



# PROFESSIONAL DEMOLITION AMERICAS

Your Gateway to North, Central and South America

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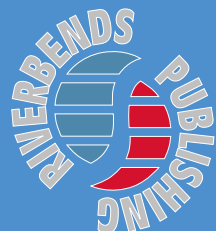
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# Who Knows? Well, You Do. But Will Anyone Else?

While visiting with a cousin over the December holidays, we got on the subject of health insurance and how each of us had made our respective choices. In mid-sentence, we looked at each other and said, "Did you ever imagine we'd be talking about this?"

Of course we didn't, certainly not as kids when we were sent off to play while the grown-ups talked (about insurance, maybe?), or as the years went by when we would get together and catch up on our respective lives. How did that happen?

Blame the collective Baby Boom generation (again) for changing the notion of aging. Benefiting from advancements in medicine and personal care, we're living longer, healthier lives (well, apart from the bad habit or two, or three). Unless it's mandated, 65 seems a more of a suggestion for retirement age than a target, which means more people are working longer than previous generations. Some of us are working longer because we want to, others because they have to, and still others who, because they haven't figured out what else they want to do with their time, have opted to just stick with something familiar.

The interesting thing is what's happened during all those years on the job. Just as my cousin and I surprised each other with our ready knowledge of an "old person's" topic like insurance, countless aspects of our work have become second-nature—every trick of a particular trade picked up over the years that has ultimately made it easier to plan and do tasks, solve problems, and field questions from clients or colleagues.

But knowledge, like life itself, is also fleeting. When you finally call it a career and walk out the door, can you be sure that those left

behind will be able to fill expertise gap when the next project or problem comes along?

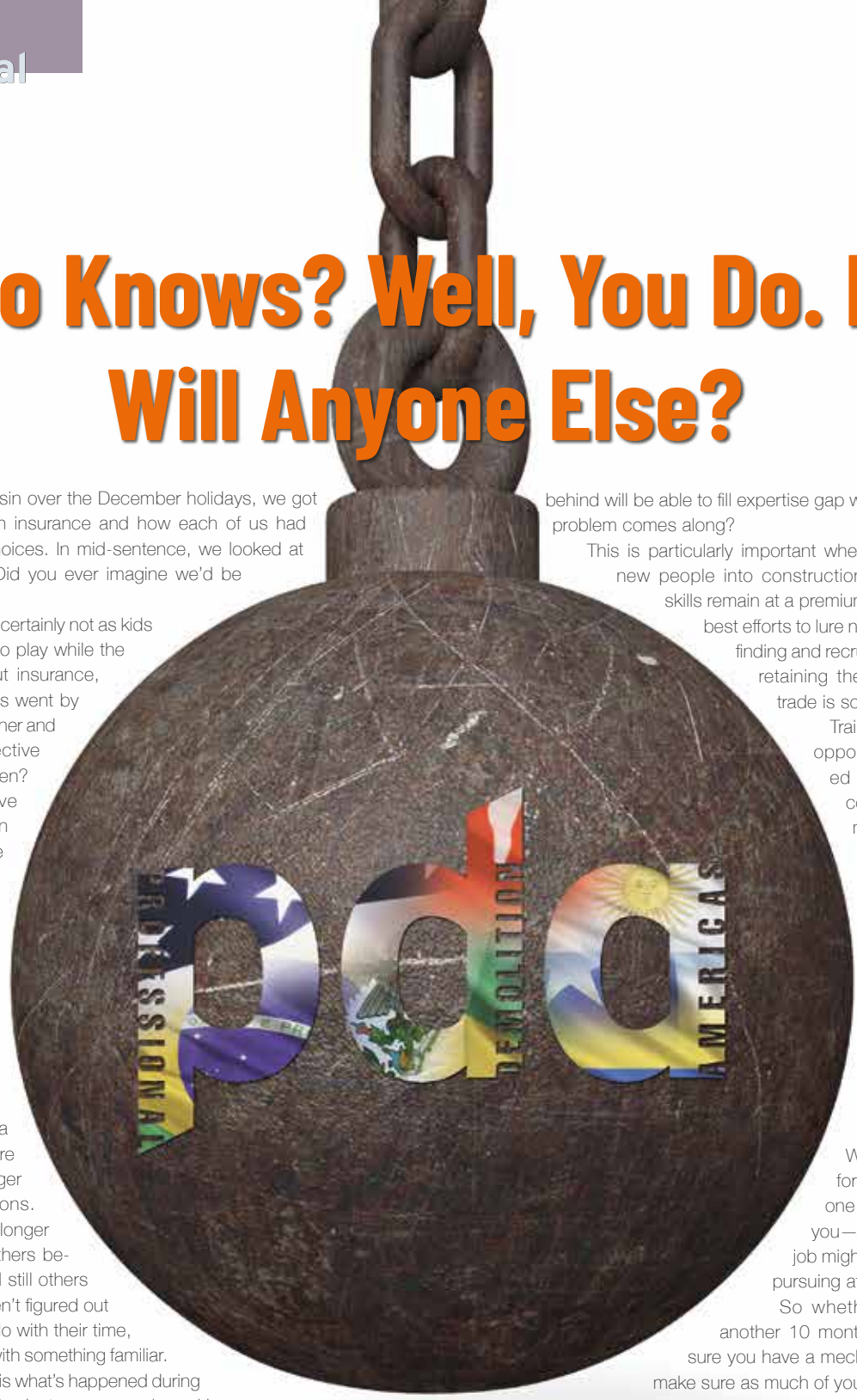
This is particularly important when it comes to bringing new people into construction-related fields, where skills remain at a premium despite the industry's best efforts to lure new workers. Even then, finding and recruiting them is one thing; retaining them in a business and trade is something else.

