Foresight

OpenSite – weather forecast information for independent gritting operations in the UK, Ireland and beyond

OpenSite is a weather forecast information service, tailored specifically for those running independent gritting operations across the UK, Ireland and the rest of Europe. OpenSite helps to keep car parks, access roads and footpaths open and free of winter hazards.

KEY BENEFITS

• Maximise operational efficiency by better managing resources.
• Minimise salt and grit usage as forecast sites are scientifically matched to your locations, so you can treat when and where it is needed.
• Improve safety and reduce the risk of potential litigation.
• Hazard colour indications on charts helping you to make informed decisions.
• Our forecasts do not rely on observation data, allowing us to forecast wherever your site is located.
OPENSITE FEATURES

- 2,700 site-specific forecast points across the UK and Ireland with more sites being added to meet your requirements, including mainland European sites on request.
- 24-hour forecast which can be split into one and three hour time segments across the twenty four hour period.
- Forecasts of road surface temperature (RST), road states, rainfall total and snow for each time segment.
- Hazard colours (red/orange/yellow/green) to give you an instant assessment of when and where you need to take action. The hazard colours can either be for the entire 24-hour forecast, or segmented to match your forecast breakdown.
- Delivery via email as either a PDF document or a CSV file which you can upload into your decision making software.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

At the Met Office we are always looking at ways in which we can improve our service and delivery to our customers. The following are optional extras to the OpenSite service and will help you gain a greater understanding of our forecasts and data.

- OpenSite 2–5 day outlook.
  - Issued once per day to help you keep up-to-date with the latest outlook to plan ahead.
  - Delivered via email as a PDF document.
- Forecaster telephone consultancy – your hotline to a forecaster available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week when you need to clarify the weather situation to help you make the best decisions.
- Met Office training – to help you make the best winter maintenance decisions, we provide a full range of training courses to suit all abilities and experiences.
- Winter Gritting Quality Mark scheme - The Met Office Quality Mark scheme allows our customers to differentiate themselves within the marketplace. It enables you to reassure your customers that you are getting the most accurate forecasts and understand the weather to make winter gritting decisions. The only such mark in the industry, it demonstrates that you are investing in training to provide the best service available.

For more information on OpenSite please call 01392 885680 or email openroad@metoffice.gov.uk.