

# **'Tis the season for de-icing, la la la la la la la la la...**

DE-ICING and anti-icing fluid can enter the aircraft in 2 ways: (1) through the door and window seals, and (2) in the air that is pulled from outside the aircraft and that is supplied to the cabin and the cockpit. Passengers & crew can also track fluids into the cabin which can create slippery conditions, so be sure that wet walkways are cleaned promptly and thoroughly.

Plan ahead! Your carrier should have procedures in place for airline ground personnel to clean spills and leaks in the aircraft before departure. Ground personnel attempting to clean even small amounts, should receive training in the proper procedures, and always use appropriate equipment (gloves, wipes, and sealable disposal bags).

Symptoms associated with exposure to de-icing or anti-icing fluid may include throat, skin and eye irritation, drowsiness, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, rapid breathing, seating, or even seizures in children. Skin or eyes that come in contact with de-icing or anti-icing fluids must be thoroughly flushed with water for a minimum of 15 minutes, and use soap is recommended for hand washing.

If you need follow-up medical attention, tell your doctor that the spray probably contained one of three chemicals: Propylene Glycol, Ethylene Glycol, or Diethylene Glycol.

Deicing fluid isn't the only compound that can enter the air supply and potentially affect your health.

Check out [ashsd.afacwa.org/docs/AQslides.ppsx](http://ashsd.afacwa.org/docs/AQslides.ppsx) for what you need to know about fume events. Or if that's too slow to load, check out this practical advice instead: [ashsd.afacwa.org/docs/practical.htm](http://ashsd.afacwa.org/docs/practical.htm)

For more information, contact your local safety chair;  
Jan Wyatt - [airsafety@afaeagle.com](mailto:airsafety@afaeagle.com)

## **'Tis the season to be cautious!**