



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Watco Unveils Patriotic Locomotive Honoring America's 250th Anniversary

CHERRYVALE, Kan. (June 29) — Watco today unveiled a commemorative locomotive honoring America's 250th anniversary. The patriotic-themed locomotive will operate on the South Kansas & Oklahoma Railroad (SKOL), showcasing Watco's commitment to the communities it serves while commemorating a milestone in our nation's history.

The red, white and blue unit features a large waving American flag centered on the locomotive, accented with white stars, and Watco's Proud to Keep America Moving logo, tying into a companywide initiative launched in January to celebrate team members and their reflections on freedom, service, innovation, and progress.

"From the teams who designed, prepared, and painted this locomotive to the railroaders who will operate it, this is a tribute to the generations that built America and to those carrying that spirit forward," said SKOL General Manager Jerry Waun.

The locomotive bears the number 250 in recognition of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The design reflects both the nation's history and the vital role rail will continue to play in keeping America moving forward.

After the locomotive was selected as Watco's commemorative unit, team members based in Wichita, Kansas, began its transformation. Diesel mechanics Jacob Dick and Will Dystart and electricians Michael Hawk and Richard Collins played a key role in preparing the locomotive for service, completing mechanical upgrades and ensuring the unit was ready for the road before its transformation in Chanute, Kansas. Southern Pride Equipment Painting, a Georgia-based company, painted the former WAMX 6071 engine in a portable paint booth in Chanute.

"We're proud to mark America's 250th anniversary with a locomotive that honors the legacy of this country and the industries that helped build it," said Watco CEO Dan Smith. "As this locomotive travels our network, it represents the connection between our customers, our communities, and the role rail continues to play in moving America forward."

The locomotive was completed ahead of America's 250th anniversary, and in time to celebrate Watco's 43rd year of serving customers across the nation, on July 1.

As the locomotive begins service on the SKOL, it will travel across the region as a rolling reminder of our nation's heritage, honoring 250 years of American history.

About Watco

Watco is a leading transportation services and logistics company. Meeting customer needs on a day-to-day basis has enabled Watco to continually grow throughout our more than 40-year history. Today, Watco provides transportation, material handling and warehousing, logistics, and railcar repair and maintenance for customers throughout North America and Australia. For more information, visit watco.com.