

# MATERIALS MANAGEMENT FOR SNOW AND ICE CONTROL

CENTRAL NEW YORK PLANNING AND  
DEVELOPMENT BOARD

**SUPPORTED BY  
CORNELL LOCAL ROADS PROGRAM**

# Presenter's Background

- Laborer and Equipment Operator
- NYSDOT 36 Years
  - Research
  - Claims and Litigation
  - Maintenance and Operations
- Consultant Since 1996
  - Training, Claims and Litigation Support,
  - Guidance Documents, Books, Research,
  - Plan and Policy, etc.

WE HAVE A TREAT  
FOR YOU TODAY-  
WE'VE BROUGHT IN A

MOTIVATIONAL  
EXPERT!



# AGENDA

- S&I Plan and Policy Documents
- Materials Management Plans
- S&I Materials (Including Organic Chemicals)
- Sand Versus Salt as a Treatment
- Prewetting Salt

# AGENDA ctd.

- Material Application Techniques
- Calibration and Ground Speed Control
- Salt and the Environment
- S&I Strategies and Tactics
- S&I Treatment Design

# Questions & Answers



When deciding on Level of Service goals, what is the most important:

- A. Cost
- B. Safety
- C. Environmental Responsibility
- D. All of the above

Sand piles with only 5% salt pose  
no environmental threat:

A.True

B.False



Solid ice control chemicals can be used to treat roads before a storm on high-speed, high-volume roads:

A.True

B.False

On a per treatment basis, sand:

A. Cost more than salt

B. Cost less than salt

C. Cost about the same as salt

For the same level of service,  
anti-icing cost less than de-icing:

A.True

B.False

# A Comprehensive Snow Plan and Policy

WHY ????



# Advantages of Written Policy

- Forced to Plan Ahead
- Liability Minimized
- All Agency on Same Page
- Public Understanding/Complaint Reduction

# Written Policy

- WHAT DO YOU THINK SHOULD BE IN A WRITTEN MUNICIPAL SNOW AND ICE CONTROL PLAN AND POLICY

# MINIMUM CONTENT

- LEVEL OF SERVICE
- TREATMENT TIMING AND SEQUENCE
- STUCK AND PRIVATE VEHICLES
- SIDEWALK AND ALLEY
- PARKING DURING STORM/CLEAN UP
- SNOW REMOVAL (HAULING)
- MATERIALS STORAGE & USE

# MINIMUM CONTENT CTD.

(Appendix I)

- COMPLAINT AND FOLLOW-UP
- SEVERE CONDITIONS RESPONSE
- PROPERTY AND MAILBOX DAMAGE
- COMMERCIAL SNOW PLOWING
- CONTINGENCY RESPONSE PLANS
- INTERNAL & EXTERNAL  
COMMUNICATION
- ONE MORE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



# **ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY ISSUES**

# MATERIALS MANAGEMENT PLANS

## (USING BEST PRACTICES )

- Materials specifications
- Storage and Yard Facilities
- Material handling & Loading
- Material spreading Patterns
- Material Application Rates
- Washing Equipment
- Disposal of Materials
- Strategies and Tactics in Support of Level of Service Goals



# MATERIALS MANAGEMENT PLANS

- OBJECTIVES
- GUIDING PRINCIPLES
- FRAMEWORK

# MATERIALS MANAGEMENT PLAN OBJECTIVES

- VEHICLE FOR COMMITMENT
- IMPLEMENT BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
- APPLICABLE TO AGENCY STAFF AND HIRED RESOURCES
- <http://www.twp.cranberry.pa.us/publicworks/>

# MMP GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- SAFETY
- ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
- CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT
- FISCALLY DRIVEN
- PROVIDE AN EFFICIENT  
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

# MMP GUIDING PRINCIPLES

ctd.

- ACCOUNTABILITY
- MEASURABLE PROGRESS
- AGENCY BASED
- FOCUS ON COMMUNICATIONS
- KNOWLEDGEABLE & SKILLED  
WORKFORCE

# FRAMEWORK FOR MMP'S

- POLICY AND OBJECTIVES
- SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS
- WRITTEN POLICY /DOCUMENTATION
- PROPOSED APPROACHES

# FRAMEWORK FOR SMP'S ctd.

- TRAINING
- MONITORING, RECORD KEEPING, REPORTING AND ANALYSIS
- MANAGEMENT REVIEW



# **MMP PROCESS OF CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT AND STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION**

- **ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES & GUIDING PRINCIPLES**
- **BACKGROUND REVIEW & ANALYSIS**
- **IMPLEMENTATION AND DOCUMENTATION**
- **EDUCATION & TRAINING**
- **MONITORING & ANALYSIS**
- **MANAGEMENT REVIEW**
- **CONTINUE THE CYCLE**
- **(SEE TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION OF CANADA WEB SITE'S "READING ROOM")**

# Snow and Ice Control Materials



# Common Road Treatment Materials

## Chemicals

- Salt (Sodium chloride)
- Calcium Chloride
- Magnesium Chloride
- Potassium Chloride
- Brines (by-product of gas production)
- Potassium Acetate
- Calcium Magnesium Acetate
- Urea
- Agricultural By-products
- Other Proprietary Materials
- Abrasives

**Natural Occurring Salts**

# Advantages and Disadvantages of Chemicals and Abrasives

( PAGES 6-9)

- ✓ Develop lists
  1. Abrasives
  2. Chemicals

# Advantages of Chemicals

- Melting action
- Relatively low cost
- No cleanup (as with abrasives)

# Disadvantages of Chemicals

- Effectiveness drops with temperature
- Corrosive
- Environmental concerns
  - Excessive use
  - Improper Storage

# Abrasives: Advantages

- Relatively inexpensive (initial material cost)
- Easy to apply
- Skid resistance
- Can be mixed with salt and/or prewetted with salt or other chemicals



# Abrasives: Disadvantages

- no melting action
- easily scattered off road
- windshield breakage
- air pollution
- water pollution
- tracking – sidewalks, into homes
- requires clean-up
- Not as safe as bare/wet road

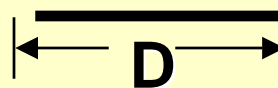
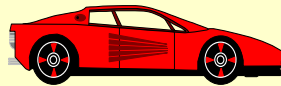




# The 'true' cost of Abrasives

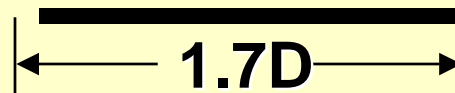
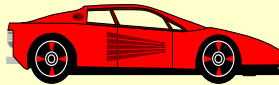
- One application of abrasives is nearly equal to one application of salt considering equipment and labor costs
- Abrasives have to be applied more frequently than salt resulting in additional application costs
- Add required cleanup costs to the use of abrasives

# Stopping Distance



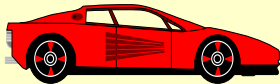
**Dry Surface:**

**S.D. = D**



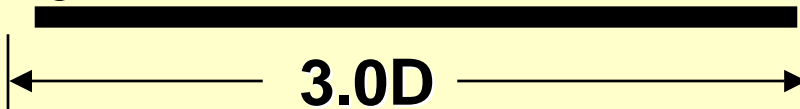
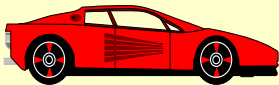
**Wet Surface:**

**S.D. = 1.7D**



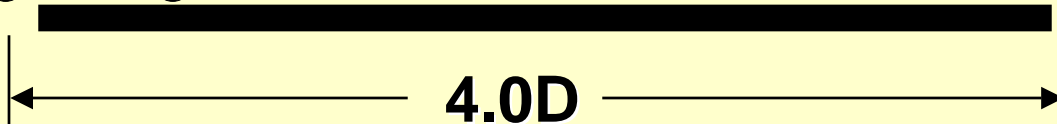
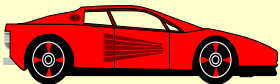
**Slush:**

**S.D. = 2.0D**



**Soft, Loose Snow:**

**S.D. = 3.0D**



**Compacted Snow:**

**S.D. = 4.0D**

# Chemicals

Chemicals applied to:

- prevent bonding of ice and snow to road surface
- prevent ice or frost from forming
- prevent buildup of snowpack
- melt ice that has formed

# Chemicals: How do they work?

(PAGES 5-6)

- Depress the freezing point of water, turning ice or snow into liquid or slush
- Solid salts dissolve to form brine solution

# Chemical Terms

- Concentration
  - % by weight of chemical in solution
- Eutectic Temperature
  - Lowest Temp solution will melt ice
- Endothermic
  - Requires heat when going into solution
- Exothermic
  - Gives off heat when going into solution
- Hygroscopic
  - Draws water from the air

# Salt: Anti-Caking Agents

- Sodium Ferrocyanide: Yellow Prussiate of Soda (YPS)
  - Non-toxic, approved for table salt
- Ferric Ferrocyanide: Prussian Blue
  - Non-toxic, used in blueprints, inks
- Both added at 20-100 ppm

