

# Winter Working Conditions



## & Think

- What could go wrong?
- What do I need to do to address the hazards?
- Have snow and ice hazards been mitigated?
- Has it been reviewed on the JSA?
- Do I have the proper PPE for the weather?
- Is my vehicle equipped for the weather?

Air Temperature °C (Approximate)	No Noticeable Wind		10 km/h Wind		20 km/h Wind		30 km/h Wind		40 km/h Wind	
	Maximum Work Period	Number of Breaks	Maximum Work Period	Number of Breaks	Maximum Work Period	Number of Breaks	Maximum Work Period	Number of Breaks	Maximum Work Period	Number of Breaks
-26 to -28	Normal breaks (1)		Normal breaks (1)		75 minutes	2	55 minutes	3	40 minutes	4
-29 to -31	Normal breaks (1)		75 minutes	2	55 minutes	3	40 minutes	4	30 minutes	5
-32 to -34	75 minutes	2	55 minutes	3	40 minutes	4	30 minutes	5	Nonemergency work should cease.	
-35 to -37	55 minutes	3	40 minutes	4	30 minutes	5	Nonemergency work should cease.			
-38 to -39	40 minutes	4	30 minutes	5	Nonemergency work should cease.		Nonemergency work should cease.			
-40 to -42	30 minutes	5	Nonemergency work should cease.		Nonemergency work should cease.		Nonemergency work should cease.			
-43 and below	Nonemergency work should cease.		Nonemergency work should cease.		Nonemergency work should cease.		Nonemergency work should cease.		Nonemergency work should cease.	

**Work and Warm-up Schedule for a Four-Hour Shift**

Winter is an exciting time of year, making it is easy to get distracted from the wide array of hazards we will face throughout the winter months. Freezing temperatures and hazardous surfaces will expose us to serious risks everyday. Early autumn as well as daily preparations are essential to ensuring safe and successful execution of the job at hand - we must constantly be aware of changing conditions and adjust our job planning accordingly.

**Don't leave safety out in the cold!**



## Winter PPE

- Wear insulated winter work boots with aggressive soles – supplement traction with traction aids
- Choose base-layers that are tight to the skin, breathable, and made of natural or fire resistant materials (e.g. Kermel or Marino Wool)
- Wear gloves suitable to the job's greatest hazard – heavily insulated mittens may be required in extreme cold

## Winter Walking

- Get a Grip... Wear proper footwear such as insulated work boots and traction aids
- Walk slowly and take smaller steps
- Avoid 'cruise control' when walking – it needs your full attention at all times
- Be aware of hidden hazards under freshly fallen snow
- Practice safe access/egress – step slowly in and out of vehicles and equipment, use the 3-point rule of contact, and always use handrails when available



## Winter Driving

- Check road conditions prior to departure and plan your route accordingly
- Clear snow and ice from all windows, mirrors, lights, hood, and roof
- Avoid cruise control – winter driving needs your full attention at all times
- Use extra caution on overpasses, bridges, and shaded areas – these freeze first
- Allow at least three times more space between you and the vehicle ahead – posted speed limits are for dry pavement
- Drive defensively! Slow down and be aware of other vehicles and wildlife

## Snow and Ice Control

- Report hazards on commonly used walkways in regular work areas and take risk-reduction actions as necessary
- Do a Stop and Think about the route to the work site, considering ice and snow conditions
- Inspect work area for snow and ice hazards
- Spread sand, salt, or ice melt
- Wear traction aids
- Barricade hazardous areas

