

**ISSUE: 05. OPERATIONAL APPROACHES, EQUIPMENT AND PRODUCTS FOR WINTER CONDITIONS**

**SUB-ISSUE:** Management of winter operations

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**Room:**

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**Presentation title:**

THE HIGHWAY SNOWSTORM COUNTERMEASURE MANUAL (REVISED EDITION 2011)

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**Summary:**

Snowstorm-induced traffic disturbances in winter remain a serious problem on roads in Hokkaido, Tohoku and other northern regions of Japan. Snowstorms are the most common cause of national highway closures in Hokkaido, accounting for approximately 40% of the annual total. They also have a considerable social impact, as they reduce driving speeds and increase the risk of collisions and other hazards. Accordingly, snow fences, snowbreak woods and other facilities have been established in Japan as blowing-snow control measures on roads. To support the planning, design and maintenance of such facilities, The Highway Snowstorm Countermeasure Manual (draft) was issued in March 1990 under the general editorship of the Hokkaido Development Bureau, which manages national highways in Hokkaido. In March 2011, the manual was revised and issued by the Public Works Research Institute's Civil Engineering Research Institute for Cold Region.

