



MEMORANDUM

TO: Robert Barwick, Purchasing

FROM: Jim Leu, Fleet Services

DATE: January 28, 2016

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PURCHASE OF BRINE ANTI-ICE UNITS

Every plow season West Allis faces a new set of challenges when it comes to snow and ice control. The one constant is that no two storms and conditions ever seem to be the same. That being said West Allis will be moving to the forefront in snow and ice control. To take that step I would request a purchase of three anti-ice brine application units. That would consist of two 1,900 gallon units for our tandem and one 900 gallon unit for our single axel units. These are slide in units that are matched to our new and existing trucks. We researched multiple manufactures considering quality, service and value. The manufacture of choice is VariTech through Force America in Waukesha. The VariTech units not only give us the best price but also the best product and local service The VariTech units come in at \$40,635, the Monroe units at \$43,109 and the units from Casper Truck at \$67,095. The purchase of these units will allow West Allis to fight a snow event before the storm arrives. By putting brine down ahead of time, during regular hours, it can handle up to the first inch of snow. This application of brine will also prevent the bonding of snow to the road surface which will allow for quicker and more efficient clean up. This all adds up to a leaner and more efficient operation.

This being said it is my recommendation that the VariTech units by Force America would be the city's best choice in brine application equipment. As always if you should have any questions and or concerns feel free to contact me any time.

Jim Leu
Fleet Superintendent
City of West Allis