# Salt: Uses

- Pavement Treatment (Liquid)
- Snow/Ice Treatment (Solid or Pre – Wet Solid)
- Prewetting Liquid
- Add to Abrasives

stockpile conditioner

provide melting power

# Ice Control Chemicals

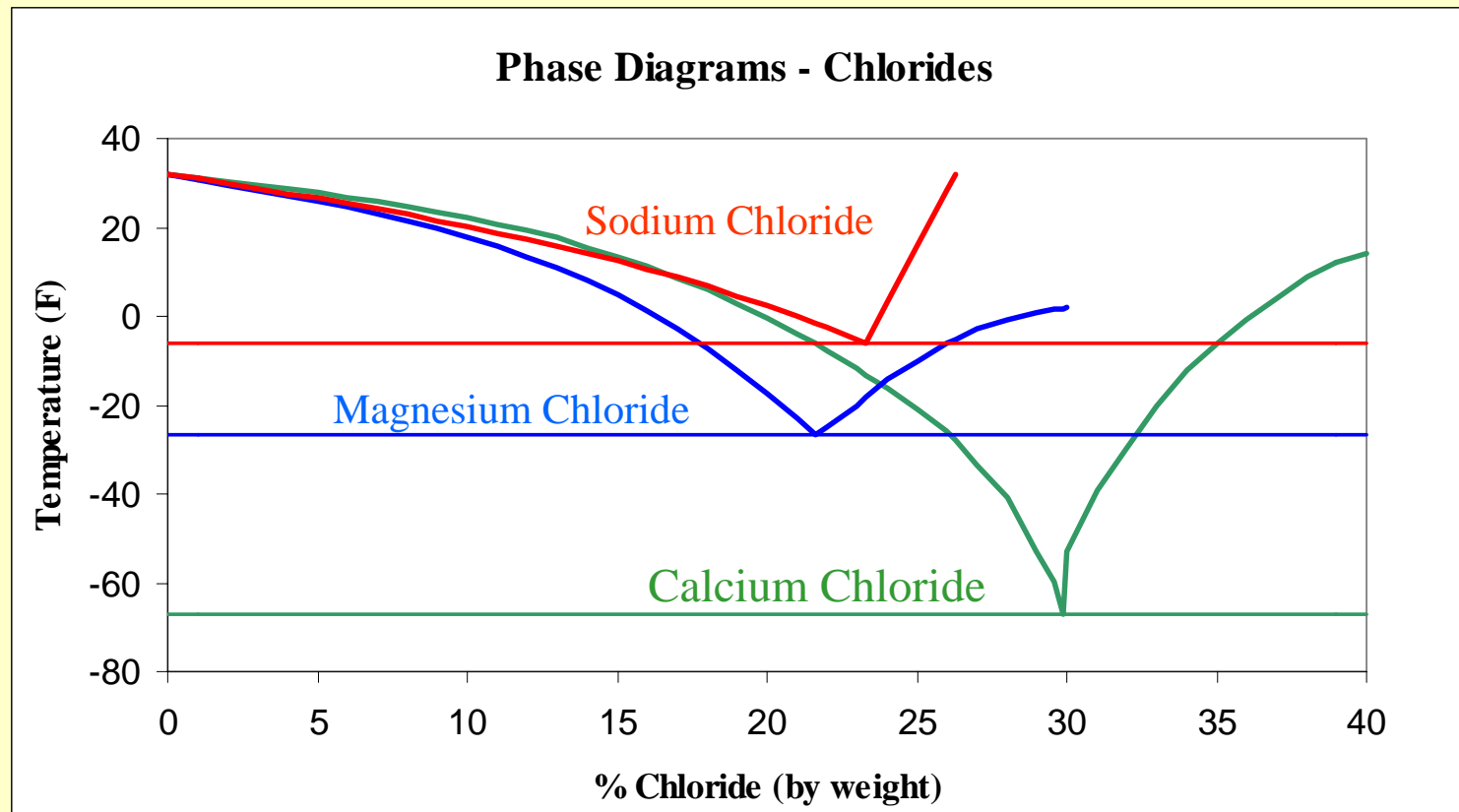
## Sodium chloride/Calcium

## chloride/Magnesium chloride

Temperature		Ice Melted per Unit of Chemical		
°F		Sodium	Calcium	Magnesium
30	→	46.3	→ 31.1	→ 47.8
25	→	14.4	→ 10.4	→ 15.4
20	→	8.6	→ 6.8	→ 10.0
15	→	6.3	→ 5.5	→ 7.9
10	→	4.9	→ 4.8	→ 6.8
5	→	4.1	→ 4.4	→ 6.1
0	→	3.7	→ 4.0	→ 5.5
-5	→	3.2	→ 3.7	→ 5.0



# Ice Control Chemicals



# Solid vs Liquid Advantages

- Solids
  - Less costly
  - Easier to handle
  - Dilute slower (retention)
  - Initial skid resistance (salt)
- Liquids
  - Instant action
  - Not displaced by traffic
  - Residue remains effective
  - Versatile
    - Used directly
    - Treat solids

# Solid vs Liquid Disadvantages

- Solid
  - Need moisture
  - Takes time
  - Not good for anti-icing (bounce & scatter, displaced by traffic)
- Liquid
  - Mostly water
  - Not useful for thick ice
  - Rain will wash off pavement
  - Can cause slippery conditions

# Mixtures of Solid and Liquid Chemicals

- Properties
- Operational characteristics

# Prewetting Salt

- Prewetted Salt: Salt which has been coated with a liquid solution prior to being spread.

# Prewetting Salt: Benefits

- Less bounce & scatter
- Faster reaction time
- More effective melting action
- Less salt needed resulting in:
  - reduced costs
  - reduced environmental concerns

# PREWETTING TECHNIQUES

- Stockpile or Pre-Delivery (Salt or Sand)
- In Spreader Hopper or Dump Body
- On Loader Bucket
- On-Board Systems
- On-Road Procedures

# LIQUID CHEMICALS that are added to SOLID CHEMICALS

- MgCl magnesium chloride & Organic Chem.
- $\text{CaCl}_2$  calcium chloride & Organic Chem.
- $\text{CaCl}_2$  calcium chloride & CMA
- MgCl magnesium chloride & CMA
- NaCl sodium chloride & “Organic Chem.
- NaCl sodium chloride

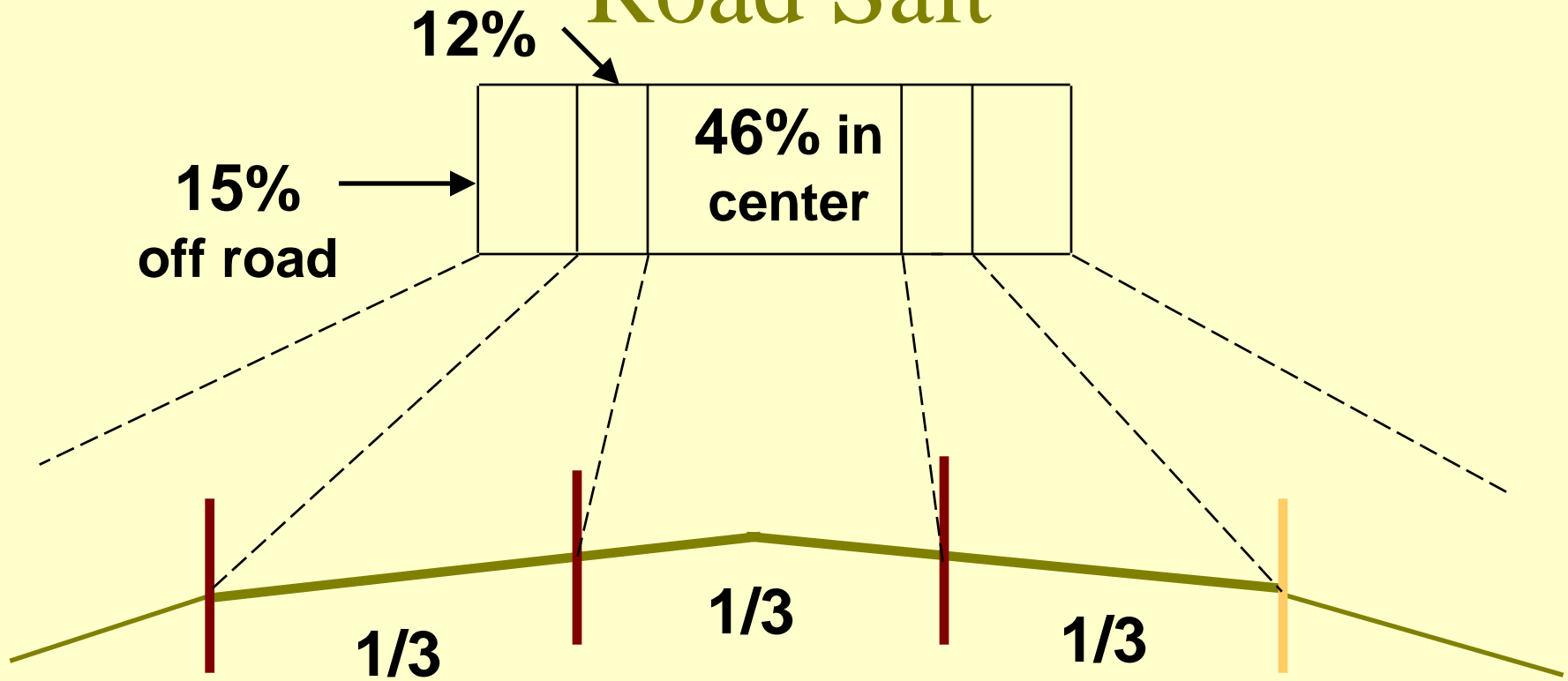
**ALL ARE MOSTLY WATER**



# Prewetting Salt

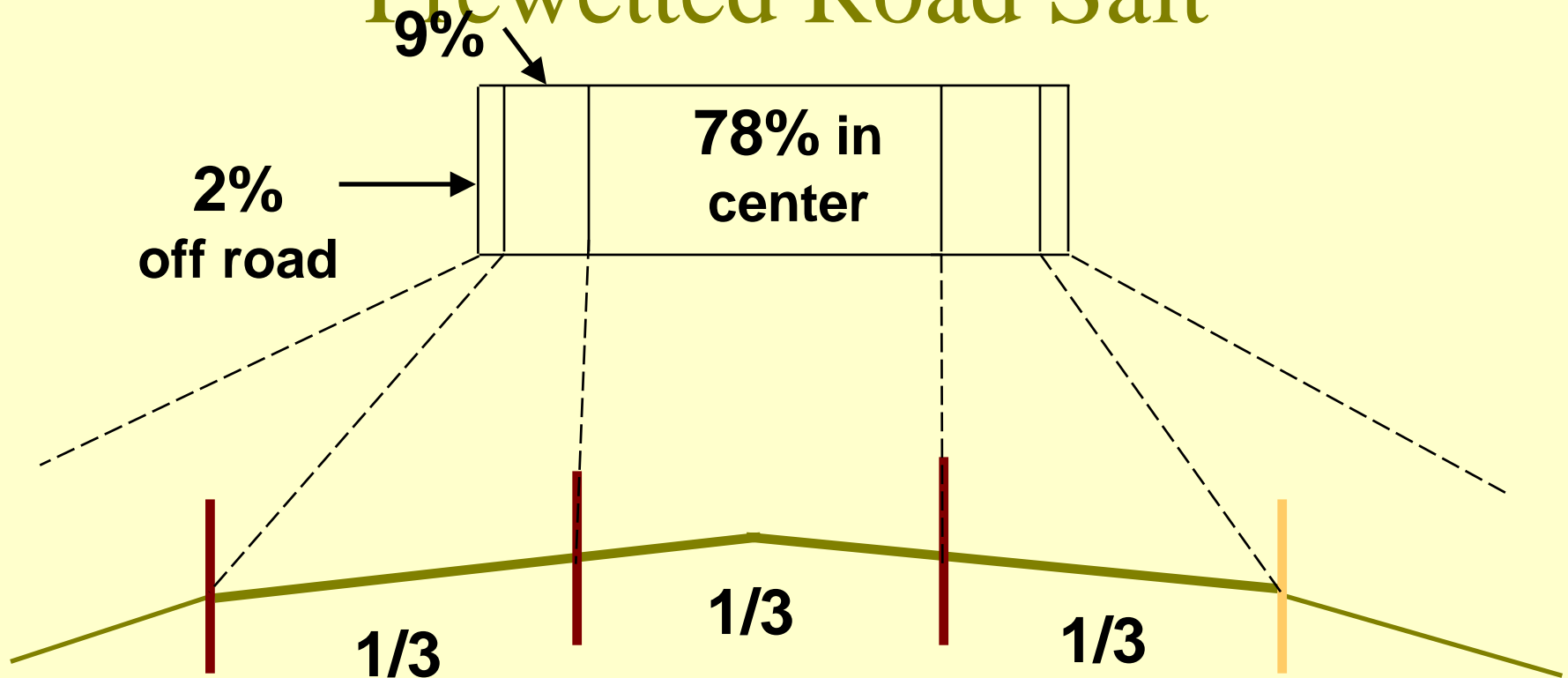
Wetness provided by solutions does cause salt to stick to the road surface or embed more quickly into an icy surface, thereby keeping the chemical mixture within the desired treatment area.

