

*Bounce and  
Scatter 2013*

# **MDOT 2013 SALT BOUNCE & SCATTER STUDY**



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## ***Presenters***

**Justin Droste, P.E. Roadway Operations Engineer**

**Mark Crouch, Roadway Operations Coordinator**

**Matt Pratt, Roadway Operations Coordinator**



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## Agenda

- Introduction
  - 2012 Study Recap
  - Goals for 2013 Study
- Considerations
- Distribution Systems Tested
- Data Analysis/System Performance
- Conclusions & Impacts on MDOT Operations
- Poster Display



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## MDOT Statistics

- 31,791 lane miles
- 330 snowplows
- Average winter expense is \$80 MILLION
- 5-year average salt usage is 570,000 Tons
- Current average price of salt is \$45/ton



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## ***2012 Study Recap***

- Tested 25, 35, and 45 mph speeds
- Treated Salt vs. Untreated Salt
- Rear cross conveyors and Y-chute delivery systems



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## ***2012 Study Recap***

- **Truck Speed effects Salt Bounce and Scatter the most** *(25 mph speeds retained the most salt in target zone by far)*
- **Treated salt scatters less than untreated salt** *(Confirmed results from 1970's MDOT study)*
- **Rear cross conveyor slightly outperformed Y-chute delivery system**



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## ***2013 Bounce and Scatter Study Goals***

Determine if improved delivery systems can provide acceptable B&S at speeds faster than 25 mph.

- Observe effect boots have on B&S (*various heights*)
- Assess performance of advanced delivery systems (*Slurry Generator and Zero Velocity*)



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## ***Considerations/ Systems Tested***

**Mark Crouch, Roadway Operations Coordinator**



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## Considerations....

- Repeated each test scenario 3 times to obtain an average
- All testing performed during the summer months without traffic
- Hottest day of year!



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## Test Location



US-31 in Benton Harbor, Michigan

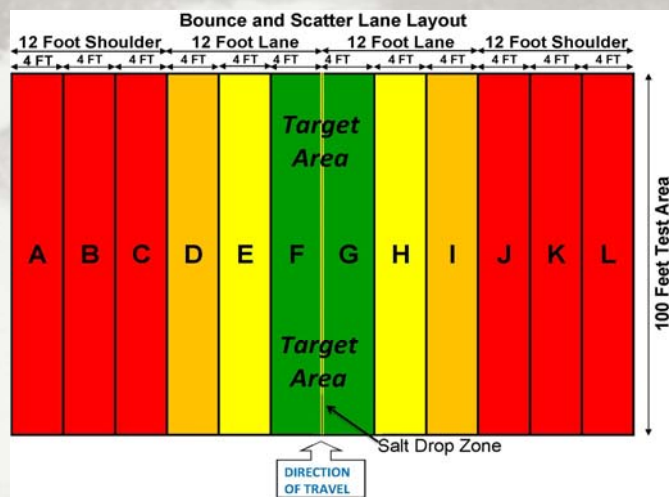


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## ***Grid Layout***



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## ***Radar Trailer***



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## ***How Salt Was Collected***



***Close Up of Collection Lanes***



***Complete Group Effort***



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## ***How Salt was Weighed and Recorded***



***New Weighing Process***



***Digital Table Scale***



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## ***2012 Delivery Systems Tested***



***Y-Chute***



***Rear Cross Conveyor***



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## ***2013 Y-Chute at Different Heights***



***Y-Chute***



***One Inch Height***



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## ***2013 Y-Chute at Different Heights***



***Six Inch Height***



***Twelve Inch Height***



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## ***2013 Advanced Delivery Systems***



***Salt Slurry***



***Zero Velocity***



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## ***Data Analysis/ System Performance***

