The Winter Maintenance Top Ten: A Report from the Sustainability Sub-Committee

Outline

• Why?
• How?
• What?
• Where next?
Why

• We have lots of great new techniques, technology, systems, ideas, why isn’t everyone using them?
• For example, we know about pre-wetting and how useful it is – so why don’t people do it?
• Of course, lots of reasons, some good, some not
• One of the good reasons may be lack of knowledge
• Yes, lots of conferences, lots of training, lots of other stuff, but still...
• Need resources

What Sort of Resources?

• Short, how-to movies
• Brief documents
• Links to more complex and detailed documents
• Links to current users and the community of practice
• OK, but what topics should we cover?
• Well, that’s why we want a top ten list!
What

• Identify the ten most important areas of winter maintenance!
• What do we mean by “most important?”
• What do YOU think it means!
• Create a list of possible topic areas
• Put them into a survey
• See what the community says
• So, how far have we got?

How

• During the Peer Exchange put a post on the list-serve asking for top ten lists
• Got about forty responses (polled the PIARC Winter Service committee too)
• Combined 180 responses into 138 topics, some of which were clearly very close to each other, none of which were particularly defined
• Grouped into 12 categories:
  - Chemicals
  - Decision Support
  - Equipment
  - Innovation
  - Management
  - Media Relations
  - Policy
  - Strategies
  - Sustainability
  - Tactics
  - Technology
  - Workforce
More How

- List of 138 reviewed by WMTSP Steering Committee (8 members responded – Nixon and Nelson did not since we were steering the process!)
- Each member asked to vote for no more than 30
- Created a list of top vote getters (4, 5, or 6 votes)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Votes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liquid blends</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RWIS data (the standard suite of instruments, plus, camera image and pavement grip)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plough &amp; blade technology</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technology transfer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adequate funding for operations and sustainability</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Performance measurement (measuring the ability to achieve prescribed levels of service)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Media relations (public and political relations)</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>-Defined levels of service (necessary for performance measurement)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance facility design, operation and maintenance (safe and efficient traffic flow, proper storage facilities, indoor operations where possible, good housekeeping practices, drainage management, vehicle washing and wash water runoff management)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Votes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anti-icing and cold region</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drift control and snow fence.</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Effective use of liquid de-icers (pre-wetting and anti-icing together)</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>AVL and automatic data collection from maintenance vehicles about ongoing activities</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Measurements of residual road salt</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff training</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trained and experienced decision makers</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trained and experienced operatives/drivers</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Where Next?

- Create web based survey
- Asked respondents to pick top ten from reduced list
- More than 18 but less than 138!
- Investigate how best to create information on the top ten topics