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# THE WIRE

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## Cable Barriers Save Lives During Hazardous Winter Season

Major winter storms have caused thousands of traffic accidents this winter however the severity of injuries have been greatly reduced because of newly installed cable barriers. Cross over accidents are responsible for many fatalities and installing high tension cable barriers reduce these horrible events. States such as Minnesota, North Dakota, and Iowa all installed cable barrier to directly address this problem. In Alberta, Canada, high tension cable barriers are found across the province with another 100 km being installed this year.

Additionally, cable barrier allows work crews to repair the system more quickly than alternatives enabling the systems to get back in service quickly. And snow removal operators see benefits in the structure allowing snow to blow through and not create snow pack adjacent to roadways.

## Crashes by severity before and after cable barrier installation.

While the total number of crashes has increased after cable barrier installation, the vast number of those crashes have only caused property damage. The number of crashes resulting in injury or death has greatly decreased.



Data from **Performance Evaluation of Median Cable Barriers in Iowa**, Iowa State University. For the complete report, click [here](#)