Training and development opportunities are often cited as the key to staying competitive and, for that matter, simply staying in business. Consider your own experience; no doubt, learning something new on the job from a mentor, word-of-mouth, or by personal trial-and-error helped keep you engaged and motivated to do good work today, and better work tomorrow.

Why should it be different for someone else, someone who—perhaps just like you—was unsure where this job might lead, or if it was worth pursuing at all.

So whether you plan to work another 10 months or 10 years, make sure you have a mechanism in place to help make sure as much of your insights and "lessons learned" are shared with those who will benefit from it the most, particularly the newer members of your team. Don't assume someone else will do it, that they'll "figure it out," or learn the proverbial "hard way." Your personal "institutional knowledge" is pretty unique and not easily replaced, regardless of what the giddiest of predictions about Artificial Intelligence promises.

*Jim Parsons, Senior Editor PDA Magazine*



Dear Demolition Professional,

Many of us know each other, and some I have not yet met. I hope that through the decades, I have earned your trust and respect for innovation and integrity. I have a question for you, something that has been on my mind.

You are calculated risk takers by nature. You analyze, assess, calculate, and make a decision.

You have invested heavily in a quality carriers, the best operators available. Maintenance, insurance, fuel and transportation to get the machine on site. You have done all of this for one reason. All to power an attachment that will do the required work.

The question is, after all this investment, analysis and calculation, does it make sense to have a second-class tool out there doing the work? Does it not seem logical to have the best designed, most effective, efficient, and productive tool possible? Does it seem logical to try and save \$10,000 on a tool when you have just invested a million to power it?

It would not make sense to bring your race car to the track with worn out tires on it.

I believe DRKhorse has the premium solutions that are logical choices for your fleet. I'd like to talk about it.



**Bruce**

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**RCC**

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The Rotar Static Pulverizer perfect for secondary demolition will work through any concrete construction.



**RDP**

The Rotar Demolition Pulverizer is for both primary and secondary demolitions.



**PDA Magazine is pleased to present regular updates from the US National Demolition Association. This column comes from NDA Executive Director Jeff Lambert.**

## A Stronger Foundation for 2026

As we enter 2026, I am proud to highlight several milestones that demonstrate the National Demolition Association's growing influence. While much of this work occurs behind the scenes—within our committees, governance, and advocacy efforts—the long-term benefits will be felt throughout the entire industry. At its core, the NDA is about fostering connection and elevating the standards of our trade. That sense of connection is the driving force behind one of the projects we're most excited about: the relaunch of the NDA Podcast. This platform gives us a new way to share real-world insights from the field, highlight committee progress, and hear directly from the peers who are shaping our industry. It is a powerful tool for learning, but more importantly, it allows our members to stay engaged with one another throughout the year. You can listen to the latest episode, or catch up with past editions at [www.demolitionassociation.com](http://www.demolitionassociation.com). Just look for NDA Podcast in the menu under the News & Media tab.

Our commitment to connection extends to how we grow our workforce. This past fall, we reached a major milestone as the first group of 16 Certified Demolition Technicians earned their credentials. To ensure this professional standard is accessible to all, we have expanded the program to include a Spanish-language exam. We are also enhancing our leadership training. Updates to the Certified Demolition Supervisor exam and the release of new study guides will ensure our programs keep pace with the increasing complexity of modern jobsites. Furthermore, the completion of the Demolition Workforce Development Toolkit and our new career mapping resources will help member companies recruit more effectively by showing recruits the clear, long-term potential of a career in demolition. You'll find more information about our certification resources on NDA's website.

Speaking of websites, we are currently overhauling [demolitionassociation.com](http://demolitionassociation.com) to provide better accessibility and intuitive navigation. This is more than a visual refresh. By streamlining the site, we are ensuring that members can find critical resources with fewer clicks and less hassle. That includes becoming an NDA member, if you're not one already. The modernization also extends to our organizational structure. The Membership Committee is currently reviewing our membership categories to better reflect the evolving industry landscape. By exploring dedicated pathways for the scrap, recycling, abatement, and consulting sectors, we aim to better serve the entire demolition ecosystem.

