

## SAFETY DIRECTOR MESSAGE

## SECURE BALLAST DURING SNOW PLOW OPERATIONS

Snow season is in full swing, and it is important to remain vigilant in controlling all hazards associated with snow removal operations. When mounting a snow plow to your vehicle, it is essential to add ballast to counterbalance the additional weight and ensure vehicle stability.

Ballast is needed to take weight off the front of the truck, provide traction, and comply with the requirements of certain plows. It is crucial to avoid exceeding the truck's Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) and Rear Gross Axle Weight Rating to maintain safety and vehicle performance.

Ballast should be placed behind the rear axle of the truck bed to effectively take the weight off the front axle and prevent exceeding the Front Gross Axle Weight Rating (FGAWR).

Dense materials that are easy to load, such as bagged sand, are ideal for ballast. It is important to secure the ballast to prevent it from sliding around during driving and braking. Remember, ballast needs and requirements will vary depending on what you put on and in your truck. Refer to your snowplow manufacturer's recommendations and owner's manual when adding ballast to your truck.

