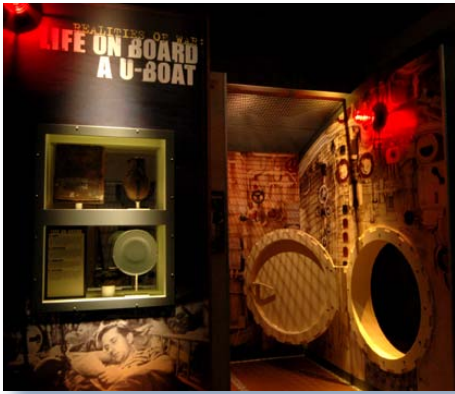


The U-505 Submarine

Chicago IL



A daring WWII military effort led to the secret capture of a German submarine – the U-505. For the Chicago Museum of Science & Industry, we created an immersive lighting environment that is at once dynamic and reverential to the dense history surrounding this immense and priceless artifact.

The story leading to the capture is told through dramatic 3D dioramas, videos, and graphic panels - juxtaposed with artifacts artfully illuminated with conservator-friendly fiber optic systems. In this large-scale optical illusion, projected actors appear to inhabit a real room.

Rounding a corner, guests find themselves literally nose-to-nose with the U-boat itself! Theatrical exhibit lighting is seamlessly integrated with architectural lighting. Dimming T5HO wallwashers



wrap the sub in a glowing, uncluttered shelter.

Pattern projectors create an ambient wash of dappled light. Exhibits are accented to appear as floating islands.

Interactive exhibits are accented so that participants are part of the scene. The lighting control system integrates seamlessly with AV control.

Our concept was to abstractly suggest a surfaced U-boat floating on the sea. The motion of lapping water is created by kinetic effects projectors. Theatrical spotlights create “sunlight” above the “water line”.

Long life halogen lamps and dimming for all sources extends lamp life and decreases maintenance requirements. An astronomical time clock assures that unnecessary lighting is not energized during non-public hours. All luminaries are programmed into a subtle and dynamic lighting show that is at once immersive & compelling and that celebrates the scale of the 250 foot long U-505.

This project was awarded a 2006 International Illumination Design Award.

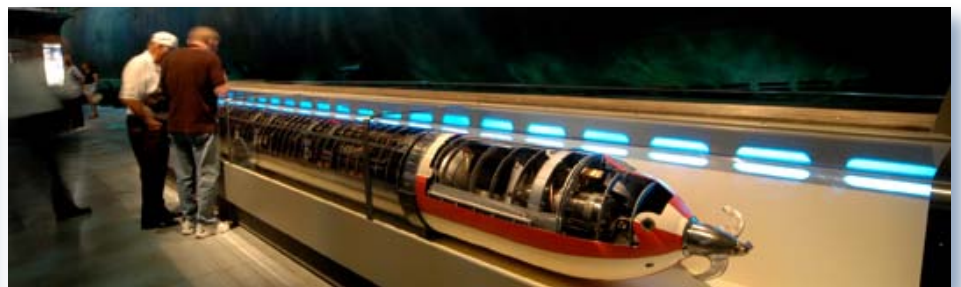


Exhibit Design: Christopher Chadbourne & Associates
Completed: 2005