



Focus On



# 'Duty of Care' Winter Gritting by the London Borough of Lambeth

## Problem Identified

The Railways and Transport Safety Act 2003, part 6, clause 111 has an addition to the Highways Act 1980 that states that "a highway authority are under a duty to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that safe passage along a highway is not endangered by snow or ice."

Local authorities now have a duty to clear and prevent formation of ice and snow deposits, where reasonably practicable, along footways as well as carriageways.

In order to comply with the changes in legislation, Lambeth Council have undertaken risk assessments to establish which routes should be included in their Winter Service Operational Plan, to include in particular increased gritting of footways. This added workload needed to be addressed, to achieve effective and efficient gritting of pedestrian areas, whilst obtaining an even spread of grit/salt to eliminate wastage from over-gritting.



## Solution

A specially trained Glasdon representative visited and demonstrated the Cruiser Turbocast 300™ broadcast gritter to both Lambeth Council and their contractor for Winter Service, Cleanaway – Lambeth Service Team Ltd. After further discussion, Lambeth Council approved the purchase of 28 Cruiser Turbocast 300s in October 2004, and a further 18 were purchased in September 2005. In addition, 300 Nestor™ grit/salt storage containers were purchased to assist in the new operation.

Cruiser Turbocast 300 grit/salt spreader enables footpaths and pedestrianised areas to be gritted with ease. The unit has a range of settings for controlled, economic and even spreading, to a width of between 3 and 7 metres.



## Resulting Benefits

The even spread of grit/salt from the Cruiser Turbocast 300 is more effective in preventing ice formation, and with less wastage from grit overspill there is less damage to the vegetation bordering footways throughout the Borough. Because of the better quality of spread that the Cruiser Turbocast 300 achieved and the time saved in the gritting process, the additional work specified in the new winter gritting policy was carried out with costs kept to a minimum.

## What the customer says:

“The Cruiser Turbocast 300 has given us the capacity to grit in a more effective and efficient manner. The more even and finer grit spread pattern has enabled us to carry out this additional work much quicker than with manual gritting. This has given us savings in man-hours and grit-salt used.”

Martin Sachs, Head of Transport & Highways,  
London Borough of Lambeth.



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