Pretreatment Materials and Response Equipment

**Pretreatment Materials**
- Brine (a salt/water mixture) to pretreat Atlanta metro and north Georgia interstates to prevent ice from building up on roadways

**Response Equipment**
- 60 multi-lane tow plows to clear two lanes in one pass
- Multi-lane tow plows are dispatched around the state when needed to remove snow and ice from interstates and multi-lane state routes
- Single and/or double-axis dump trucks with front-attached snowplows to push snow and ice from roadways
- Plows and spreaders for F-250 pick-ups that allow multi-use of equipment year around
- Tractor-type motor graders for moving snow

**Materials and Resources**

**Statewide**
- 2,126 employees on call covering 49,495 lane miles interstate & state routes
- 50,316 tons of salt
- 46,052 tons of gravel
- 115,400 gallons of calcium chloride
- 406,140 pounds of granular calcium chloride
- 1,284,775 gallons of brine
- 407 snow removal dump truck units (one plow + spreader + dump truck = 1 dump truck unit)
- 55 F-250 pick-ups with plows and spreaders
- 13 tanker vehicles can store up to 120,000 gallons of calcium chloride
- 50,316 tons of salt can produce 50,000 gallons of brine per hour statewide

**GDOT may relocate district resources to the most needed areas during an event**

- 31 tankers each with 5000-gallon capacity are available to apply brine treatment to interstates and critical routes
- GDOT's Forest Park facility houses an automated brine production unit, which includes 220,000 gallons of storage

**Districts 1, 2, 3 and 6 have additional brine plants and units**

- **Office of Strategic Communications**
  - Phone: 404-631-1814
  - Statewide
- **Inclement Weather Partners**
  - 2021
- **Media Contacts:**
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  - Melodii Peoples: (D1) 770-533-1234
  - Natalie Dale: (Statewide) 404-631-1814

- **Districts and Information**
  - Access roadway conditions here: www.dot.ga.gov

- **Inclement Weather Partners**
  - HERO and CHAMP: 511
  - GPB Radio: 800-222-6006
  - Georgia State Patrol: 404-626-7250
  - GEMA: 800-879-4362
  - National Weather Service: 770-482-7250

- **Pretreatment Materials and Response Equipment**
  - Brine (a salt/water mixture) to pretreat Atlanta metro and north Georgia interstates to prevent ice from building up on roadways
  - 13 tankers dispense brine along metro Atlanta interstates up to 24 hours before winter weather hits
  - 31 tankers each with 5000-gallon capacity are available to apply brine treatment to interstates and critical routes
  - GDOT’s Forest Park facility houses an automated brine production unit, which includes 220,000 gallons of storage
  - Districts 1, 2, 3 and 6 have additional brine plants and units

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  - www.dot.ga.gov
  - Phone: 404-631-1990
  - Atlanta, GA 30308
  - 600 West Peachtree Street NW
  - One Georgia Center
  - Office of Strategic Communications
  - Georgia Department of Transportation

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Georgia DOT Priorities

Achieve & Maintain Passable Road Conditions
• Keep roads safe for emergency vehicles.
• Focus crews first on Interstates; then state routes from the most heavily traveled to the least traveled.
• Goal is to maintain all lanes passable unless storm severity dictates otherwise.

Focus on Trouble Spots
• Preträill bridges and overpasses prior to snow and ice conditions and monitor consistently.

Key Stakeholder Coordination
• Share pertinent information with local governments and other state agencies.
• Update the public on road conditions and road closures as needed.

Interstate Response Teams
Teams with different expertise respond to a variety of incidences. GDOT identifies these as Brine Distribution, Interstate, Special Response and Traffic Strike teams:

Brine - Distribute brine units on impacted highways. (Brine is a mixture of salt and water. It is used as a preventative treatment and is intended to limit the bonding of the ice to the pavement.)

Interstate - Treat and remove snow from interstate roadways using 3-5 tandem dump trucks (trucks with snow plows and material spreaders attached). Up to 18 crews.

Special Response - Respond to "hot spots" outside of treatment areas where interstate teams will focus.

Traffic Strike - Consist of Georgia State Patrol, Motor Carrier Compliance Division; Georgia DOT Highway Emergency Response Operator; Department of Natural Resources; Georgia Forestry Commission and Georgia Department of Defense personnel.

Dealing with Black Ice
• When wet roads freeze, the threat of black ice is possible. (Black ice is a thin, often invisible sheet of ice that forms on the roadway, especially on bridges and overpasses and low lying areas. It can form at any time when temperatures drop below freezing and there is any form of moisture from sprinklers, run-off or precipitation on the roadway.)
• GDOT Highway Emergency Response Operators (HEROs) will monitor roadways in metro Atlanta for potential freezing. HEROs will notify the 511 dispatchers and routine maintenance crews will address these issues.
• GDOT Coordinated Highway Assistance and Maintenance Program (CHAMP), provides emergency response, maintenance support and motorist assistance on interstates outside metro Atlanta seven days a week. Call 511.

Monitor areas that were problematic for icy conditions during prior winter weather events and address them as soon as they occur.

Winter Weather Technology

• Road Weather Information System (RWIS) – roadway sensors in 55 locations across the state improve ability to predict weather conditions on roads such as ice, temperatures, precipitation and wind.
• Expanded network of RWIS capabilities include Georgia airports and real-time capability to view all surrounding states’ weather conditions (AL, TN, NC, SC, North FL and MS).
• Added cameras to NaviGAtor Intelligent Transportation System to assist with monitoring and deploying resources.
• Enhanced GIS equipment tracking to identify locations being treated.
• Web-based program to monitor incidents.
• Snow Removal Equipment Operators equipped with communication devices to share real-time conditions with their Area and District Storm Operations Center.

Safety Messages
• Beware of icy conditions on roadway (especially on bridges and overpasses) and watch for fallen trees or power lines.
• Avoid driving unless absolutely necessary or postpone until daylight when road conditions, such as black ice, may be visible.
• Do not pass a GDOT dump truck spreading salting/gravel; gravel may kick up and could break car windows. Follow at least 100 feet behind these vehicles.
• Be aware of GDOT work crews who clear snow and ice from interstates and state routes. SLOW DOWN to at least half of the normal speed limit and drive in low gear.
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