

## Take Action. Get Traction!

### Sand Shaker Fall Protection Campaign

A sand shaker can help reduce or eliminate the risk of falls in icy weather for your mobile workforce. A sand shaker is nothing more than a sand-filled “flip top” water bottle that employees can keep in the cup holders of their cars during icy weather and use to apply sand for traction as they make their way to and from their destinations. Its secondary function is to increase awareness.

#### Key Points for the Campaign

- **Make the rollout of this concept an event.** Invite employees to a meeting where the concept is explained and everyone is given their sand shaker to fill.
- **The best time to start the campaign is probably sometime in October.** Snow and ice storms can start in November, if not earlier.
- **Acquire enough sand shaker bottles to cover all of your employees** (top photo, right). If you do an Internet search, use the terms “flip top” or “flipper” water bottle.
- Go to your local home improvement store and get as many bags of **playground or general purpose sand** (middle photo, right), typically in 40 or 50 lb sizes, as you need to fill the bottles. Playground sand usually costs between \$3 and \$6 a bag. This type of sand is about the right coarseness. Stay away from paver and jointer sand as they can be too fine to offer good traction.
- **The main goal is to add traction on top of the ice, not to melt the ice.** However, if you’re working in a home care setting and you need to do both, check your home improvement store for a pre-mixed sand/salt mix (bottom photo, right).
- **Remind employees to refill** their sand shakers when empty!

