



THE BOSS

POLY vs. STAINLESS:
UNDERSTANDING DIFFERENCES
IN FLOW MATERIALS





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Snow Plows: Poly versus Stainless Steel

A snow plow's primary reason for existence is to do work. Work in some of the worst conditions possible, for long hours, in the dark and cold, covered in sand, salt, water, ice, you name it. Both the snow plow and the snow operator have to be tough. All of the excitement felt during the first big storm of the year wanes quickly three or four months into a long season.

BOSS Snow plow considers every element involved in a professional snow remover's environment when designing and manufacturing its snow removal equipment. Our mission is simple: to build the toughest, durable, most reliable products and back them the strongest support from both our BOSS Snow plow Dealers as well as the factory. With that mission in mind, we'd like to take some time to discuss a popular topic for potential snowplow buyers doing research on their next snow plow purchase.

When you start doing research on snow plow blades, it won't take you long to discover that there are several choices of materials available. These materials range from powder-coated steel to clear poly carbonate and stainless steel. Most of the questions we get at BOSS Snow plows center around stainless steel versus poly snow plow blades, so we'll focus on those two.

To begin with, both materials are considered "premium" versus powder-coated steel as they both have unique characteristics. Both do have corrosion resistant characteristics. BOSS Snow Plows manufactures poly plows in both the straight and v plow configuration. Stainless plows are also available in either configuration.

However, BOSS Snow plows believes that, of the two, the poly material will better meet the mission of durability and reliability in the long run for a number of reasons. First, a bit about "poly" materials:

"Poly" is actually short for Polyethylene – a form of extremely strong plastic. BOSS Snow plow utilizes High Molecular Weight (HMW) Poly. Its characteristics provide excellent durability and crack resistance, even in very cold temperatures. After all – remember, this snow plow is an investment in your business and will be with you for a long time!



Another form of poly found in snow plows is poly carbonate, which you may recognize, as a clear material. These clear materials tend to scratch and haze over time, which is the reason BOSS Snow Plows uses a colored poly material – and we further the protection of the blade by adding Ultra-Violet stabilizers in the material, keeping damage from prolonged exposure to sunlight to a minimum.

“Slippery Snow Plows”

One of the greatest advantages poly has over stainless steel is its “slickness”. By that I mean, snow and ice stick less to a poly plow than to a stainless steel plow. It’s one of the primary reasons many “steel” BOSS Snow Plow owners are now switching their fleet to “Poly” plows. In fact, some of our customers tout fuel savings by using poly plows, which is possible as the “drag” or “friction” caused by pushing snow is reduced with the poly materials. Stainless steel does not have this characteristic.

Resistance to Denting

Another advantage poly snow plows have over stainless steel snow plows is their resistance to denting from impacts with objects like rocks. Stainless steel is a rigid material which does not have the flexibility that poly does – so impacting hard items will make it more likely to leave dents which can impact both the plow’s performance and visual appeal.

The Noise Factor

Because stainless steel is metal and most stainless steel plow blades are not welded to the plow frame, stainless plows tend to rattle, which can be an extreme annoyance for the snow plow operator on a long plowing event. Poly plows do not rattle.

Visual Appeal

Perhaps Stainless steel’s most popular feature is its looks. The silver coloring tends to match well with the chrome-faced plow trucks of today. But it’s hard to argue with the looks of a red BOSS Poly Power V XT too – it’s a matter of choice for the person buying the plow.

What’s Important to You?

Remember, our mission at BOSS plows is to build a plow that has the best combination of looks and ability to do work – for a long period of time, with no breakdowns. For the reasons stated earlier, we believe the durability, reliability and performance characteristics of our BOSS poly blades make them the better choice for the long run versus stainless steel.