# Typical Scatter of Road Salt



**100% salt spread in center 1/3 of road**

# Typical Scatter of Prewetted Road Salt



**100% prewetted salt spread in center  
1/3 of road**

# Wetted Salt Benefits

“Wetted salt has.... less tendency to bounce and scatter.”

“Wetted salt begins immediately.... cleaning is achieved with less salt, less effort, and reduced operating costs.”

continued....

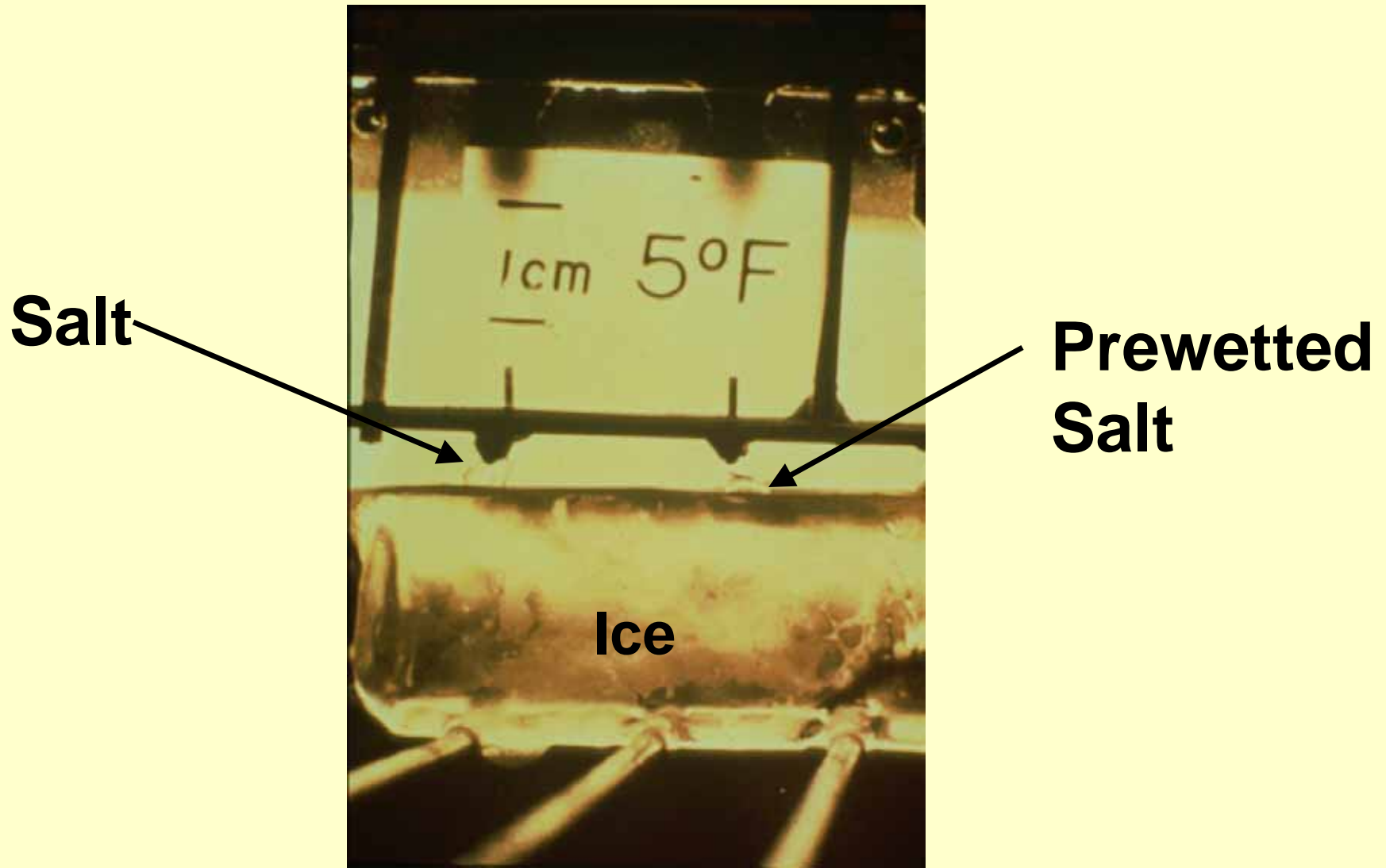
# Wetted Salt Benefits

“....a 30% reduction of salt use taken as a reasonable minimum....”

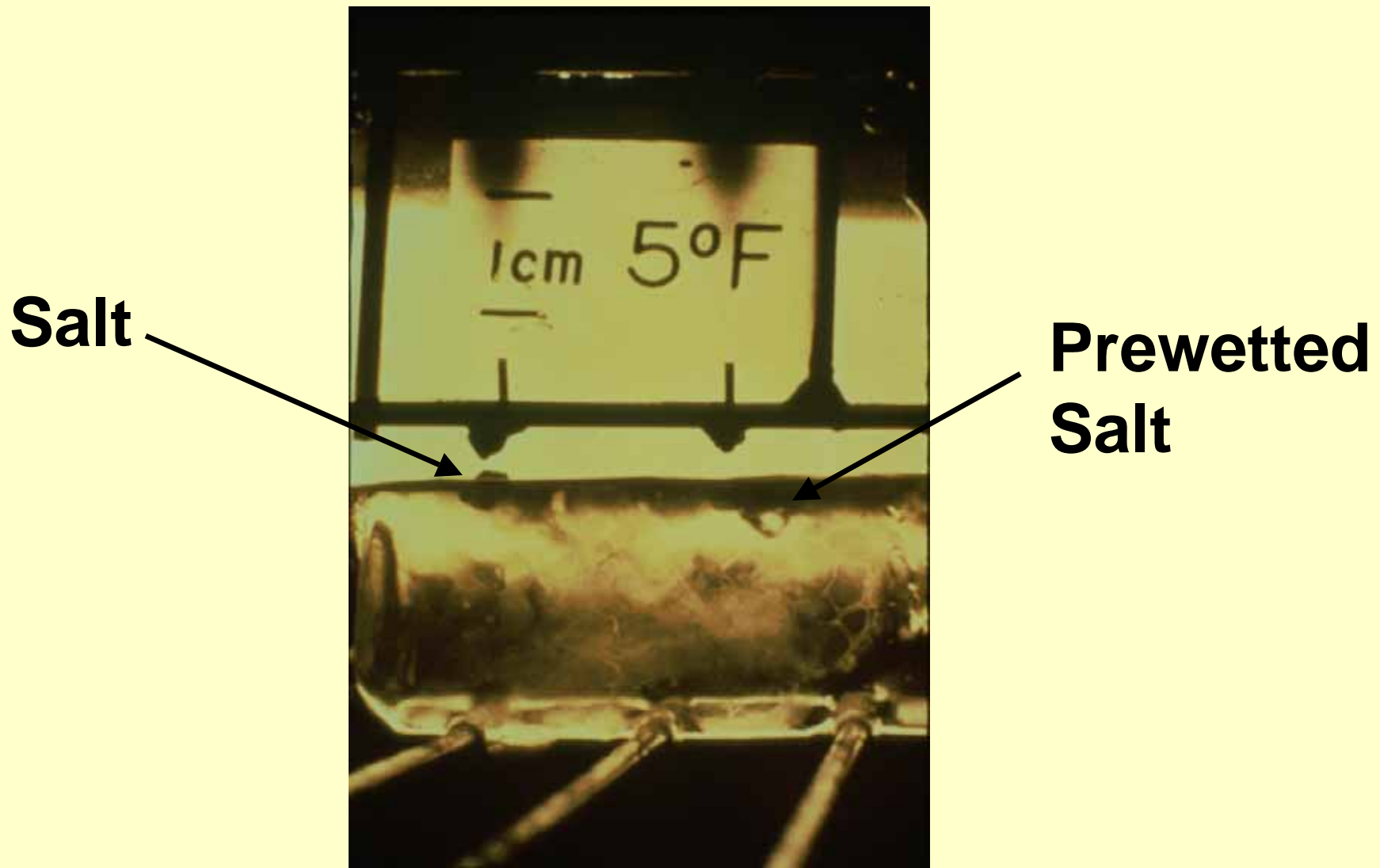
Public Technology, Inc.

