

SIMA Scope of Standards Activities

The mission of the Snow & Ice Management Association (SIMA) is empowering snow and ice management professionals for success. Development of ANSI recognized standards will enable social, economic, and environmental guidelines of policy and practice for: 1) Delivery of safe and cost-efficient winter management operations and service verification; 2) Continuation of emergency services, commerce, public, and social activities; 3) Environmentally responsible awareness and use of salt and other anti-icing and de-icing products, as recent research has confirmed such snow and ice melt products can contribute to chloride pollution of freshwater.

Sustainable winter management operations are accomplished by standards that are easily understood and readily adopted - by property managers, facility managers, and the diverse array of property owners - in order to provide safe and clear passage in parking lots, pedestrian walkways and access routes, and other areas used by the public.

During snow and ice storms, the public assumes varied levels of continuation in their lives including safe and clear passage of their means for transportation. Formal standards will provide the necessary third-party credibility for establishing guidelines of policy that define levels of service (LOS) for clients (facilities/properties), and standards of practice for snow management industry personnel.

Expected results: ANSI standards will enable increased confidence by property managers, facility managers and the general public who are seeking, qualifying, and hiring winter management professionals, increasing safety and reducing winter-related outdoor slip and fall risk and accidents.

SIMA's intended scope of standards development activities will include and are not limited to:

1. Economic standards of policy and practice including: a) requests for proposals (RFPs) and contractual terms of agreement between the buyers and service providers in the industry.
2. Social standards of policy and practice including: a) guidelines for defining scope of work (SOW); b) level(s) of service (LOS); c) liability and risk assessment.
3. Environmental standards of policy and practice including: a) sustainable salt use guidelines; b) guidelines for products making claims of being "safe for the environment"; c) impacts on property infrastructure related to chloride use.