Safety remains our cornerstone. We are currently developing the framework for a future Company Accreditation Program, including new scoring rubrics and updated digital safety materials. Stay tuned for more information in the new year. On the legislative front, our government affairs team continues to secure vital wins. Recently, we successfully advocated for provisions in the new budget reconciliation law that expand workforce training via the Workforce Pell Act and include skilled trades in 529 education savings plans. Whether we are representing your interests regarding silica and lead standards or collaborating with the OSHA Alliance on explosive demolition guidance, the NDA is your voice in Washington.

The steps we have taken this year ensure the NDA remains a stable, influential force for years to come. Thank you for your continued support as we build a stronger future together.

**Jeff Lambert**  
Executive Director

[www.demolitionassociation.com](http://www.demolitionassociation.com)

## AEM Welcomes New Hall of Fame Inductees

The Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM) marked its recent Annual Conference in Miami, Fla., by officially adding a group of innovative leaders to the organization's Hall of Fame. They include Billy Robert "B.R." Lee, founder of LeeBoy; Art and Panny McElroy, founders of McElroy Manufacturing; and Nicolaus August Otto, engineer and inventor with Deutz. All three inductees were honored posthumously.

Billy Robert "B.R." Lee revolutionized the commercial paving industry, first began crafting affordable pull-boxes from scrap metal in his backyard garage, addressing the needs of small contractors. In 1970, he spawned an entirely new industry with his invention of the first self-propelled commercial-class paver, marking the genesis of the LeeBoy brand. Lee's commitment to customer feedback drove continuous innovation, including heated screed extensions and the industry-standard 8-foot paver. He also developed specialized equipment like the Force Feed Loader and Maintainer for the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and pioneered features now standard across the industry. Beyond engineering, Lee built a culture centered on customer satisfaction. Every employee was responsible for ensuring equipment met user needs, no matter their role.

In 1954, Art and Panny McElroy launched McElroy Manufacturing from their Tulsa, Okla., garage as a fabrication shop for local companies like American Airlines, WL Walker, and Allied Bearing.

By the late 1960s, McElroy was shipping its fintube machines around the world, but the company's potential wouldn't be fully realized until 1969, when Art designed a machine that could weld a newly-introduced high-density polyethylene plastic pipe. By 1973, McElroy had built the most complete range of equipment globally. Art and Panny established a reputation not only for their quality products, but also for their ability to make customers feel welcomed and valued. It wasn't uncommon for business meetings to turn into "family dinners" that laid the foundation for long-lasting friendships between the McElroys and their customers – many of which last to this day.

Nicolaus August Otto transformed the world through his groundbreaking work in internal combustion technology. Originally a merchant and traveling salesman, Otto's fascination with engines led him to experiment with combustion systems at a time when the field was still in its infancy. In 1862, he began developing his own four-stroke engine. Just two years later, he co-founded N. A. Otto & Company in Cologne with Eugen Langen, the world's first factory dedicated solely

to internal combustion engines, and the forerunner of today's DEUTZ AG. Otto further enhanced engine independence with the development of magnetic low-voltage ignition, a prerequisite for making an internal combustion engine independent of the mains gas supply. His innovations helped mechanize small trades, boost industrial growth, and democratize access to mechanical power.

Since 1993, the AEM Hall of Fame has been recognizing luminaries in the agriculture and construction equipment manufacturing industry. This year's new members bring the total number of inductees to 74.

Keith Lee accepted the award for B.R. Lee, Chip McElroy accepted the award for Chip and Panny McElroy, and Dr. Sebastian Schulte accepted the award for Nicolaus August Otto.

[www.aem.org](http://www.aem.org)

## CSDA Names New Executive Director

The Concrete Sawing and Drilling Association (CSDA) has named Georgia Foley as its new Executive Director, effective January 1, 2026.

Foley currently serves as Chief Executive Officer of the Specialty Tools & Fasteners Distributors Association (STAFDA), which she has led for more than 25 years. Under her leadership, STAFDA strengthened its position as a key industry resource, expanded membership programs, and deepened engagement across the construction supply chain.

As CSDA's Executive Director, Foley will oversee the organization's strategic initiatives, member programs, and industry partnerships, advancing the association's mission to provide leadership, advocacy, and training for professionals in the concrete cutting, sawing, and drilling industry.

Mark DeSchepper, CSDA President, praised Foley's "proven record of strategic vision, organizational growth, and industry collaboration" which, he says "makes her an exceptional fit to guide CSDA into its next chapter. We're thrilled to welcome her to the team."