**Take this with a grain of salt - Dewey**

# Melting Action: Untreated Salt vs Prewetted Salt



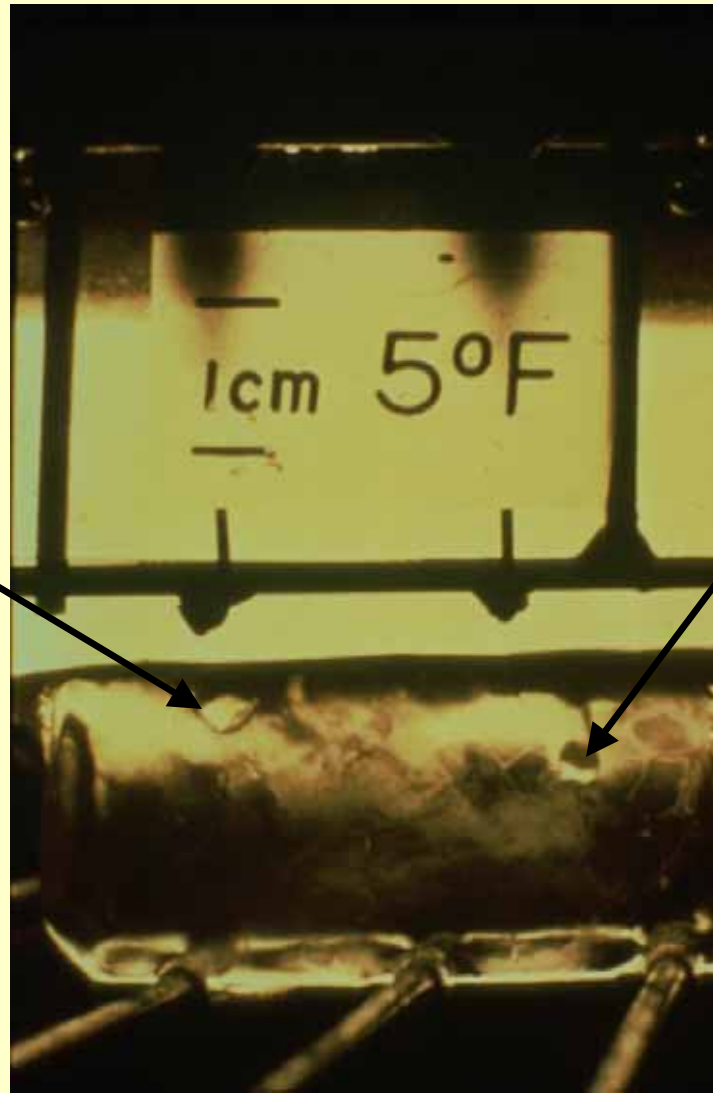
# Melting Action: Untreated Salt vs Prewetted Salt



# Melting Action: Untreated Salt vs Prewetted Salt

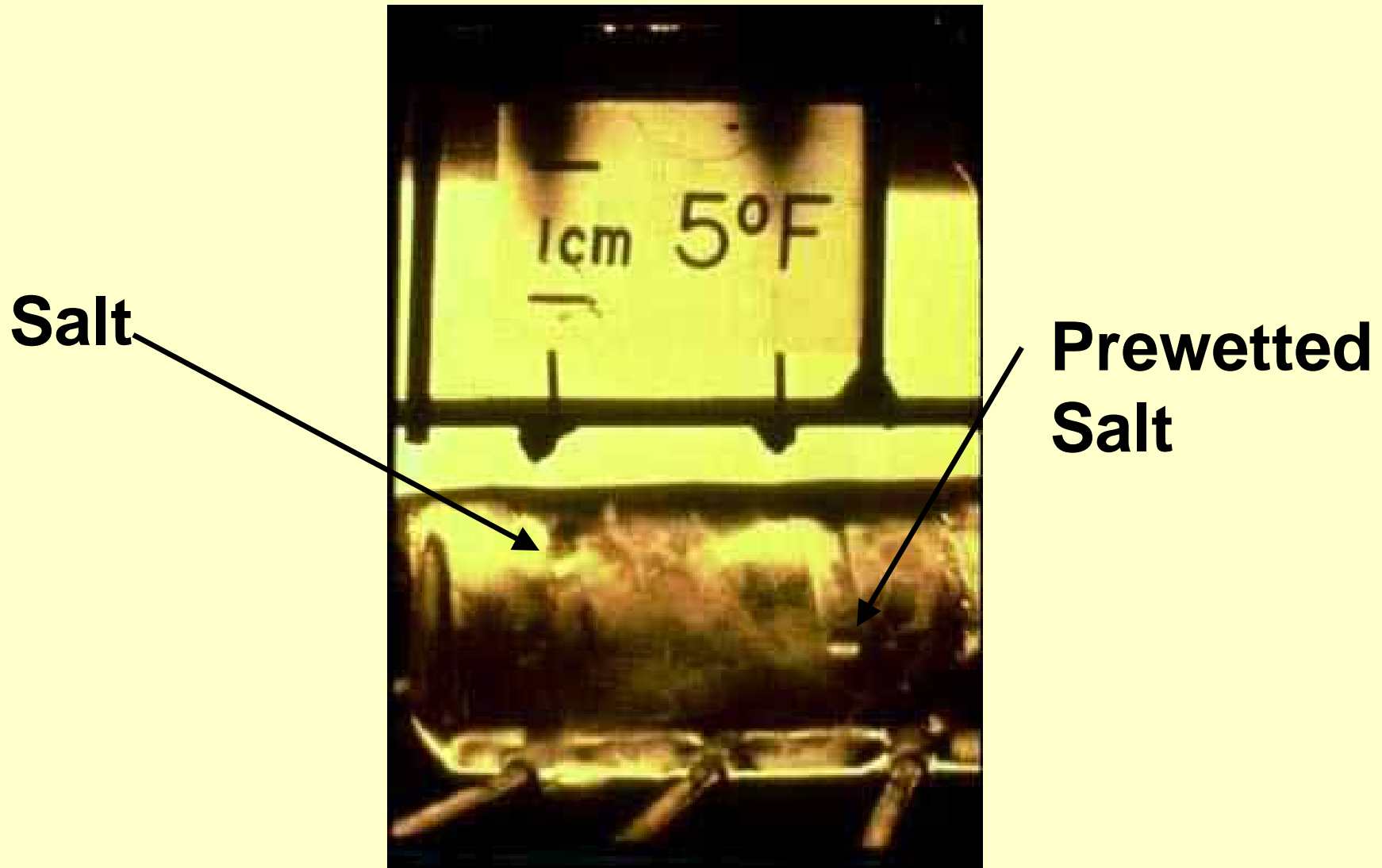
**Salt**

**Prewetted Salt**





# Melting Action: Untreated Salt vs Prewetted Salt



ORGANIC  
(CARBOHYDRATE ENHANCED)

LIQUID ICE CONTROL  
CHEMICALS

# Organic Chemicals are a SUGAR by-product of a Process

Sugar Making

Beer and whiskey making

Corn Fermentation

Other Crop Fermentation or  
Processing

# Advantages of Organic Chemicals

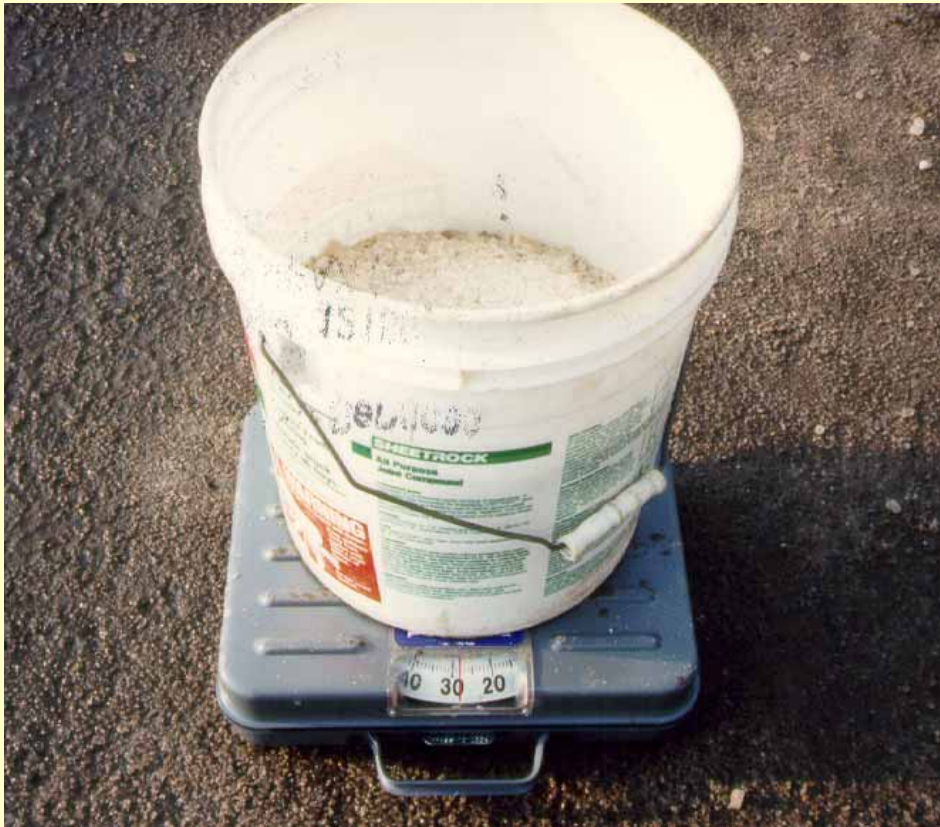
- Usual advantages of Pre Wetting
- Residual Effect between Storms
- Short Term Corrosion Protection (hwy.)
- Corrosion Protection on Equipment (cars ?)
- Environmental Marketing

# Application Rate Control

(PAGES 3,AND 19-22)



# Calibration



[illegible]

# Calibration

Table 8- Discharge and application rates

Discharge Rate (pounds/mile)	Application Rate, pounds per lane-mile		
	Number of lanes being treated		
	1	2	3
100	100	50	33
200	200	100	67
300	300	150	100
400	400	200	133
500	500	250	167
600	600	300	200
700	700	350	233
800	800	400	267



# GROUND SPEED CONTROL WHY?

- Higher Degree of Application Rate Control
- Cost Payback in LESS THAN ONE YEAR
- Material Savings 20 to 40 PERCENT

