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To: All IPS RMR Personnel

Date: 11/5/2008

Pressure Testing – Rear-end Snowplow Incident



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Incident: On 12-Oct-08 an IPS Pressure Testing employee was driving from Riverton to Minot, North Dakota on Highway 120, 6 miles South of Cody, Wyoming when the incident occurred. The employee had just rounded the corner when he came upon a WYDOT Snowplow traveling in the same direction. The employee stated that he could not see the plow as he approached but did see the snow cloud in the air. The employee struck the right rear of the plow before he could sufficiently slow down. The IPS pickup ended up in the borrow ditch after the collision.

Findings: Icy roadway, heavy snow conditions, and limited visibility existed.

The IPS driver was cited for “driving to fast for conditions”.

The pickup was heavily damaged with repairs estimated at \$14,000.

The IPS driver received minor cuts and abrasions from the shattered side door window.

Seatbelts and 4WD were being used at the time of the incident.

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Root Cause: Trip should have been postponed; Driving to fast for road conditions.



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Corrective Actions:

- 1. Communicate this incident to all District and Regional Personnel through this Safety Alert and discuss the severity potential during next safety meeting.*
- 2. The trip could have been postponed until road and travel conditions were improved. Check road and travel reports before leaving on trips during winter, especially during or immediately after storms.*
- 3. If already on the road, drivers should slow down when visibility is compromised; especially when hazardous road conditions exist. Vehicle speed should be appropriate for existing conditions.*
- 4. Driver paid fines related to this accident.*
- 5. Driver participated in a coaching session with his immediate supervisor and RMR Mgr. and will sign progressive discipline analysis of accident.*
- 6. Driver participated in Commentary Drive Training on 10/30/08.*
- 7. Driver led District safety meeting discussing this incident with other drivers on*

“Remember, Watch out for one another 24-7; We Are Our Brother and Sisters Keeper”!