[www.csda.org](http://www.csda.org)



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# Dynaset Hydraulic Recycling Vacuum Bucket Wins PlantWorx Innovation Award

The Dynaset HRVB Hydraulic Recycling Vacuum Bucket took top honors in the category of "Best Use of Engineering & Technology Innovation" at the recent PlantWorx Innovation Awards competi-

tion. The HRVB is designed to convert the hydraulic power of a mobile excavator and material handler into a vacuum for recycling applications, and into an air blow for cleaning tasks. This innovative

attachment streamlines cleaning and recycling tasks, especially for light materials like plastic and insulation materials. With its auxiliary suction port and vacuum hose, the HRVB is designed to provide an



ideal solution for precise footwork and material collection, enabling faster and safer site cleaning and material sorting to reduce waste costs. Held in conjunction with the annual PlantWorx construction equipment trade show in the UK, the 2025 Innovation Awards recognized and celebrated those innovative companies, products, and services that have made a major benefit to the construction equipment industry. Judged by an independent panel of industry experts, the awards are an accolade to the very best in plant, construction machinery, support products and applications.

[www.dynaset.com](http://www.dynaset.com)



**Event Calendar**

**World of Concrete 2026**

January 19-22, 2026  
Las Vegas Convention Center,  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
[www.worldofconcrete.com](http://www.worldofconcrete.com)

**ARA Rental 2026**

March 3-4, 2026  
Orlando Expo Center,  
Orlando, Florida  
[www.ararental.org](http://www.ararental.org)

**CONEXPO - CON/AGG 2026**

March 3-7, 2026  
Las Vegas Convention Center,  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
[www.conexpoconagg.com](http://www.conexpoconagg.com)

**Samoter 2026**

May 6-9, 2026  
Verona Exhibition Centre  
Verona, Italy  
[www.samoter.it](http://www.samoter.it)

**NDA Annual Convention & Demolition Phoenix, Ariz. 2026**

February 4-7, 2026  
Phoenix, Ariz.  
[www.demolitionassociation.com](http://www.demolitionassociation.com)

**Bauma China 2026**

November 24-27, 2026  
Shanghai Exhibition Center,  
China  
[www.bauma-china.com](http://www.bauma-china.com)

**M&T Expo Brazil 2027**

November 16-19, 2027  
São Paulo Expo,  
São Paulo, Brazil  
[www.mtexpo.com.br](http://www.mtexpo.com.br)

**Intermat 2027**

April 21-24, 2027  
Paris-Nord Villepint Expo  
Paris, France  
[www.intermatconstruction.com](http://www.intermatconstruction.com)

**World Concrete Cutting Summit 2027**

May 19-21, 2027  
Stockholm Waterfront  
Congress Centre  
Stockholm, Sweden  
[www.concretecuttingsummit.com](http://www.concretecuttingsummit.com)

**M&T Expo Brazil 2027**

November 16-19, 2027  
São Paulo Expo,  
São Paulo, Brazil  
[www.mtexpo.com.br](http://www.mtexpo.com.br)

**Dynaset Names New Sales Director**

Dynaset Oy has appointed Marko Niemi as the company's new sales director and member of the management team. Formerly after-sales director at Wihuri Oy Technical Trade, Niemi has nearly 20 years of experience in the mobile machinery industry, with a focus on product development, as well as sales and after sales management.

Niemi's technical background, combined with strong customer focus, is an excellent fit for Dynaset's growth strategy and global customer service.

"Dynaset has already impressed me in my previous roles in the mobile machinery industry," he says. "It is a great honor to represent the market leader in its field to a global customer base."

Along with Niemi, Dynaset's management team includes Anni Karppinen, CEO; Tero Ylä-Soininmäki, production director; Pasi Yli-Kätkä, R&D director; and Atte Karppinen, after-sales manager.

[www.dynaset.com](http://www.dynaset.com)



**Volvo Construction Equipment Announces New Crawler Excavator Assembly Plant**

Volvo Construction Equipment will construct a new crawler excavator assembly factory in Eskilstuna, Sweden, to serve European markets. Announced in June 2025, the investment increases capacity and flexibility to strengthen Volvo CE's po-



sition in the important excavator segment.

The 323,000-ft<sup>2</sup> (30,000m<sup>2</sup>) facility will enable reduced reliance on long-distance logistics, shorter delivery times, enhancing supply chain resilience and reducing carbon emissions.

"This strategic investment in the future of excavator production marks a new era for us and the Swedish industry, says Melker Jernberg, head of Volvo CE. "It will significantly contribute to reinforcing Sweden's position as a leader in advanced sustainable manufacturing."

Jernberg that the addition of high-value production use of cutting-edge technology in Eskilstuna will support local job creation, skills development, and a continued collaboration with Sweden's strong network of industrial suppliers and research partners. It also will strengthen Europe's innovation and engineering power and industrial resilience in an increasingly competitive global market.

[www.volvoce.com](http://www.volvoce.com)

**Genesis Attachments Promotes Justin Palvere to Vice President**

Justin Palvere, recently named vice president of Genesis Attachments, LLC, will drive all aspects of the company's business by working closely with the team of department directors to implement strategic long-term growth plans. He will report to Genesis president David Palvere, and also continue to oversee the sales and marketing functions.