# Application of Snow and Ice Control Materials

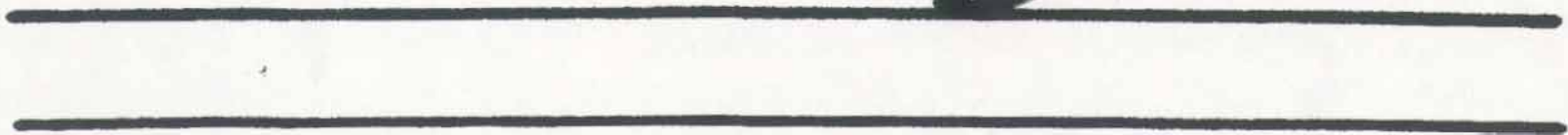
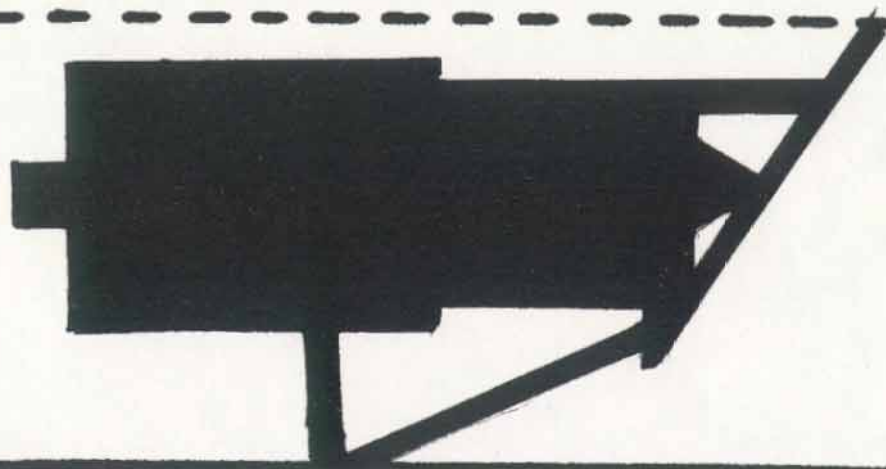
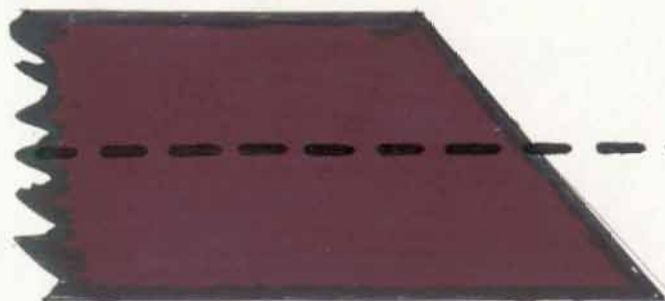
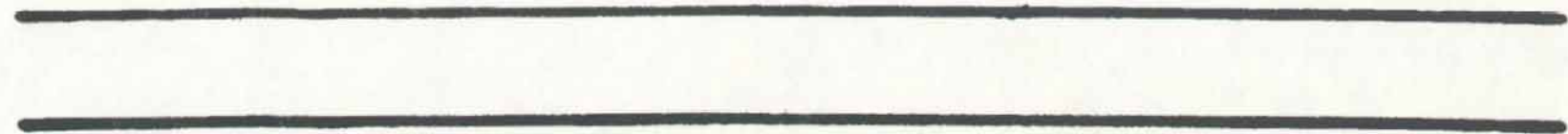


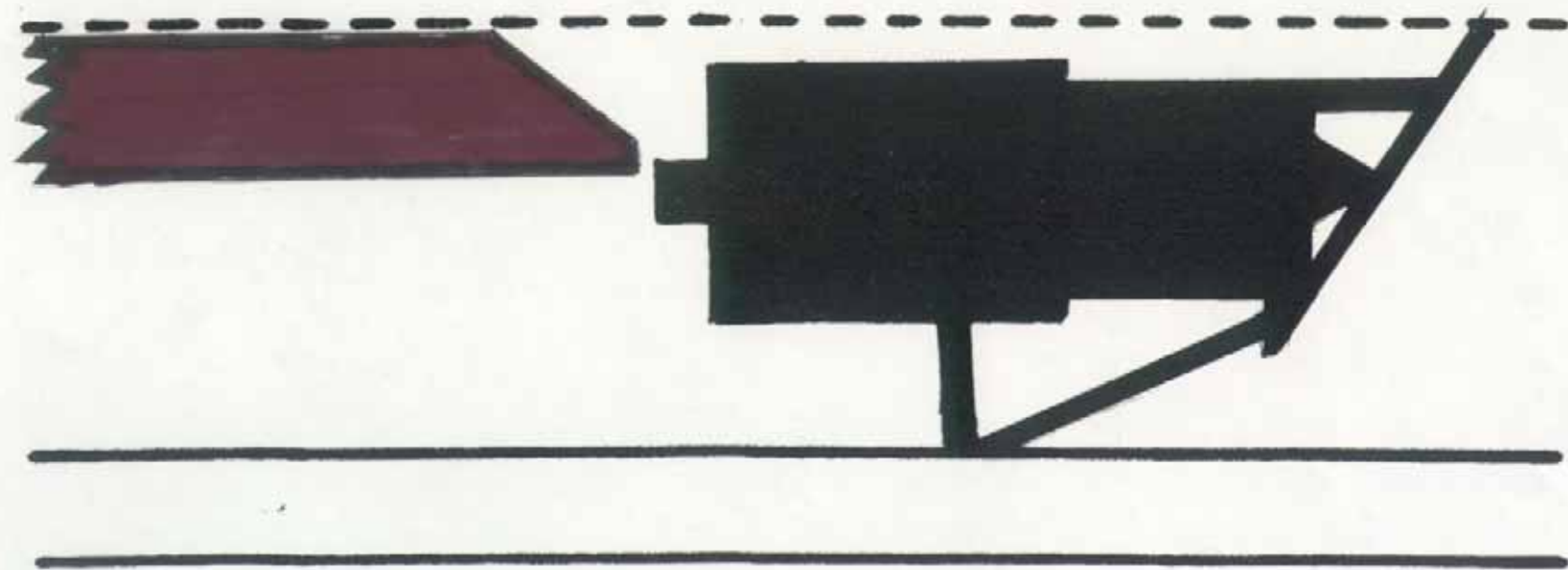
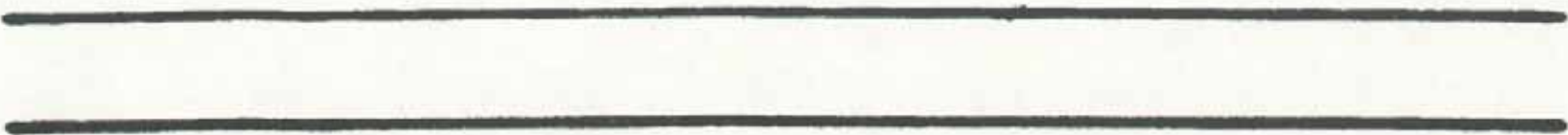
# Roadway Elements

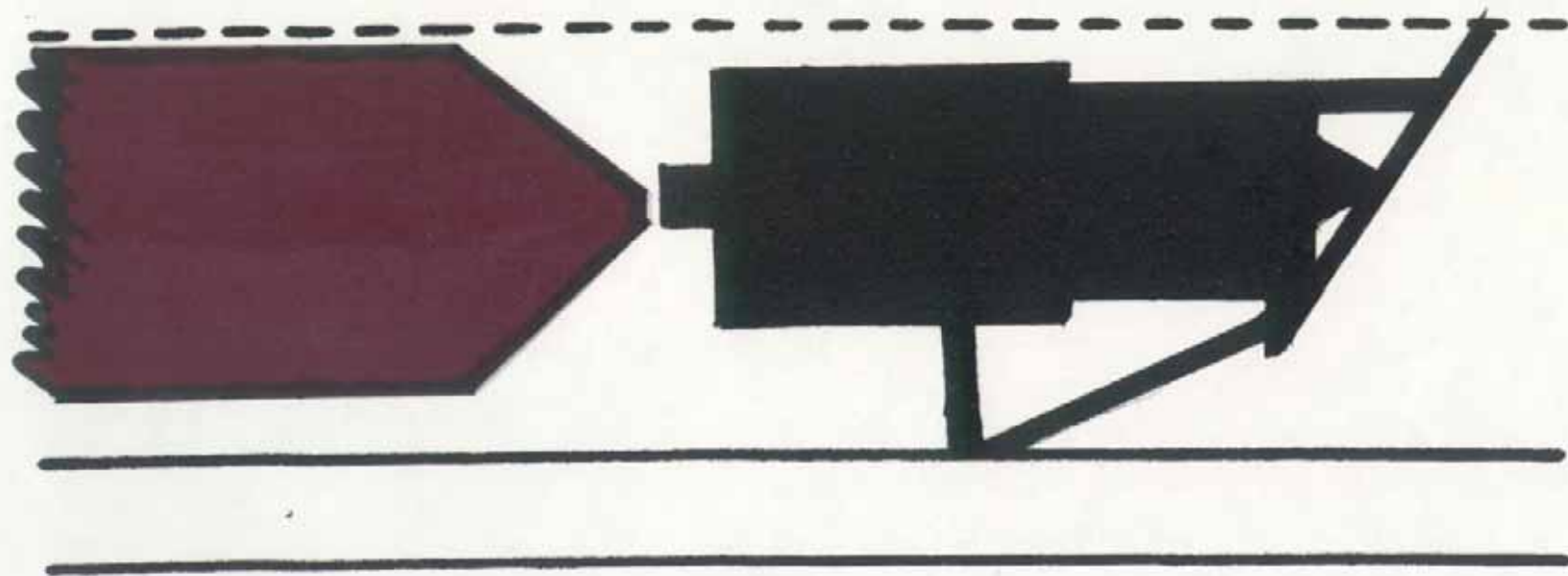
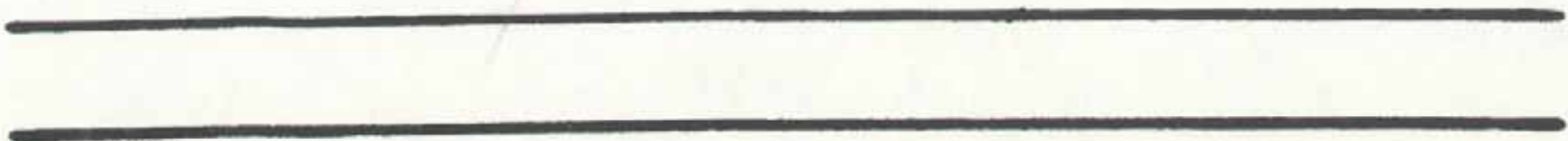
- Bridges
- Strong crosswinds
- Curves
- Change in jurisdiction

