Three Recipients Selected for APWA Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Awards

Awards presented at 2013 APWA North American Snow Conference in Charlotte

KANSAS CITY, MO. – Three recipients have been selected to receive the American Public Works Association (APWA) 2013 Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Award. Established to promote excellence in the management and administration of public works snow and ice operations, the Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Award also promotes the best practices in snow and ice removal, while minimizing environmental impacts. This year, the Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Awards will be presented at the 2013 APWA North American Snow Conference, April 7-10, 2013 in Charlotte, NC.

The three recipients for this year’s APWA Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Award are:

*Ohio Department of Transportation*: The Ohio Department of Transportation (DOT) winter program effectively addresses the need for snow and ice removal on 43,000 lane miles of highways, with 1,600 plow trucks, 3,000 employees, and 650,000 tons of salt stored at 200 locations around the state. Each winter, ODOT uses between 300,000 and 900,000 tons of salt – with a yearly average usage of about 600,000 tons. Snow and ice control can comprise 40-45% of the annual operating expense, with approximately $50 million annually attributed to labor, equipment, and materials. Each of 88 counties, with support from 12 districts and the central office, plans and prepares for the approaching winter season. Their plan includes equipment readiness, truck routing, call-out procedures, supplemental drivers, emergency equipment rental, training and material inventory control.

*City of Green Bay, WI. Department of Public Works*: The City of Green Bay Department of Public Works operates out of two facilities for its snow and ice control program. The west side facility consists of offices, snow command operations, brine production room, fleet maintenance garage, parking garages, and parts stock room. The east side facility consists of offices, fleet maintenance garage, sewer section, electrical section and a 500 ton salt storage shed. In addition to a tarped salt storage at the west side facility, the city purchased and installed a Brine Extreme brine making system that has two 6000 gallon salt brine storage tanks, one 6000 gallon storage tank for calcium chloride, and one 6000 gallon storage tank for Geo Melt. This system allows the city to manufacture 6000 gallons of brine per hour, and enables the department to blend different materials on demand. Along with a new brine production room, with installed four new 37 watt LED light fixtures, employees have been on board with the new directions for the program, which has had a better result on the roadways.

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*City of Novi, MI. Department of Public Services: The City of Novi Department of Public Services (Novi DPS) has a winter maintenance program that includes several materials to effectively respond to the Michigan winter storms. The materials include rock salt, liquid brine (manufactured onsite), de-sugared beet extract, and mineral well brine. These materials are stored and handled in accordance with State of Michigan’s rules for salt and liquid brine storage, in that these materials may be covered, stored on impervious surfaces, and monitored routinely for potential pollution risks. Novi DPS stores rock salt inside a covered salt dome that has a shingled roof, concrete floor, and concrete walls. The large dome has a capacity of approximately 2000 tons of salt, and the loading area of the salt dome is covered to prevent erosion of the salt pile, reducing the track-out material and exposure to stormwater runoff. GIS services are used to create detailed maps and booklets that assist operators with snow clearing, and multiple mapping layers are incorporated into the program allowing DPS to effectively plan work, track costs, and identify service deficiencies.

About APWA Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Awards Program: The Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Award was established to promote excellence in the management and administration of public works snow and ice operations, and to promote the best practices in snow and ice removal while minimizing environmental impacts. Any public works agency actively involved in snow and ice removal and operations are eligible, and APWA membership is not required to be selected for the award. For more information about the APWA North American Snow Conference, please visit: http://www.apwa.net/snow.

About APWA
The American Public Works Association (www.apwa.net) is a not-for-profit, international organization of more than 28,000 members involved in the field of public works. APWA serves its members by promoting professional excellence and public awareness through education, advocacy and the exchange of knowledge. APWA is headquartered in Kansas City, Missouri, has an office in Washington, D.C. and 63 chapters in North America.

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