**Matt Pratt, Roadway Operations Coordinator**



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## ***Field Data Sheet***

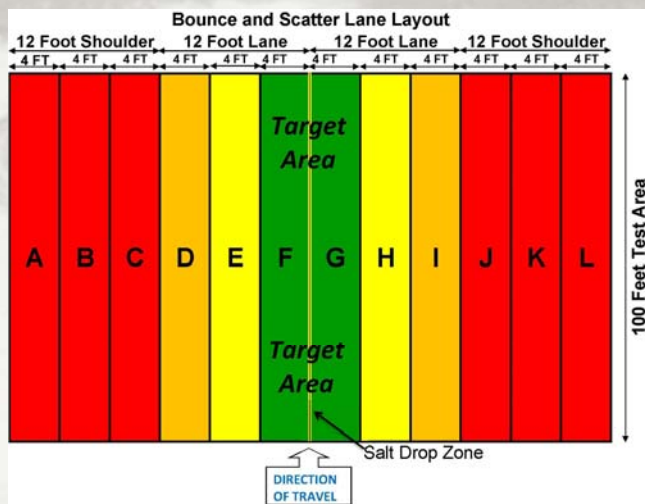
- 3 passes made for each scenario with averaged results
- Weights were recorded in grams
- Expected total weight collected at 350 lb. rate is 6.63 lbs. per pass
- Converted weights to percentages for better comparison



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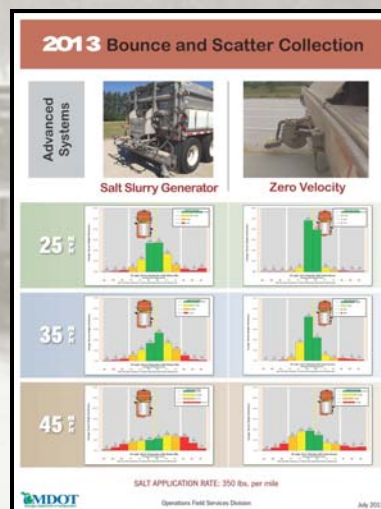
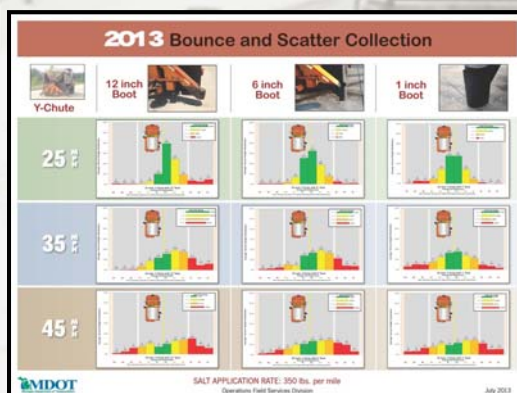
## Grid Layout



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## Graphical Results

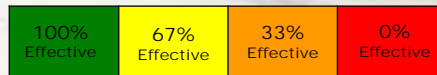


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## ***Single Point Effectiveness Rating***

- Viewing collection graphs provides general idea of performance
- Want to provide simple overall assessment for comparison (Single Point Value)
- Single point effectiveness based on “Total Percent By Group” data on graphs.



$$\text{Overall Effectiveness} = (\% \text{ Green}) + \frac{2}{3} * (\% \text{ Yellow}) + \frac{1}{3} * (\% \text{ Orange})$$



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## ***Single Point Effectiveness Rating***

Year	Test Scenario	Overall Effectiveness
2013	25 mph; Zero Velocity with Auto Sense	0.93
2013	35 mph; Zero Velocity with Auto Sense	0.82
2013	25 mph; 6" Boot Y-Chute	0.78
2013	25 mph; 1" Boot Y-Chute	0.77
2013	25 mph; Slurry Generator with Water	0.76
2013	25 mph; 12" Boot Y-Chute	0.71
2013	35 mph; Slurry Generator with Water	0.68
2013	35 mph; 1" Boot Y-Chute	0.57
2013	45 mph; Zero Velocity with Auto Sense	0.57
2013	35 mph; 6" Boot Y-Chute	0.54
2013	35 mph; 12" Boot Y-Chute	0.53
2013	45 mph; 6" Boot Y-Chute	0.46
2013	45 mph; Slurry Generator with Water	0.45
2013	45 mph; 1" Boot Y-Chute	0.44
2013	45 mph; 12" Boot Y-Chute	0.40



