

British Aggregates Association

Press Release 12 January 2010 – Immediate

UK Quarry Industry Keeping Gritters Running

Quarries across the UK are now supplying fine aggregates to local authorities to treat iced up roads and pavements. Thousands of tonnes have already been supplied and some airports have also made use of the material.

Quarry grit was the traditional method of dealing with snow and ice before the use of salt became commonplace. Although it does not melt ice in the same way as salt, it is ideal for providing grip on slippery surfaces.

British Aggregates Association director Robert Durward;

“Even though the temperature has now risen, hundreds of miles of roads and pavements remain in a treacherous condition. Spreading quarry grit will prevent accidents and reduce pressure on the remaining stocks of salt”

It is also possible to use farm machinery to spread the grit meaning that many more roads and pavements can be treated than would otherwise be possible. Quarry grit has no adverse effect on the environment and can be recycled once the ice and snow have melted.

ENDS:

Notes for editors;

1. The British Aggregates Association is the main representative body for the UK's independent aggregate producers. www.british-aggregates.co.uk
2. Salt can damage asphalt causing potholes.

Contacts;

Robert Durward, Director 01555 663 444 rdurward@british-aggregates.com

Richard Bird, Executive Officer – 0777 6298 347 rbird@british-aggregates.com

Peter Huxtable, Secretary 01433 639 879 / 0771 1492 378 phuxtable@british-aggregates.com