Iron ore is one of the world’s leading industries, with 98% of iron ore mined worldwide used to make steel. Making the metal critical to nearly every industry from energy and construction to transportation and equipment manufacturing. In fact, iron ore is the world’s most commonly used metal.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- **99%**

$5 BILLION

- **99%**

**NEW JOBS**

Increased access to minerals like iron ore would create thousands of new jobs and keep the U.S. a top exporter of this critical metal.

- **21,000 JOBS**

In 2012, iron ore mining supported 21,000 direct, indirect, and induced jobs.

**TRANSPORTATION**

Iron ore can be found in hybrid and traditional car parts like engine blocks, in addition to sea-faring cargo ships and railroad systems.

**CONSTRUCTION**

Iron ore is used to make steel, the foundation of some of the world’s tallest buildings.

- Willis Tower: 75,000 tons
- Empire State Building: 57,000 tons
- John Hancock Center: 46,000 tons

**MANUFACTURING**

Iron ore is heavily utilized in industrial equipment including gear-cutting machines, welding, and material handling operations.