



## **PennDOT Maintenance Business Model**

Commonly known as pre-treating or anti-icing, department crews may use liquid salt brine before frozen precipitation starts to fall. Anti-icing is a proactive snow and ice control strategy. A small amount of salt brine (salt-water) liquid is applied to pavements and bridge decks before a storm to prevent snow and ice from bonding with the surface.

This is a tool commonly used on pavements where the practice is to provide a high level of service. However, we may use anti-icing on lower priority routes that have reduced traffic volumes allowing primary focus on priority routes. It has proven very effective at preventing bridge deck and pavement frost.

However, salt brine is not a silver bullet and it isn't appropriate for every storm. Crews generally will not anti-ice with salt brine when a storm is forecast to start as rain (rain will wash the material away) or when enough salt residue from a previous storm remains.

There are several benefits of anti-icing, but a few of the key ones are: better surface conditions, less chemicals required to prevent ice bonding during a storm and easier storm clean-up.

# WINTER - ANTI-ICING

# PennDOT Maintenance Business Model

Although Pennsylvanians see PennDOT crews on the roads year-round, they may not always realize the scope or importance of the work we do.

Common maintenance activities may not receive as much public attention as building new bridges or highways, but they are integral to the maintenance of the state's 40,000 roadway miles and 25,400 bridges. Core maintenance operations are planned on reoccurring cycles to effectively manage and preserve our assets.

Activities such as crack sealing, patching, surface treatment, shoulder cutting and side dozing; in addition to keeping our drainage systems functional through pipe replacement, flushing and ditch cleaning are key components of the maintenance business model. These ensure that we are effectively managing and preserving our assets, while also dedicating resources to system improvements.

Combined with other activities such as successful winter maintenance, line painting, vegetation management, signing, bridge maintenance and litter cleanup, PennDOT is making improvements, enhancing equity in our organization and transportation systems for all people, and –as always– aiming at a safer, more connected Pennsylvania.

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