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## Boot Performance

- 1" boot and 6" boot performed roughly the same for each tested speed.
- Without a boot (12" test), material would drop beyond the end of the Y-Chute.
- The single point effectiveness improved approximately 5% by adding a boot 1" to 6" off the ground.



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## Slurry Generator Performance

- 35 mph Slurry Generator performed slightly below lowest 25 mph speed
- Unit tested was limited in its abilities to perform according to manufacturer's specs
- Slurry Generator should be able to maintain acceptable scatter patterns at 35 mph if properly setup
- Acceptable scatter patterns are not maintained at 45 mph

Year	Test Scenario	Overall Effectiveness
2013	25 mph; Zero Velocity with Auto Sense	0.93
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## Zero Velocity Performance

- 25 mph and 35 mph Zero Velocity were the top two performers
- Zero Velocity effectiveness tested the same or better than Y-Chutes with boots at next slowest speed
- Acceptable scatter patterns are maintained at 35 mph, but **NOT** at 45 mph
- To meet performance standards, Zero Velocity spreaders must be utilized according to manufacturer's settings

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## 2013 Conclusions

Performance standard threshold set near level of lowest performing 25 mph speed

- Slurry Generator meets criteria at 35mph (not 45 mph)
- Zero Velocity at 35 mph out-performed all other systems at 25 mph (Did not meet criteria at 45 mph)
- Boots alone do not meet criteria for standard systems at 35 mph (Does decrease B&S by 5%)



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## ***B&S Impacts on MDOT Operations***

### **New for Winter 2013/2014:**

- Improved salt application rate table.
- Maintenance advisory pertaining to “Best Practices for Applying Deicing Materials”.



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## ***New Salting Table***

**MDOT WINTER MAINTENANCE APPLICATION RATES: (SOLIDS)**

Recommended Treatment Parameters	PAVEMENT TEMPERATURE	WEATHER CONDITION	POUNDS PER 2 LANE MILE		ACTIONS & APPLICATION RECOMMENDED
			PRE WET SALT *	SAND	
Snowing / Freezing Rain	↑ ABOVE 30°	SNOW	150	NOT RECOMMENDED	FLOW, TREAT HAZARDS ONLY
		FREEZING RAIN	150	NOT RECOMMENDED	APPLY AS NEEDED
	↓ 25° TO 30°	SNOW	150-300	NOT RECOMMENDED	FLOW & APPLY AS NEEDED
		FREEZING RAIN	150-300	NOT RECOMMENDED	APPLY AS NEEDED
	↑ 20° TO 25°	SNOW	150-300	NOT RECOMMENDED	FLOW & APPLY AS NEEDED
		FREEZING RAIN	150-300	NOT RECOMMENDED	APPLY AS NEEDED
	↓ 15° TO 20°	SNOW	300-350	400	APPLY AS NEEDED
		SNOW / FREEZING RAIN	150-300	400	FLOW & APPLY AS NEEDED
	↓ BELOW 15°	SNOW	225-300	NOT RECOMMENDED	FLOW & APPLY AS NEEDED
		FREEZING RAIN	300-350	400	APPLY AS NEEDED
	↓ BELOW 15°	SNOW	225-300	NOT RECOMMENDED	FLOW & APPLY AS NEEDED
		FREEZING RAIN	300-350	500-750	APPLY AS NEEDED
	↓ BELOW 15°	SNOW / FREEZING RAIN	350	500-750	FLOW & APPLY AS NEEDED
		SNOW	NOT RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED	FLOW, TREAT HAZARDS AS NEEDED

\* Frost: 15° & rising: TREAT BY ANTI-ICING (BRINE 20-40 GAL/LANE) OR 10° & falling: PRE WET SALT @ 150#/LANE.

