

Innovation Showcase

2025 "Outstanding Innovation" Winner

Cook's Car Wash

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Describe your innovation:

This truck wash has an undercarriage wash that is made up of a 12' long 1,1/2" x 1/4" square metal tubing with a clean out on one end and a 2" cam lock fitting to hook up water on the other end. Holes were put in the tubing for jets and metal plates were added for stability. The overhead spray bar is made of 2" PVC Schedule 80 or 40. This part comes in five pieces: Two stands, one on each side approximately 12' apart. The stand has legs for support and a water hook up that you would find in a brine room. There is a valve to turn the water on and off through the PVC based on the side you use. The base or leg part stands about 30" tall. The tall parts have cam locks on the top and bottom so they can only go on one way. These sides are approx., 9'6" long .These sides have holes drilled every foot. The sides have a hose clamp with a 3/8 chain link for a ratchet strap to be fastened to for stability in the middle and closer to the top. The top has a double cross bar for stability and also has holes drilled in the bottom cross bar for water jets. The legs have a hose clamp on each end with the 3/8 chain link for the straps to be attached and tightened down. Water can be hooked up on either side, holes can be drilled in various locations along the PVC. Pumps can also be added to increase water pressure. These connections work with all the various connections you would find in a brine room operation. So, the dimensions are 12'6" wide and 14' to the bottom cross bar.

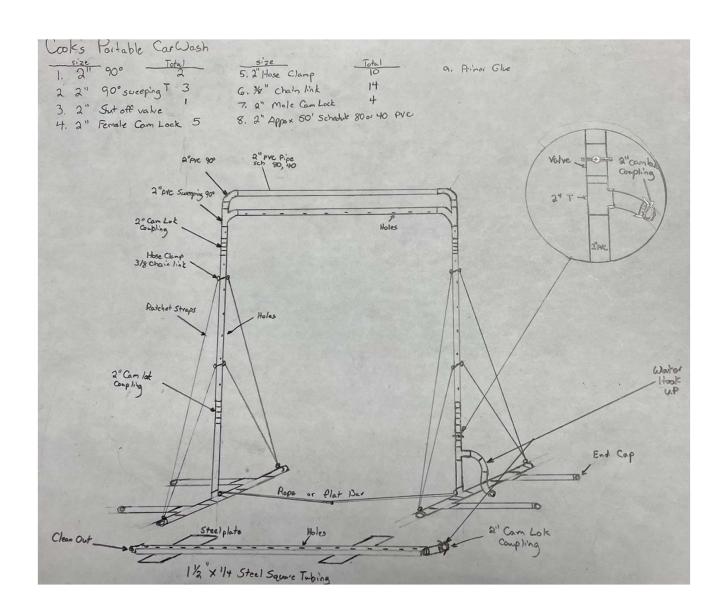
Describe how your Innovation benefits the SCDOT:

The benefit of this truck wash is that it reaches the hard to clean undercarriage and high overhead out of reach areas. The truck wash helps keep employees from having to get wet right after an event during the cold and reduces the number of people that is needed for cleaning equipment. The truck wash is tall enough to clean all equipment, even equipment loaded on a trailer. The truck wash is light weight, and 2 people can put it together in less than 10 min. It is simple in its design and can be repaired if damaged by just replacing the damaged part. The truck wash is portable and can be set up almost anywhere. All of the parts needed for the truck wash was purchased at our local Hardware store. In finding out that it works great for snow and ice, it can also be used after ditching operations to reduce dirt and dust. The truck wash can also be used after reclamation or zipping operations to reduce concrete and dust sticking to vehicles. This truck wash has already had a huge benefit for Union in snow and ice cleanup and our hope is that it can help others as it has helped us!











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