Most recently the North American director of sales and marketing, Justin Palvere has been with Superior, Wisc.-based Genesis more than 18 years and held several previous positions including national account manager, Southeast regional sales manager, and Midwest regional sales manager. During his career he has developed extensive product and market knowledge and experience that will be valuable in his new role.



**See Liebherr at Demolition Phoenix**

Liebherr will again sponsor the Live DEMOLITION Event at NDA's Demolition Phoenix, offering multiple crawler excavators for attendees to operate and experience, including the R938 and R950 Generation 8 models. This live demo also includes an Operators Challenge to test operators' skill and knowledge of the equipment.

Designed using more than 60 years of experience to meet the demands of the industry and the specific needs of our customers, Liebherr crawler excavators prioritize performance, reliability and efficiency in addition to safety and comfort for the operator. Liebherr's state-of-the-art Generation 8 crawler excavators provide operators with higher bucket capacities, optimized fuel consumption and higher engine power. These new machines have been completely revamped to better serve customer needs. In addition to improved engine power, the Generation 8 crawler excavators are equipped with a boom concept with a modified head, providing operators with an optimized load curve leading to better fuel savings.

[www.liebherr.com](http://www.liebherr.com)





# Stihl's New Battery Power Cutter

Stihl is launching its most powerful cordless power cutter to date, the TSA 500. The new machine is designed to handle demanding cuts in everything from con-



crete and natural stone to metal and brick. With performance on par with gas-powered machines, the TSA 500 is designed as a reliable choice for professional users in construction, civil engineering, rescue services and landscaping.

With a mechanical output of up to 5.6 hp (4.2kW), a 13.8-in (350mm) cutting disc, and a cutting depth of 4.9 in (125mm), the TSA 500 is at the top of the battery powered range. The machine is powered by two AP 500 S batteries and is part of the Stihl professional AP system. Thanks to three working modes –Power, Endurance, and Precision – the user can adapt the power to specific needs, from heavy-duty cutting jobs to precision work. The TSA

# Pentrunder 2nd-Generation HFi Wall Saw System Now Available

Pentrunder has just launched the RS2i and PP3i with maximized cutting performance thanks to an upgraded control system and added features for even better operator experience and work efficiency. Pentrunder's sophisticated programming system now facilitates a more efficient Autofeed control software, as well as many other features. Comparison tests with the RS2 have shown an average 30% increase in cutting performance, and up to 20% higher torque on lower RPMs for more power with bigger blades. The system also provides automatic identification of blade diameter to help avoid the risk of dangerous overspeeding with bigger blades. Other features include a new remote control for increased user friendliness with backlit display; replaceable batteries with 12VDC / 110-230VAC charger; a BT-connection to the new Pentrunder App, which will ease software updates and PP3i compatibility



with future HFi products; and an innovative arm plunge function to minimize overcuts. RS2 users can upgrade their

existing wall saw to an RS2i. Contact your Pentrunder distributor for more information.

[www.pentrunder.com](http://www.pentrunder.com)

## Superabrasive LV650 Grinder to Debut at World of Concrete

The LV650 is the newest addition to Superabrasive's LAVINA line for concrete grinding and polishing. An advanced model with an integrated pre-separator and featuring a 4-stage dust collection, the LV650 is ideal for use with 25- and 30-in (635 and 762 mm) grinders. It comes in both 115V and 220V models to meet the needs of a variety of jobsites. Built with heavy-duty metal construction, the LV650 offers durability and reliability, and its high-quality filters ensure efficient dust collection for a cleaner, safer work environment. Compact, portable, and easy to transport, the LV650 is the perfect solution for contractors who demand high performance and maximum dust control on every job. Come see the



Lavina LV650 at World of Concrete in booths S10205 and O32113.

[www.superabrasive.com](http://www.superabrasive.com)

## The New E-Scout Carrier

Movex Innovation of Canada introduces its new E-Scout EL-2650 electric, remote-controlled carrier, designed specifically for the construction and commercial sectors. At 30 x 47 in (762 x 1,194 mm), the model focuses on simplicity, efficiency, and ease of use, making it the perfect choice for operators who need a practical and straightforward machine on the jobsite. Features of the EL-2650 2,650-lb (1,200kg) capacity, switchable front and rear LED lighting, and an external traction system that allows for quick cleaning of the tracks and smooth travel on gravel or uneven terrain, ensuring seamless operation throughout

the day. With intuitive controls and minimal maintenance requirements, this vehicle helps teams stay productive with less effort and downtime — delivering smart performance at an accessible price.

[www.movexinnovation.com](http://www.movexinnovation.com)



[www.stihl.com](http://www.stihl.com)

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Experience the most innovative dust control system – a powerful, targeted mist to suppress the dust with a single touch from the cabin. Minimize airborne particles and maximize safety on the demolition site.



