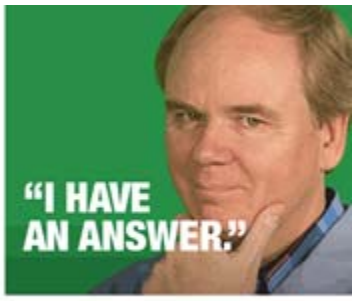
THANK YOU FOR SUBMITTING YOUR QUESTION...



ask DOCTOR SCOTT
Clear answers. Safer roads.

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Cargill
A Cargill Deicing Technology Product

Your question:

Salt is much aligned when it comes to damaging concrete, but my cement salt pens handle it very well. Does salt really damage fully cured concrete more than calcium chloride? Also, how does treated (mag with carbohydrates) salt do on walks?

My answer:

You are correct that salt is much undeservedly maligned as damaging concrete. While salt can damage concrete if it is of marginal quality (particularly if it is not properly air-entrained) or if it has not had sufficient time to cure, properly specified, produced, finished, and cured quality concrete is very resistant to damage by sodium chloride. Treated salt is chemically still mostly sodium chloride – typically about 96% rock salt. The small amount of magnesium chloride in the treated salt (usually about 1%) will not have any significant detrimental effect on the concrete. I have not run any tests on the effects of carbohydrate additives on concrete, but I also would not expect them to have any detrimental effects either. For more detail on the effects of deicers on concrete, you can check out my short video presentation on the topic here.

Providing customers with deicing solutions that save lives, enhance commerce and reduce environmental impact.