

**OPEN MEETING AGENDA TOPICS
NOVEMBER 15, 2005**

OLD BUSINESS

1. Review minutes – Diane

Approved

2. Dept of Energy Update – Dan/Elizabeth Stevens

Liz gave an update. Final report to be published around the 1st of the year.

3. Steel Coupon Issue – Greg Leist

Recently finished testing a new batch. The Mfg is preparing a new batch of test coupons. Analytical Labs, IDT, Envirotech and Redmond are all running tests on these coupons. Getting real close to finding an acceptable metal to use. Rot Washers is committed to getting us a consistent batch of coupons. Hoping that this will be done by the end of the year.

Ron may have to re-establish the current products and their corrosion results with the new washers.

There are a lot of questions as to whether our corrosion test is valid or relevant. The NACE test is not meant to correlate to real world. Envirotech is looking at a “fast” repeatable test method to determine if the corrosion rate is within the PNS standards. (1-2 hours)

We may have to redefine the corrosion test – or – come up with a new method. Manufacturers would need to have input into this if this is the way that PNS is going.

It is hard to relate lab results to field results.

4. Deicer Brochure Project – Greg Hansen

This project is complete. It is on the web site. Contact one of the PNS members if you want to have copies.

5. 2006 Conference update – Prudy Hulman

Theme – Every Day Heroes

Spokane, June 13, 14 and 15, 2006

Early registration fee – March 10th - \$250.00 - \$300.00 after that date

Booth - \$400.00/\$450.00

Sponsorship – Platinum \$5,000; Gold - \$2,500; Bronze - \$1,000; also sponsorships for cups, etc

Dana Bowman – Key Note Speaker

Brad Montgomery – entertainment; motivational magician

Criteria to nominate every day heroes

Cannot give door prizes more than \$50.00

Will be working hard to get people to attend the trade show.

Large truck display

Currently have \$15,000 in sponsorship

All breaks in the vendor area (lunches and breaks)

6. Performance Specifications – has anything been done on this

Ron discussed what the equation that was suggested last meeting.

Concentration beginning/concentration ending – 1 = performance factor

Will have the ability to re-rank the chemicals according to the performance factor. Criteria would be: temperature, storage capability, etc. Maybe look at the depth of the curve.

Get a valid certified Eutectic curve. We would define what this is.

Get comments to Ron.

Last meeting we talked about a salt brining category. Currently using Category 8A. Use a 2-step gradation process; 100% - 3/8" and 0-3% - #50. Is this viable?

Manufacturers: Please check this out and get back to Ron.

Does this need kiln dry materials – no anti-caking in kiln dried

NEW BUSINESS

1. MDT Updates – Randy

Looking at more chemicals; upping the salt content in our stock piles to make them an active deicer.

Calibrating all our trucks. Training our operators

Requiring documentation form our operators.

Experimenting in Butte with two (2) products side by side. Ice Slicer Elite and salt mixed with Geomelt C.

Getting two (2) units with AVL (Automatic Vehicle Location) this winter.

Working with law enforcement to explain to their people what we are doing. Getting an understanding from both sides.

St Mary's crew built a snow fence out of used concrete guardrail posts.

Looking at building more sand sheds.

MDT will use PNS approved products when selecting products for a PM10 area.

2. WSDOT Salt Study results – Rico Baroga

Heading into our 4th year of our study.

Cost per lane mile came out about the same. There are longer residual times for magnesium and calcium. Not advantageous due to cost. No clear advantage due to environmental impacts.

Looked at the corrosion results as a benefit.

Policy standpoint – don't use salt by itself. Pre-wetting the solids to get more punch.

We are expanding the testing to other areas this season. Will have more data this year (66 trucks).

3. Discussion on Item #2

(Jerry) I salute you for the work that you did. Saw some things that worried me – a little skeptical of the numbers. You didn't weight your corrosion based on the hours of exposure

(Lynn) Are you seeing any cost savings? Rico - No, with the higher application rates and reduced residual times, there was no cost savings.

(Graham) For MDT – Are you going to do a cost analysis on using more chemicals vs salt/sand?....Dan – have done a report prior that we will be expanding on this. Randy – trying to educate our operators

(James) Was wondering if temperature had a bearing on the results? Rico – we are doing our testing in adjacent areas, so they should be similar.

(Greg) – Are you really considering that they are similar in temperature and conditions? Are the trucks parked inside or outside?

(Dave) in terms of experimental designs, could you imbed the coupons somewhere vs hanging them from the trucks? Rico – did have some on the guardrail.

(Dave) Seems to me that you have so many variables, it may be better to have them stationary. Tom – What we are really looking at is the affect on vehicles.

(Dave) The coupon that we select for the corrosion test may not have any bearing on the traveling public's vehicle.

WSDOT has funded a research project with WTI – they will build cement with rebar imbedded and then put into a climate control chamber to see what happens within the cement in regards to the rebar.

4. Storm Mountain News Articles

If you see any articles that have adverse effects from our winter maintenance chemicals, please forward them to Diane and she will distribute them to the membership.

5. Other

Anything on the horizon in regards to spec changes: Only in the salt for brining. Maybe looking at a category for inhibitor products if WA and MT have success in the brining process.

Is the PNS group going to take a stand on these adverse articles? PNS has taken a stand via the brochure.

Jim Hand –Reports of increasing number of wildlife kills. Went back 20 years in the records and there was no change in the numbers of road kill.