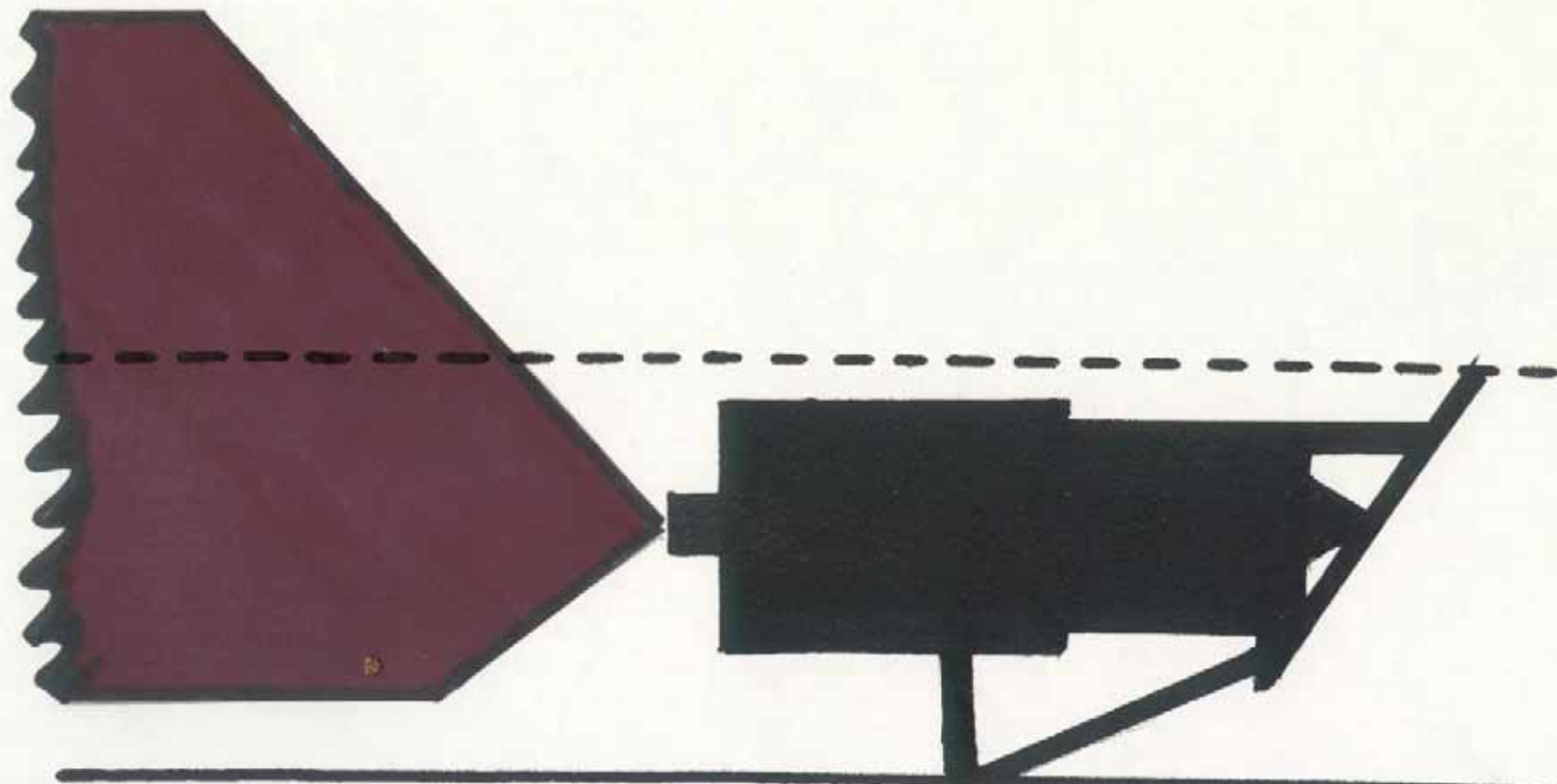
# Worst Case Scenarios



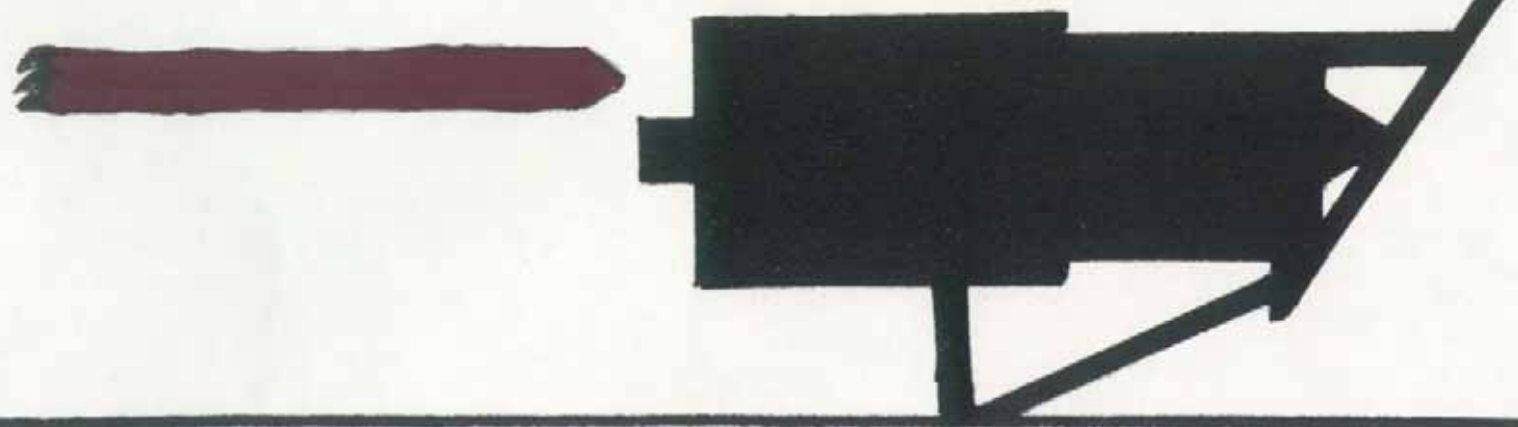












# SALT AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- GROUND AND SURFACE WATER
- VEGETATION
- WILDLIFE
- HUMAN HEALTH

STORING AND HANDLING

SALT

# Major Points of Good Salt Storage

- Sufficient capacity
- Inside storage, if possible
- Outside piles properly shaped & covered
- Impermeable pads
- Proper drainage with containment as required
- Good housekeeping





Salt

50' diameter



100 lbs. of Salt



Sand w/  
10% salt

50' diameter



96 lbs. of Salt

# Salt Storage

## Potential Problems

- Moisture produces surface crust, which form lumps clogging equipment
- Runoff: Surface runoff and infiltration through soil - leachate
- Spillage during stockpiling or spreader loading