WIND CONDITION: FLOW, TREAT (TROUBLE SPOTS ONLY) @ 200-400#/LANE.

\* Notes: Salt should be treated with 7-12 gallons of a liquid chloride product. Rates shown account for a 25 mph truck operating speed, but also apply for trucks equipped with Zero Velocity or Slurry Generator operating up to 35 mph.

Updated August 2013

<http://inside.michigan.gov/sites/mdot/highways/ops/maintenance/winternet/Documents/New%20Salt-Sand%20Application%20Rate%20Chart.pdf>



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# Best Practices Advisory

**Maintenance Advisory** MA 2013-01  
August 27, 2013

From Mark Geib, Engineer of Operations Field Services Division

**Best Practices for Applying Deicing Materials**

Due to increasing costs and growing environmental concerns regarding the use of deicing materials for winter maintenance operations, it is critical we do everything possible to reduce the use of these materials, while still providing adequate levels of service. A major component of reducing the amount of deicing material required is conducting operations in ways that limit the amount of material that bounces and scatters off the roadway during application. The 2013 MDOT Salt Bounce and Scatter Study concluded that using pre-wet salt and applying deicing materials at slower speeds significantly reduces the amount of material that stays on the roadway. Incorporating these practices into MDOT's winter operations program will ensure that as much deicing material as possible remains on the roadway and within the target area of an either side of the centerline, where it is most effective.

In order to keep the most deicing material on the roadway during the application process, the following guidelines should be followed for all MDOT maintenance facilities beginning with the 2013/2014 season:

1. The truck's speed should operate between 20-25 mph while applying deicing material. Every effort should be made to maintain as slow a speed as possible while applying deicing material. Justified exceptions to this practice may include:
  - Peak hours on high-speed roads
  - Trucks equipped with technology that limits salt scatter, such as zero-velocity spreaders, slurry generators, etc. Based on results from the 2013 MDOT Salt Bounce and Scatter Study, these advanced systems should not operate faster than 35 mph.
  - Other circumstances approved by the Region Engineer.
2. All salt applied to a roadway should be pre-wet with a liquid chloride product. Rates of pre-wetting should be between 7 to 10 gallons per ton of untreated salt. Slurry salt requires more, per manufacturer's recommendations. Salt can be treated at the stockpile, by the truckload, or at the point of application on the truck.

3. For all material delivery systems that allow a "boof" above system, which decreases the amount of drop between the spreader and pavement, should be obtained between 1-6 inches for a loaded truck. This decreases bounce and scatter, but not enough to maintain acceptable efficiencies at speeds above 25 mph.

4. The updated MDOT salt application rate chart should be followed. The chart has been revised to reflect the use of pre-wet salt at slower truck speeds.

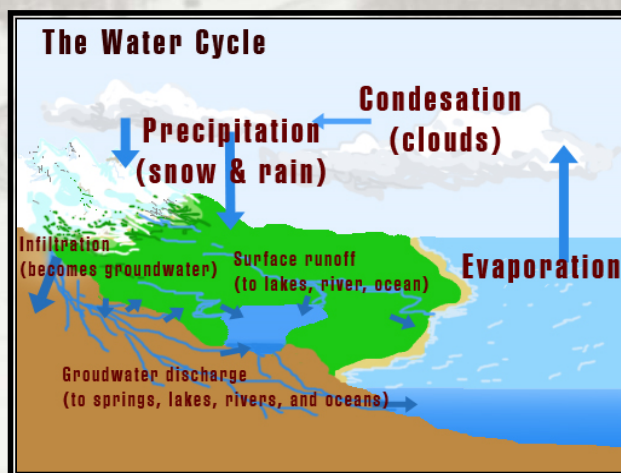
MDOT maintenance facility supervisors must submit action plans for their facility to their Applicable Region Engineer of Operations by October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, detailing intended actions for implementation. Exceptions to these guidelines must be justified in writing on a case-by-case basis (e.g., weather, per snow model). Consolidated action plans for each region should be submitted to the Engineer of Operations Field Services by October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/MA\\_2013-01\\_Best\\_Practices\\_for\\_Applying\\_Deicing\\_Materials\\_432480\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/MA_2013-01_Best_Practices_for_Applying_Deicing_Materials_432480_7.pdf)  
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# Environment



