

## MATERIALS AND PROCESSES USED TO MITIGATE ADVERSE WEATHER

Previous research has recorded that whilst some use had been made of de-icing chemicals to mitigate the effects of severe wintry conditions, considerable confusion existed over the best type of material for a particular application. The efficacy of certain materials was also questioned.

As part of a wide review of BR's response to wintry conditions, a survey has been carried out to assess the use made of de-icing chemicals to combat winter problems, with particular reference to the snow and ice conditions experienced in February 1991.

It is concluded that,

- Although there is a wide range of de-icing products approved for use on BR, little use was made of them.
- A limited range of de-icing products was held by depots.
- Potential users lacked information on the products available and confusion existed as to the correct product to use for a particular application.
- Products were not always used as intended.
- There was a lack of suitable spray equipment.
- Conductor rail "de-icers" were satisfactory.