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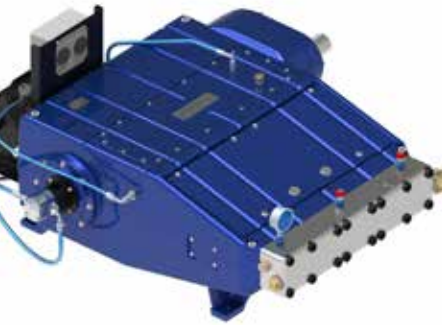
**PARTNER OF YOUR MACHINE**

See HPW-DUST demo at  
Conexpo-Con/Agg 2026!

## Jetstream of Houston Offers Next Generation of Pump Design

Jetstream of Houston, LLP, offers its 5200Q Series UNx Bareshaft pump, the next generation of Jetstream pump design. Designed to pair with engines up to 700 hp (522 kW), the 5200Q offers maximum flow capabilities of 25.6 gpm (97 lpm) at 40,000 psi (2,758 bar), making it the most advanced and efficient waterblast pump of its size in the industry. With its big water capabilities, high horsepower and UNx technology, the 5200Q Series provides unprecedented power, efficiency, and versatility along with maximum uptime to large-scale industrial cleaning operations. Jetstream will showcase the 5200Q Series UNx Bareshaft pump, alongside other waterblasting innovations, at Central Hall booth C4129 at World of Concrete, January 20-22, 2026, in Las Vegas.

One of the key advantages of the 5200Q Bareshaft pump is the quintuplex design for reduced pulsation and vibration. With five plungers, pressure spikes are lower, allowing for a more consistent, smoother pressure



Designed to pair with engines up to 700 hp (522 kW), the 5200Q is the most advanced and efficient waterblast pump of its size in the industry.



One of the key advantages of Jetstream's 5200Q Bareshaft pump is the quintuplex design for reduced pulsation and vibration.



The 5200Q Series provides unprecedented power, efficiency, and versatility along with maximum uptime to large-scale industrial cleaning operations.

profile compared to a standard three plunger design. The 5200Q comes with interchangeable UNx fluid end technology, which allows converting from 8,000 to 40,000 psi (551.6 to 2,758 bar) in minutes. This provides flexibility to complete all functions on a jobsite and run a full variety of tools with a single unit. The pump part commonality of the 5200Q Series with its predecessor as well as its simple design — which incorporates fewer overall parts than the competition — makes the machine easier to service. It boasts internal gear reduction, a crankshaft supported by four bearings, and a fully integrated precision gear drive with a shared oil sump. When required, maintenance on the 5200Q Series can be completed without the use of any special tools right on the jobsite, reducing downtime for changing out packing, univalves, and plungers to just five minutes. Equipped with a pressurized and filtered oiling system with active cooling as well as a high-temperature and low-pressure shutdown system, the 5200Q Bareshaft pump offers top-tier safety. Additionally, a standard locking rod box cover protects both the operator and equipment while also boosting serviceability and dual rupture discs provide pressure relief protection to prevent injury.

The Jetstream 5200Q Series is available as a bareshaft pump or as part of a full integrated trailer waterblast unit. The 5200Q comes with global service and support, and is also available through ten rental locations across the U.S.

[www.waterblast.com](http://www.waterblast.com)



The 5200Q boasts internal gear reduction, a crankshaft supported by four bearings and a fully integrated precision gear drive with a shared oil sump.

# The Case for Shear Cutting Over Torches

There are many different systems available to meet federal and state emissions regulations for torch cutting, among them collection devices with exhaust air systems that operate with enclosures, encapsulation, extraction, and air purification. This type of emission treatment can be very expensive, with large initial investment costs and high follow up costs due to ongoing operation, maintenance and energy, and the necessity of using a lot of space to place those systems. In addition, the collection systems also impose restrictions on the size of material to be cut. But while such extensive systems may be accepted merely as a "cost of doing business" with torch cutting, there are other drawbacks as well. Depending on the process, large quantities of fuel gas, oxygen and electrical energy are required. High-alloy steels require iron powder, a material that has experienced significant price increases. Torch cutting also has a number of system limitations, as it cannot be used for objects with cladding or sheathing, composite materials, and containers with hazardous residues cannot be handled by torch cutting. Rotar International, one of the leading manufacturers of demolition attachments, believes it's time for recycling companies to consider alternatives to torch cutting. The company's mobile hydraulically operated scrap shears have operating weights between 9 and 300t and possess an operating weight of up to more than 55,100 lb (25,000kg). They deliver cutting forces to just under 6.5 million lbf (29,000kN). Rotar says its shears can be endlessly rotated 360° for more flexibility and have a flow rate of up to 317 gpm (1,200 l/min), enabling them to achieve cycle times of well under 10 seconds. To be sure, even shear cutting has limitations.

