

Liquid Calcium Chloride: Putting the Heat on Snow & Ice

Peckham Industries, Inc. is a leading distributor of LIQUIDOW™ liquid calcium chloride used throughout the region to melt snow and ice on all pavement surfaces. Manufactured by Oxychem, (successor to Dow) LIQUIDOW™ has been selected as our product of choice due to the high-quality control standards under which it is produced. For you this means consistent, proven and predictable results. Nothing heats up snow and ice like our liquid calcium chloride!

How It Works

For anti-icing applications liquid calcium chloride is applied to the pavement prior to the onset of snow which will prevent and weaken the bond between the pavement and snow. This means clearing the pavement is easier when plowing does begin. To complete the snow and ice clearing process, calcium chloride should also be used in conjunction with standard rock salt, or salt and sand mixtures, to de-ice pavements. Even when temperatures are near freezing, the use of calcium chloride will enhance the salt's ability to melt and help to prevent pavement refreeze.



When temperatures drop below 20° to 25°, salt's effectiveness diminishes quickly. This is because the salt must first turn to a liquid, or brine, to melt the snow and ice. To form a brine, salt must come into direct contact with moisture, but as temperatures fall further below freezing, less and less free liquid is available to dissolve the salt. The fact is, at 30° one pound of salt alone will melt 42 pounds of ice, however, when the temperature falls to 20°, that same amount of salt will only melt 9 pounds of ice. By pre-wetting the rock salt, either during application or at the stockpile, the chemical properties of liquid calcium chloride provide the needed moisture permitting the salt to become a brine quickly. Liquid calcium chloride will get you bare roads faster!

Utilizing liquid calcium chloride in your anti-icing and de-icing programs provides greater capacity for melting snow and ice and more effective, faster melting at below freezing temperatures. The advantage of this is obvious...less snow and ice mean fewer accidents on the road. Perhaps not so immediately obvious are the economic benefits derived from reduced rock salt consumption as bounce and scatter to the shoulders is reduced on average from 30% down to 4%, and fewer applications are generally required resulting in less salt usage, lower labor and fuel costs and less wear and tear on your equipment. Mixing sand with liquid calcium chloride prevents moisture from freezing so the stockpile remains loose, manageable, and instantly available. Ecological benefits derived from less rock salt introduced into the environment and lower truck fuel consumption are added advantages to using liquid calcium chloride in your winter maintenance programs.

The Peckham Way

Peckham Industries, Inc., through its various family companies, has dedicated itself to delivering the highest quality materials and custom solutions to thousands of road construction and maintenance customers, like you, for over 99 years and promises to continue this reputable tradition far into the future. We are committed to utilizing new technologies, developing new standards, and employing motivated, knowledgeable professionals to gain your trust and continued satisfaction as a customer. To learn more about our company and liquid calcium chloride, please contact your local sales representative or visit our website, www.peckham.com.