**Improper  
storage...**



**...can  
only lead  
to  
problems!**

# Solid Material Storage



**‘Open’ piles = Problems**

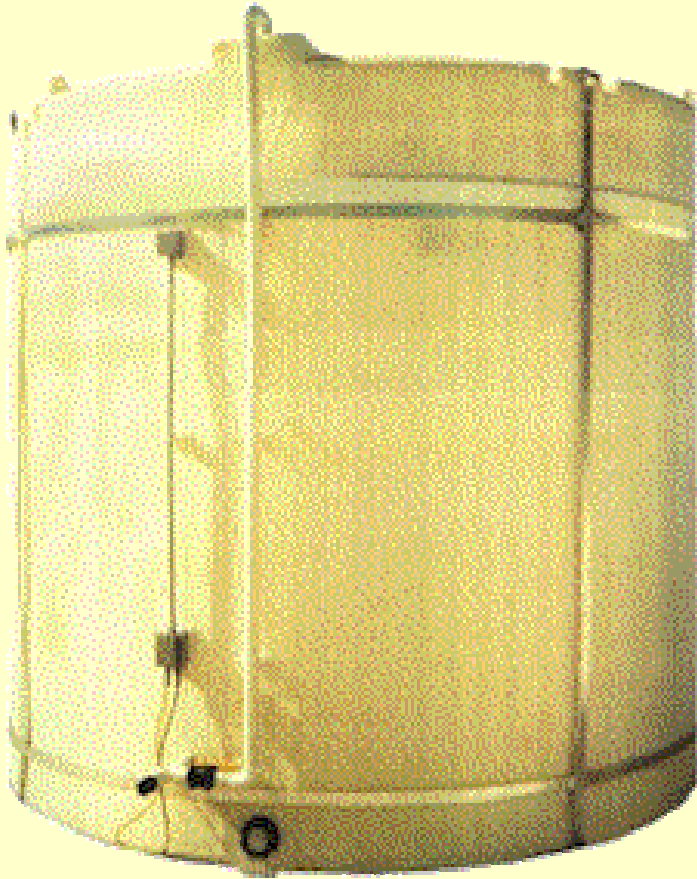






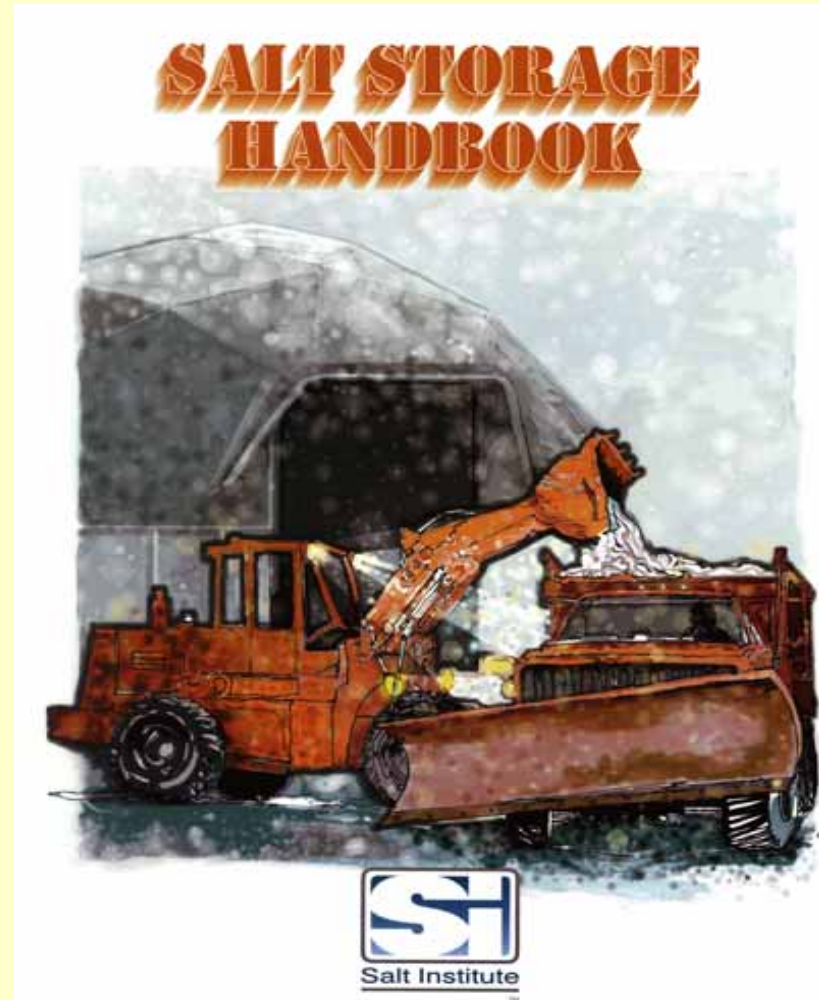


# Liquid Storage Tanks



# Salt Institute's Salt Storage Handbook

- A Practical Guide for Storing & Handling Deicing Salt
  - Valuable Info
  - Charts
  - Check List



SNOW, ICE AND ABRASIVES

DISPOSAL

# SNOW AND ICE

- Local Regulations
- Other Unwanted Contaminants
- Silt Issues
- Trash Issues
- Groundwater issues
- Surface Water Quality Issues

# ABRASIVES

- Surface Water Silt Loading Issues
- Other contaminants
- Reprocessing
- Air Quality Issues

# **OPERATIONAL STRATEGIES AND TACTICS**

**(PAGES 9-12 AND 13-18)**

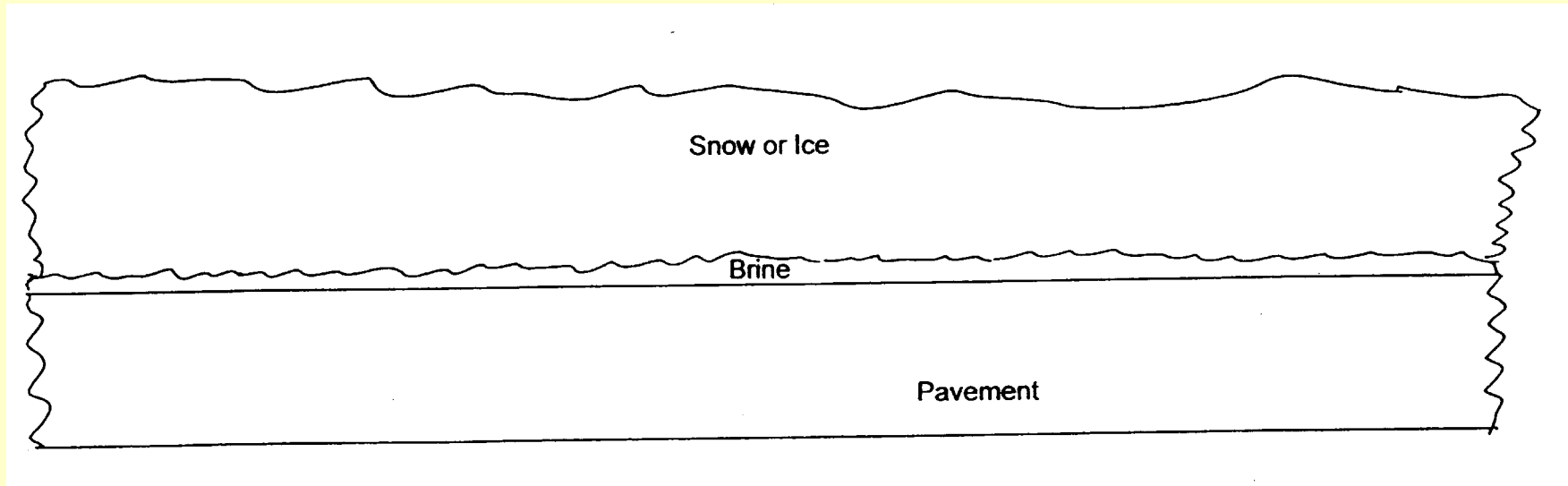


# Anti-icing

- Anti-icing is a proactive operation: Spreading material before the storm start; prevents snow and ice from bonding to the road and prevents frost
- versus
- Deicing is a reactive operation: Spreading material after storm starts; allows bonding of snow and ice to road causing use of more salt and more time to break the bond and achieve melting

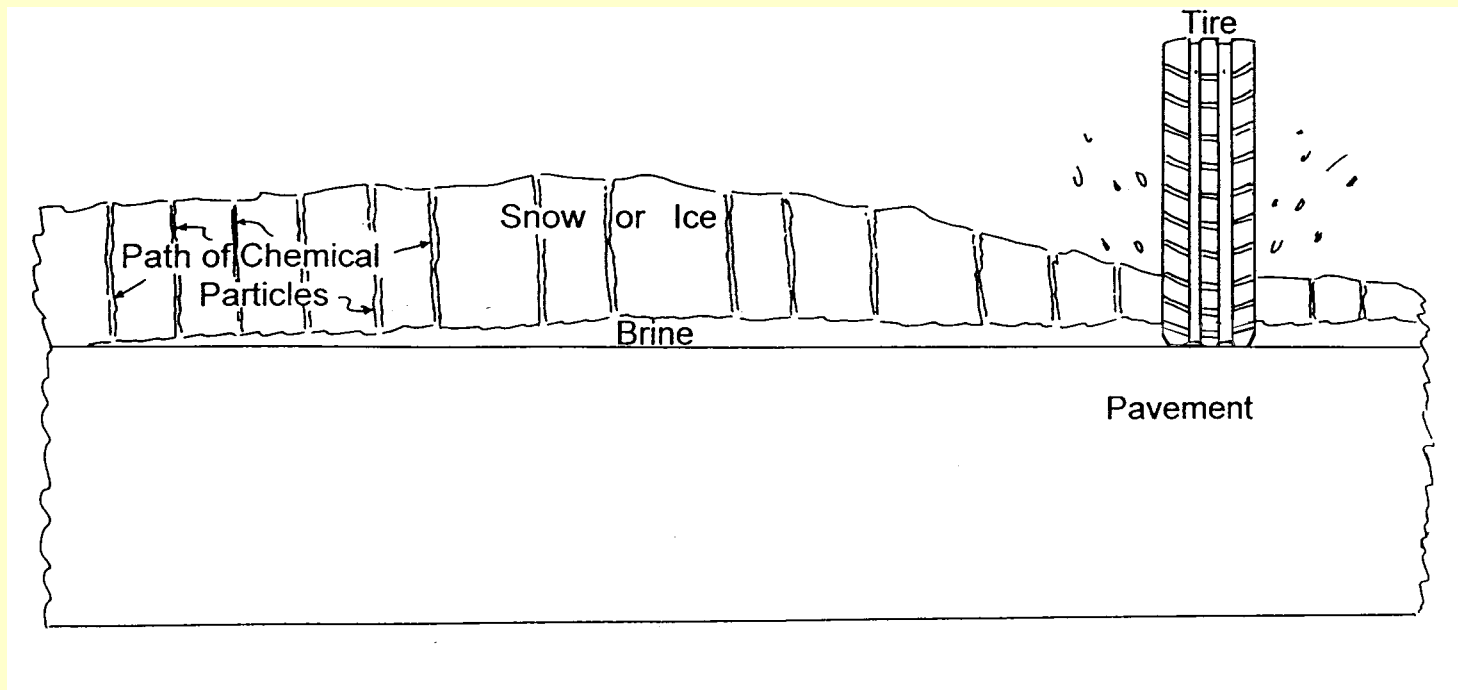
# Anti-icing Strategy

Figure 2 Anti-icing



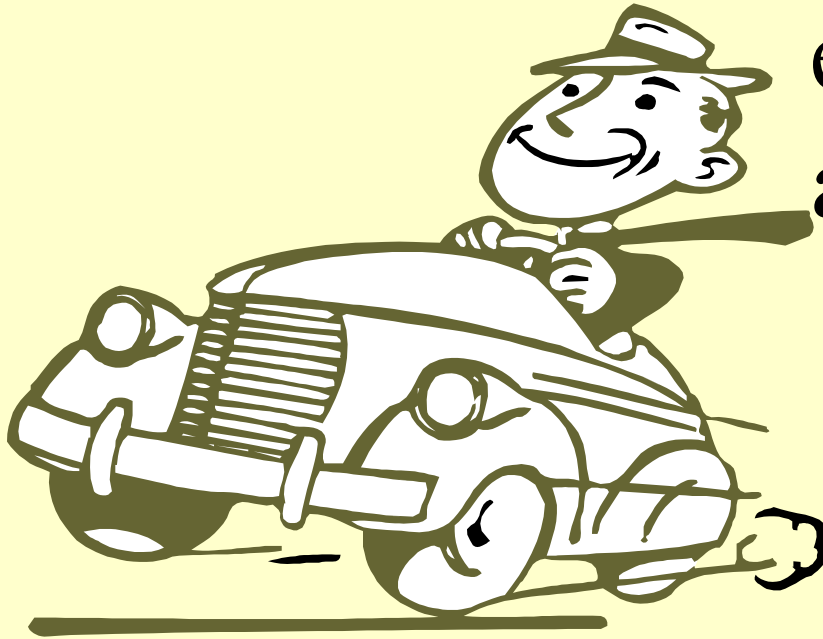
# Deicing Strategy

Figure 3 Deicing



# Temporary Friction Improvement

18 cars and the  
effectiveness of  
abrasives is gone



# Formation of Ice on Highway Bridges and other Cold Spots

- Pavement and Bridge Surface Temperature
- Non – Precipitation Events
- Precipitation Events

