

British Aggregates Association

**Press Release – immediate
21 December 2010**

UK Quarry Industry Again Keeps the Gritters Running

For the second time this year, quarries across the UK are once again supplying fine aggregates to local authorities to treat iced up roads and pavements. Thousands of tonnes have once again been supplied and some airports particularly badly hit have also made use of the material during this unexpected and prolonged arctic spell.

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;

“Spreading quarry grit will prevent accidents and reduce pressure on the diminishing stocks of salt. For this reason we have also re-issued the database of BAA companies in a position to assist”

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 voice of the UK’s independent aggregate producers. www.british-aggregates.co.uk
2. Salt can damage asphalt causing potholes.
3. The BAA database for availability of gritting supplies is attached and also available on our website <http://www.british-aggregates.co.uk/news/press.html>

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