## Investment ensures increased productivity

Depending on the size, jaw opening and jaw depth, only certain materials can be cut, and cast or hardened materials cannot be cut at all. Still, this method and the working conditions for the machine operator in the cab of the carrier vehicle fully comply with current safety



requirements. Above all, the economic aspect is very important: working with the excavator attachment not only eliminates nearly all gas and smoke emissions, but the process also requires very little space and can be easily scaled to the actual needs of the company within the system limits. Above all, with the appropriate material feed, the investment leads to significant increases in yield and productivity. Rotar states that an analysis conducted several years ago, the personnel, machine and material costs of both methods were compared under identical conditions at a scrap yard and evaluated according to two different test types. When cutting pieces with a length of 5 ft (1.5m), the excavator mounted shear not only cut nearly four times as much material as the torch cutting method in the same period, but the cost per ton was 34% lower. Furthermore, the costs for propane and oxygen have risen more sharply than those for diesel, making cutting with the attachment shear on the excavator even more economical.

Regardless of all the figures, it is clear that torch cutting is no longer appropriate and can be used only in exceptional cases. Public sensitivity and the demands of the steel industry are also playing a role. In order to guarantee the future viability of a recycling company, investments are necessary in any case, so Rotar believes it is advisable to invest in a process that increases productivity within the company.

[www.rotar.com](http://www.rotar.com)



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# "Superabrasive, Relo

Nicknamed for its long history of arms manufacturing and rose plantations, Bulgaria's "Valley of Guns and Roses" could also add "Diamonds" to its nickname, thanks to the important role played by surface machine manufacturer Superabrasive.

Headquartered in the small town of Krun, Bulgaria, Superabrasive is one of the world's largest manufacturers of diamond tools and machines for processing concrete surfaces. The company has shown an exceptionally strong development curve over the past decade, having strengthened its brand in the U.S., Europe, and elsewhere. What sets Superabrasive apart from many other manufacturers, however, is that it has grown entirely on its own, rather than through acquisitions.



Superabrasive founder and CEO George Popov chats with Superabrasive distributors from all over the world that attended the distributor meeting.



Superabrasive distributors at the meeting in Krun in November 2025 (© Superabrasive).



The new SP10HD ride-on trowel for concrete finishing will be launched at World of Concrete 2026.

# loading and Aiming"

 SUPERABRASIVE



The current Superabrasive factory in Krun. (© Superabrasive)

starting production of diamond tools in the late 1980s, Superabrasive began development of its own grinding machines. In 2004, Superabrasive released its first series of Lavina floor grinders, followed over the years by larger models, as well as industrial vacuum cleaners, large dust extractors, and the Lavina Trowel Shine polishing system. The latest milestone, finishing power trowels, were introduced in 2024.

As a machine manufacturer, Superabrasive is the only one who classifies and manufactures their own diamond tools.

"In recent years, we have invested in all conceivable production equipment in order to be completely self-sufficient and not end up in a position of dependence on subcontractors," Superabrasive founder and CEO George Popov told a recent meeting of the company's distributors, which PDA was privileged to attend.

Already boasting more than 332,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (30,850 m<sup>2</sup>) of production space in Krun, Superabrasive plans to add another 107,600 ft<sup>2</sup> (10,000 m<sup>2</sup>) of space while also augmenting its array of advanced, computer-controlled manufacturing machines. Worth mentioning is that Superabrasive has a large subsidiary in Hoschton, Georgia, USA that we have featured earlier in PDA Magazine.

## Roots in diamond tool development and manufacturing

The very core of Superabrasive's business begins with the diamond tool itself that processes the concrete surface. During its first ten years, the company was primarily a tool supplier to most of the world's manufacturers of machines for grinding concrete and terrazzo floors. Not long after



Superabrasive's production complex in Krun, Bulgaria, has a very high level of automation.



The Superabrasive production in Krun, Bulgaria has a very high level of automatization.



The new assembly plant for power trowels concrete finishing.



The assembly area for the Lavina grinders.

In addition to facility tours and presentations, the meeting included discussions on a wide range of topics, including whether battery technology has a place in large grinding and polishing machines, and the need to serve the rental market with more automated machines

that are easier to handle. It was noted at the meeting in Krun that because grinding and polishing concrete floors is such a delicate task that requires certain special skills, the machines cannot be dumbed down so much or automated so that anyone can run them and still achieve a satisfactory result.

It was also obvious that there are very large differences from market to market regarding who is carrying out the work. In some markets grinding and polishing work is provided mainly by contractors who also deal with concrete drilling and renovation; others have specialist firms that provide such services only.

There was also some talk about market consolidation. The industry has experienced a trend for a number of years where the players are becoming fewer but increasingly larger and many smaller manufacturers are being bought up by larger ones. The number of players from China has decreased significantly while some of the larger Chinese manufacturers have made inroads into the Western market.

Popov assured the distributors that Superabrasive will remain independent and family-owned.

"Our goal is to continue to be number one in the market, and become the largest in all the markets we work in today," he said.

