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**Attention: Editor**  
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**PRODUCT RELEASE**



## Cortec® VpCI®-406 Wash Helps Lengthen Service Life of Winter Vehicle Fleets

Winter roads take a harsh toll on vehicle fleets. Deicing salts applied to keep roads clear and safe have a negative effect on vehicles, eating away at their frames, bodies, and joints. Garbage trucks, delivery vans, public safety vehicles, and especially road maintenance fleets are at extremely high risk for rust from daily exposure to high-chloride content road spray.



Regular washing is critical to minimizing the rust and extending the service life of vehicle fleets. This helps to avoid expensive repair and replacement. The goal is to remove the salt and grime as soon as possible so it has less time to eat away at the metal surfaces of the vehicle. The inclusion of a corrosion inhibitor can boost the power of the wash to protect against flash rust during and within the first few hours after washing.



One metro area transportation department in the Midwestern United States, where winters can be severe and deicing salts are generously applied, realized the seriousness of their own rust problem and started using VpCI®-406 to wash their fleet several years ago. All their vehicles had been taking a beating from high-chloride-content road spray. Snow plows and deicing trucks experienced some of the harshest conditions and would regularly come off duty with chlorides caked into the joints and crevices of the vehicles. Chlorides carried into the cab via the drivers' boots compounded the problem. The department had faced problems with bolts coming loose and with rust in the cabs causing the drivers' seats to fall through the floors over time.

Regular washing with VpCI®-406 helps mitigate these problems. The moderately foaming cleaner is added to power wash dispensing equipment and mixed with water to clean the department's entire utility fleet, from plow trucks to patrol vehicles. Since rust can occur quickly even if the trucks are left unwashed overnight, drivers that follow protocol to wash their trucks after every use make a significant

difference in the health of the vehicle frames and bodies, minimizing the amount of rust and delaying the need for costly repair and replacement of these valuable assets.



In addition to cleaning off the salt and grime, VpCI®-406 contains corrosion inhibitors for extra protection against flash rust while the vehicle is being exposed to wash water. VpCI®-406 does not leave streaks, and its phosphate-free profile is good for disposal. VpCI®-406 comes as a concentrate that can be diluted up to 1:50 for automatic washers, pressure washers, and steam cleaners or up to 1:40 for use in manual bucket-wash applications.

All vehicle fleets driving on winter roads treated with deicing salts face a similar threat of rust. Regular washing with VpCI®-406 can go a long way toward mitigating rust and vehicle deterioration, prolonging the health of these valuable assets, and avoiding the high cost of repair and replacement through good corrosion inhibiting fleet maintenance.

To learn more about VpCI®-406, please visit the following link:

<https://www.cortecvci.com/Publications/PDS/VpCI-406.pdf>

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