

A CARGILL CASE HISTORY: DUBLIN, OH

ClearLane enhanced deicer



ClearLane® Enhanced Deicer Makes Icy Roads Safer Sooner

The roadway challenges facing the City of Dublin, Ohio are not unlike those facing many other Midwestern cities. With 499 paved lane miles to tend to, driver safety is paramount among their concerns. As such, city officials are always looking for effective ways to increase surface traction by minimizing the dangers presented by ice and snow.

Back in 2006, the City of Dublin came across ClearLane® enhanced deicer from Cargill Deicing Technology at an American Public Works Association show. Having attempted to create their own wetted salt mixes in the past, city officials were intrigued at the possibility of an off-the-shelf, pre-wetted product.

With the first application of the ClearLane® product, city officials were impressed. Today, those officials are convinced they've found the best product on the market for melting ice, and have no thoughts of going back to homebrews.

"Unlike salt that takes significant amounts of time to work in colder temperatures, the ClearLane® product works instantly. The moment we spread it on the roadways, you can see it melting ice," said William Grubaugh Jr., operations administrator for streets and utilities for the City of Dublin.

"Before ClearLane® enhanced deicer, we experimented with different blends like calcium-chloride for wetting salt in our trucks, but the results never met our expectations. Leaching was also a big problem for us, but with the ClearLane® product, we haven't had any leaching at all," Grubaugh added. He went on to say, "We also had problems with inconsistent mixes that gave us solidified results. We'd end up with one giant salt rock in the back of our trucks. At the end of the day, we couldn't produce a product on our own that outperformed the ClearLane® product. Our first issue is always road safety, and nothing works better than ClearLane® enhanced deicer."

Because the ClearLane® product works quickly, Grubaugh said his department goes through a lot fewer tons. "With salt, we'd have to over apply to get results. Using the ClearLane® product, we've significantly reduced the number of tons we have to apply, and we're getting better results."

Grubaugh closed by saying, "this year, we've used up our entire stock of ClearLane® enhanced deicer, some 2,000 tons. Had we been able to get 3,000 tons, we would have used every bit of that too."

Cargill Deicing Technology 24950 Country Club Blvd. Suite 450 North Olmsted, OH 44070 phone: 800-600-SALT (7258)

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