



**Calcium Magnesium Acetate**  
**as a de-icing/anti-icing agent**  
**on local authority urban roads**  
**in Dunedin**



ICE / GRIT

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## Introduction

Winter maintenance activities in Dunedin are quite extensive due to the geographical location. Winters here involve many frosts that require reactive maintenance to ensure road user safety.

- Dunedin City Council is actively seeking to enhance its winter maintenance programme with the use of CMA.
- This presentation is in two parts:
  - Strategic Planning
  - Fred Coralde, Dunedin City Council
  - Operational Aspects
  - Paul Howard, Downer EDi Works





# STRATEGIC PLANNING



# Why bother?

- **current policy working perfectly**
- **rate payers do not know**
- **is it worth trying?**



# Council's approach

- roads are narrow and rolling
- improve the levels of service
- increasing road safety awareness profile
- long term LTCCP strategy



# The 2006 trial

- resource consent
- roads affected
- the strategy



# The result.....

- public initial perception
- the positive 'buying-in'
- environmental report
- the disadvantages



# Strategy developed

- trial continuity
- the expansion strategy
- desired outcome





# OPERATIONAL ASPECTS



## CMA vrs Grit

- Calcium Magnesium Acetate – de-icing/anti-icing agent applied in pellet form or dissolved to form a liquid (common in NZ).
- CMA as an anti-icing agent remains active on the road for up to five days weather permitting.
- CMA allows forward planning and is safer to apply in dry conditions.
- CMA is visually difficult to detect so driver confidence lowers.
- Grit is a cheaper raw material (low initial capital).
- Grit used historically as a mechanical prevention to skidding on ice.
- Grit is a reactive treatment and is very abrasive to road markings it also needs to be collected or will fill mudtanks.



## Objectives

- Meet the needs of the Dunedin City Council
- Improve knowledge of CMA abilities and applications
  - lower PSV chip
  - urban environment, lower speed, alignment.



## Methodology

- Vehicle was a Toyota Corolla fitted with a Vericom VC3000, ABS system disabled.
- Tyre size, type and pressure recorded.
- Vehicle speed was 30km/hr.
- Selected sites were:

#	Locaton	Surface	Slope (deg)
1	Stevenson Rd	Mix 6 Asphaltic Concrete	1.7
2	Stevenson Rd	Type 2 Slurry Seal	2.1
3	Stuart Street	Mix 10 Asphaltic Concrete	7.1
4	Three Mile Hill	Second Coat seal (Gr4) –Worn, in good condition	0.3
5	Three Mile Hill	Second Coat seal (Gr4) – Worn, flushed areas	0.3
6	Taeiri Rd	Two Coat seal (Gr 4/6) – Worn, in good condition	5.9



## Methodology continued

- Sites selected based on surface type and location.
- Sequence of testing:
  - an untreated state
  - after gritting (road then swept)
  - immediately after CMA application
  - post CMA application, after drying.
- Locked Wheel Braking (LWB) used as test method.
- NZ Police driver and Police measuring equipment used.

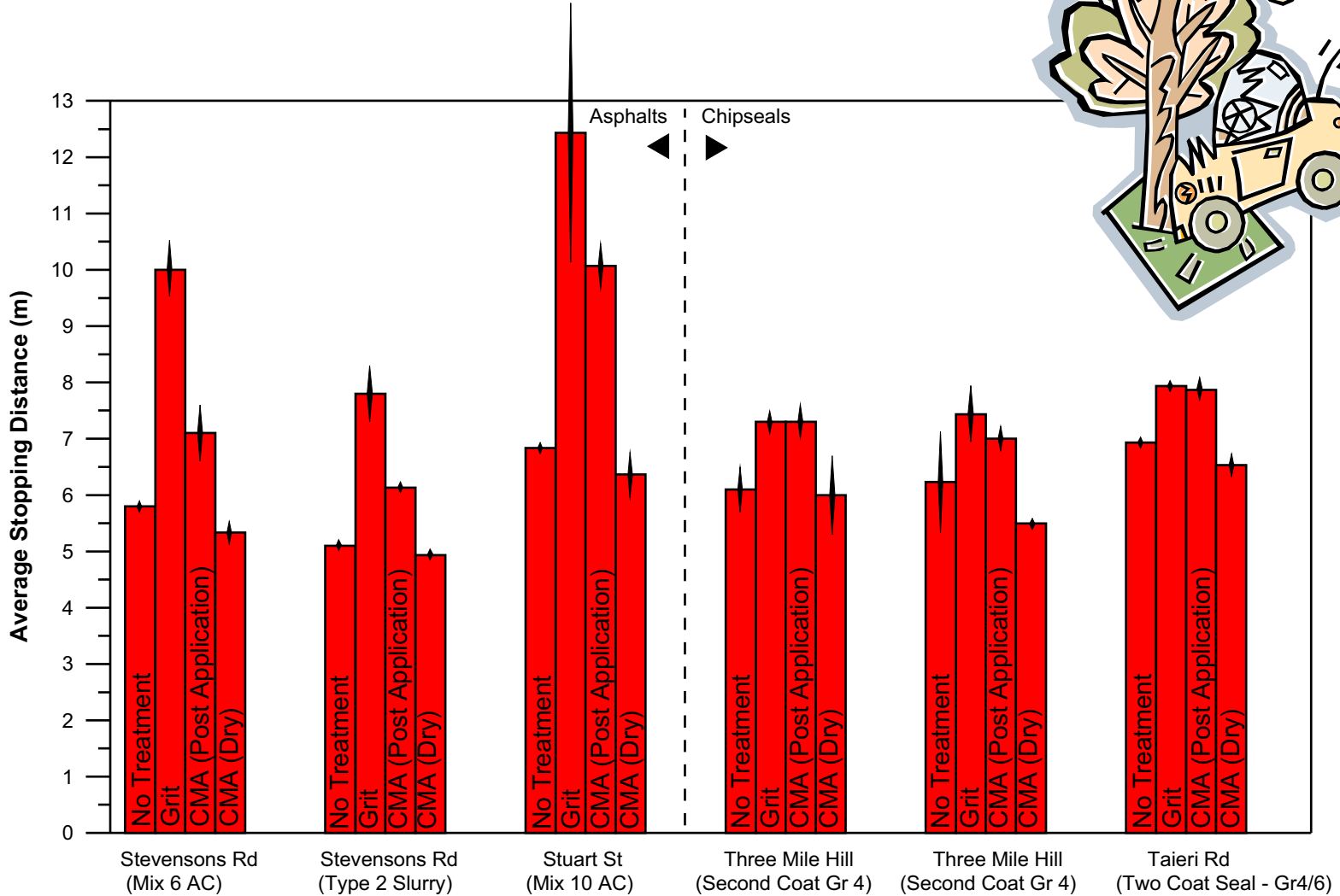


# The Setup





# Results





## Conclusion

- Grit significantly increased average stopping distances
- The increase in stopping distance was more significant on the finer textured asphalt and slurry surfaces
- CMA (post application) performed better on average than grit
- CMA (dry) performed better on all surfaces than a dry untreated road.





**Downer EDi  
Works**



**DUNEDIN CITY  
COUNCIL**

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