Snow

Freezing Rain

Sleet

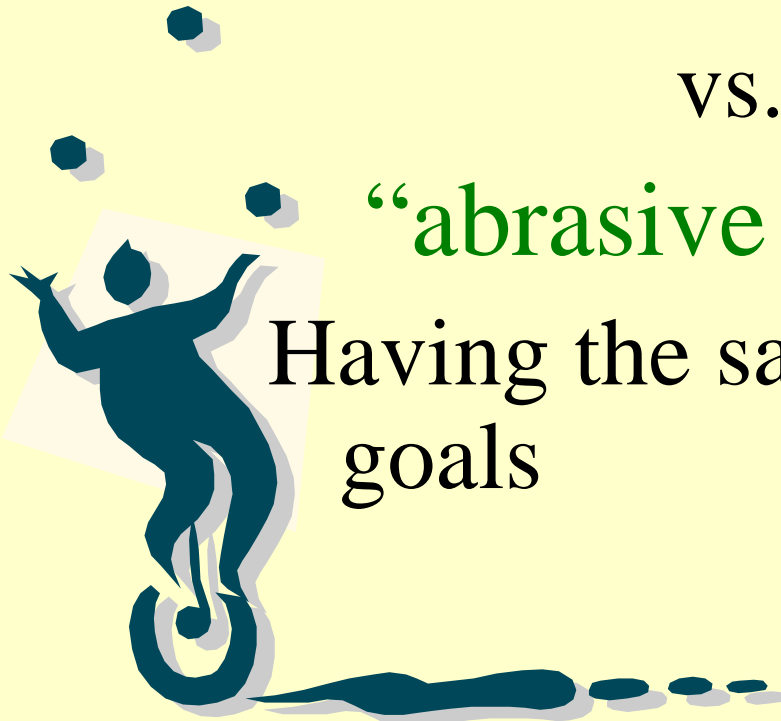
# Chemical and Abrasives Policies

“chemical priority policy”

vs.

“abrasive priority policy”

Having the same level of service  
goals



# Chemical and Abrasives Policies

How much does it cost to treat a lane  
mile with:

- Abrasives
- Chemicals (salt)

# Salt vs. Sand

Cost to treat one lane–mile with salt vs. abrasives

Salt	Cost Factors	Abrasives
\$32.00	A Purchase Cost/ton, \$	\$6.51
---	B Cost of added salt/ton (7%)	\$2.24
---	C Mixing cost, \$	\$.60
\$32.00	D Total Cost (per ton), \$	\$9.35
225	E Pounds per lane mile	750
<b>\$3.60</b>	<b>Cost / lane mile, \$</b>	<b>\$3.50</b>



# Comparison of Salt vs. Sand

✓ New York State DOT (Watertown, 1998-99)

**(33% Salt in Sand Mix)**

	<u>Salt</u>	<u>Sand</u>
Sand Used, Tons / lane mile	5.2	32.8
Salt Used, Tons / lane mile	23.7	22.2
Cost / lane mile @ \$8 & \$30	\$754	\$929
Average Condition Index	3.0	3.3
Total Materials Tons / Im	28.9	55.0
Average Traffic, VPH	> 125	> 125

# Comparison of Salt vs. Sand

✓ Maine DOT

(7% Salt in Sand Mix)

	<u>Salt</u>	<u>Sand</u>
<b>Sand Used, Tons / lane mile</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>62.4</b>
<b>Salt Used, Tons / lane mile</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>4.9</b>
<b>Cost/Im @ \$9.60 &amp; \$35.00</b>	<b>\$258</b>	<b>\$771</b>
<b>Average Condition Index</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Total Materials Tons / Im</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>67.3</b>
<b>Average Traffic, VPH</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>63</b>

# Comparison of Salt vs. Sand

✓ New York State -- Warren County

(7% Salt in Sand Mix)

	<u>Salt</u>	<u>Sand</u>
<b>Sand Used, Tons / lane mile</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>2.3</b>
<b>Salt Used, Tons / lane mile</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2.3</b>
<b>Cost/Im @ \$8 &amp; \$30</b>	<b>\$28</b>	<b>\$86</b>
<b>Average Condition Index</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.3</b>
<b>Total Materials tons / Im</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>4.6</b>
<b>Average Traffic, VPH</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>

# Using Chemical/Abrasives Mixtures

- Typical chemical/abrasives mixtures
- Conditions for use
  - ✓ Level of service dependent
    - Overall
    - Within-storm
  - ✓ Unpaved roads
  - ✓ Low pavement temperature conditions
  - ✓ Steep grades

# Designing Snow and Ice Control Material Treatments

(Appendix V)



Level of service

Weather Conditions

Pavement conditions

Operational  
Conditions

Trends

# Level of Service

DESIRED OR OBSERVED  
PAVEMENT CONDITIONS AT  
VARIOUS POINTS IN TIME  
DURING AND AFTER WINTER  
WEATHER EVENTS

# Sources and Types of Road and Weather Information Available



DEVELOP  
LIST:

ROAD

WEATHER

# Ice Control Treatment

Dilution potential and  
pavement temperature are key



# Dilution Potential

- Weather conditions
- Pavement conditions
- Cycle time
- Traffic
- Trends

# Precipitation Types

- Light rain
- Moderate rain
- Heavy rain
- Freezing rain
- Sleet
- Light Snow
- Moderate snow
- Heavy Snow
- Blowing Snow
- None

# Pavement Conditions

- Dry
- Damp
- Wet
- Slush
- Loose snow
- Packed snow
- Frost
- Thin ice
- Thick ice

# Pavement Condition at Time of Treatment

- Bond to pavement
- Residual snow or ice on pavement
- Pavement temperature

# Operational Conditions

- Traffic Volume ( +/- 125 VPH)
- Traffic Speed (+/- 35 MPH)
- Operational Cycle Time (1.5 and 3.0 HRS.)

# Precipitation Dilution Potential

Precipitation type	Precipitation rate			
	Light	Moderate	Heavy	Unknown
1. Snow (powder)	Low	Low	Medium	Low
2. Snow (ordinary)	Low	Medium	High	Medium
3. Snow (wet/heavy)	Medium	High	High	High
4. Snow (unknown)	–	Medium	–	–
5. Rain	Low	Medium	High	Medium
6. Freezing rain	Low	Medium	High	Medium
7. Sleet	Low	Medium	High	Medium
8. Blowing snow	–	Medium	–	–
9. Snow with blowing snow		(Same as type of snow)		
10. Freezing rain with sleet	Low	Medium	High	Medium
11. None				
If wheel path area condition is:				
– Dry or damp		Not applicable		
– Wet		Low		
– Frost or black ice (thin ice)		Low		
– Slush or loose snow		Medium		
– Packed snow or thick ice		High		

# Adjustments to Precipitation Dilution Potential

Adjustments to Precipitation Dilution Potential	
a) Wheel path area condition when precipitation is present	Increase precipitation dilution potential above by number of levels
Bare	0
Frost or thin ice	0
Slush, loose snow, packed snow, or thick ice	1
b) Cycle time	
0 - 1.5 hrs	0
1.6 - 3.0 hrs	1
Over 3.0 hrs	2
c) Traffic volume at traffic speeds > 35 mph	
Less than 125 vph	0
More than 125 vph	1

# Application Rates for Solid, Prewetted Solid, and Liquid Sodium Chloride

Pavement Temperature (°F)	Adjusted dilution potential	Ice pavement bond	Application rate	
			Solid (1) lb/L-M	Liquid (2) gal/L-M
Over 32	Low	No	90 (3)	40 (3)
		Yes	200	NR (4)
	Medium	No	100 (3)	44 (3)
		Yes	225	NR (4)
	High	No	110 (3)	48 (3)
		Yes	250	NR (4)
30 to 32	Low	No	130	57
		Yes	275	NR (4)
	Medium	No	150	66
		Yes	300	NR (4)
	High	No	160	70
		Yes	325	NR (4)
25 to 30	Low	No	170	74
		Yes	350	NR (4)
	Medium	No	180	79
		Yes	375	NR (4)
	High	No	190	83
		Yes	400	NR (4)
20 to 25	Low	No	200	87
		Yes	425	NR (4)
	Medium	No	210	92
		Yes	450	NR (4)
	High	No	220	96
		Yes	475	NR



# Application Rates for Solid, Prewetted Solid, and Liquid Sodium Chloride (Cont.)

15 to 20	Low	No	230	NR
		Yes	500	NR
	Medium	No	240	NR
		Yes	525	NR
	High	No	250	NR
		Yes	550	NR
10 to 15	Low	No	260	NR
		Yes	575	NR
	Medium	No	270	NR
		Yes	600	NR
	High	No	280	NR
		Yes	625	NR
Below 10°F	A. If unbonded, try mechanical removal without chemical. B. If bonded, apply chemical at 700 lb/L-M. Plow when slushy. Repeat as necessary. C. Apply abrasives as necessary.			

NR = Not recommended.

## Specific Notes:

1. Values for “solid” also apply to prewet solid and include the equivalent dry chemical weight in prewetting solutions.
2. Liquid values are shown for the 23-percent concentration solution.
3. In unbonded, try mechanical removal without applying chemicals. If pretreating, use this application rate.
4. If very thin ice, liquids may be applied at the unbonded rates.

## General Notes:

5. These application rates are starting points. Local experience should refine these recommendations.
6. Prewetting chemicals should allow application rates to be reduced by up to about 20% depending on such primary factors as spread pattern and spreading speed.
7. Application rates for chemicals other than sodium chloride will need to be adjusted using the guidance in Table 5.
8. Before applying any ice control chemical, the surface should be cleared of as much snow and ice as possible.

# STEP BY STEP

- Determine Precipitation Dilution Potential
- Adjust for Operational and Pavement Conditions (Adjusted Dilution Potential)
- Determine Pavement Temperature
- Determine Ice/Pavement Bond
- Select application rate

IF YOU USE THE “PROPER” AMOUNT OF  
ICE CONTROL CHEMICAL EACH TIME,  
RATHER THAN A PRESCRIBED AMOUNT,  
YOU WILL USE LESS CHEMICAL  
OVERALL AND PROVIDE A  
CONSISTANTLY HIGH LEVEL OF  
SERVICE

# QUESTIONS

Thank you for your  
participation!