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## ***Environment***



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## ***Environment***

**The U.S. Government has  
thresholds for pollutants**

**Federal Chronic Standard for  
Chlorides: 230 mg/l  
= 1 teaspoon salt in 5  
gallons water**



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## ***Environment***

**1 tandem load of salt can easily contaminate 8 million gallons of water**



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## ***Acknowledgements***

- The Operations Field Service Staff
- The Southwest Region Staff
- The Coloma Maintenance Garage
- The Paw Paw Central Repair Facility
- The Southwest Region YDMP Students

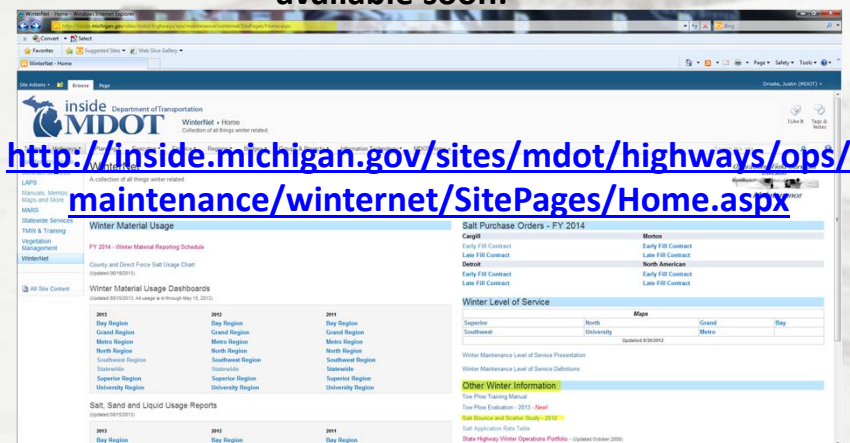


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## Access to Findings

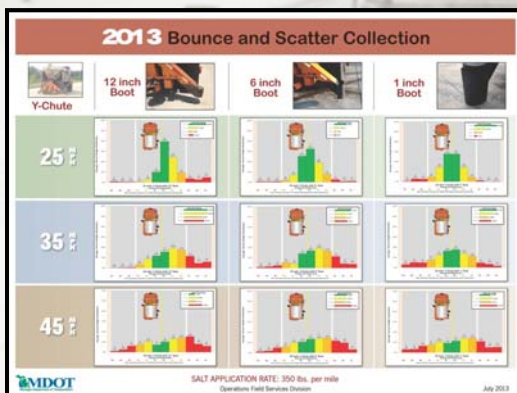
A copy of the 2013 Salt Bounce and Scatter Report will be available soon:



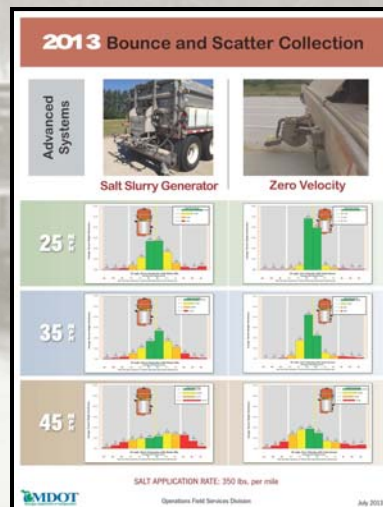
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## Posters



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***Questions?***



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