERICAN CENTER FOR MOBILITY'S SMART MOBILITY TEST CENTER THAT SITS ATOP OF THE FORMER BOMBER PLANT. IT IS A GREAT ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC SUCCESS STORY.

Reuben Sarkar, President & CEO of the American Center for Mobility



The American Center for Mobility is a stateof-the-art vehicle testing center, offering customizable test environments, indoor laboratories and a fiber-optic data network.



The nearby Yankee Air Museum stores some of their vintage aircraft on the site in a 144,000-square-foot building that was used for final assembly of the B-24s.