### Many new products in the pipeline

Popov revealed that many new products are set to be launched in 2026, beginning with World of Concrete. There, Superabrasive will launch its first series of ride-on trowels for

concrete finishing, topped by the massive 10-ft (3m) SP10HD ride-on and walk-behind hydraulic trowel. The machine is powered by a Kubota WG3800 engine, producing 87 hp (65kW) and 177 lbf (240Nm) of torque at 2500rpm. The SP10HD's hydraulic drive system is fully equipped with Bosch Rexroth components, providing smooth and responsive power. The advanced intelligent control system with colour display provides real-time data on performance metrics such as overheating warnings, hydraulic pressure and data logging for easy maintenance planning. The SP10HD also features ergonomic operator station with LED work lights for night work, a 12V charging port and a built-in cup holder

Superabrasive will also display the SP8H, an 8-ft (2.4m) ride-on trowel with mechanical drive and power steering. Its Kubota 1605 engine produces 57 hp (42.5kW) and 88.5 lbf (120 Nm) of torque at 2400 rpm. A heavy-duty, custom-built helical gearbox and sealed bearing driveline minimize maintenance and maximize uptime. The hydraulic steering system improves responsiveness and reduces operator fatigue, and offers two selectable steering modes to suit different operator preferences and jobsite conditions. An integrated digital information display provides real-time performance data and diagnostics, helping operators monitor machine health and productivity at a glance. Magnetic LED lights and a massive light bar provide superior visibility of the jobsite, improving safety and precision. Also joining Superabrasive's trowel line are three Honda-powered walk-behind mod-



A new LV650 vacuum, LV650 will also debut at World of Concrete 2026.



Part of the group of distributors discussing timely industry topics.

els—the 48-in (122cm) SP4 and electric-start counterpart SP4S, and the 36-in (90cm) SP3. Features include heavy-duty centrifugal clutch for reliable power transmission and smooth engagement, QuickPitch control system for quick adjustment of blade angle during operation, reinforced gearbox and spindle assembly designed for reduced maintenance and extended service life, electronic safety switch for improved operator protection, height-adjustable handle for superior ergonomics and operator comfort and convenient transport position with optional jack for easy mobility.

The LV650 is the newest addition to Superabrasive's Lavina line of vacuums for concrete grinding and polishing. The advanced model features an integrated pre-separator, featuring a four-stage dust collection, and it is ideal for use with 25-in (64cm) and 30-in (76cm) grinders. The LV650 comes in both 115V and 220V models to meet the needs of a variety of job sites. Built with heavy-duty metal construction, it offers durability and reliability, and its high-quality filters ensure efficient dust collection for a cleaner, safer work environment.

World of Concrete attendees can find the new products in Superabrasive's booths in



Part of Superabrasive's new huge test and demonstration area.



During the two conference days there were many great opportunities for the distributors to come together and exchange experiences and network. Just in this picture there are distributors and Superabrasive staff from Bulgaria, Brazil, Spain, Greece, Australia, Hungary and a journalist from PDA Magazine (© Superabrasive).



Superabrasive's new showroom in Krun.

the South Hall, where grinding and polishing equipment are displayed, the Central Hall where finishing equipment (Trowel line) can be found and the Silver Lot which is the demo area.

[www.superabrasive.com](http://www.superabrasive.com)

# Low-Profile, High-Performance 3-Phase Dust Extractor Built for the Rental Industry

The VonArx T6 is the ultimate 3-phase dust extractor designed specifically for rental companies. It delivers high suction power, a robust and durable build, and easy serviceability—but most importantly, it features a low, compact design that makes loading into smaller vans and trailers effortless.

Traditional 3-phase vacuums are often too tall to load into contractors' vehicles. Some manufacturers suggest using smaller 1-phase units as a work-around, but these can't keep up with larger 3-phase machines. The T6 with its 370 cfm (630 m<sup>3</sup>/h) suction capacity and 3.9 psi (27 kPa) of vacuum pressure, pairs easily with larger equipment while providing efficient dust collection and pickup performance.

Beyond its compact size and high performance, the T6 is built with simplicity in mind. With minimal over-engineered



components, it's extremely durable, easy to service, and simple to repair. After two years of real-world use, field tests have produced exceptional results.

It's no surprise that rental companies have become the largest buyers of the T6, after early adoption by concrete surface preparation professionals. The market asked for a compact, powerful 3-phase solution—and the T6 delivers.

[www.vonarx.com](http://www.vonarx.com)



## OTR Debuts New Non-Directional Compact Tractor Tire

OTR Engineered Solutions (OTR) introduces its new versatile WorkBoss CT tire, which the company says is a breakthrough in compact tractor tire design. The WorkBoss CT combines superior off-road traction, sidewall protection, and self-cleaning abilities with unique design elements for enhanced use on everything from extreme off-road surfaces to turf. It also features a non-directional tread pattern for added traction in both forward and reverse, and to simplify installation and inventory. According to OTR engineering technical specialist Chris Strabley, "We gave the WorkBoss CT aggressive lugs to provide the off-road characteristics needed in most compact tractor applications, but then we took the design to another level with unique

tie bars between the lugs and a shallower center groove to improve multi-purpose performance on turf, while creating a better, quieter ride on paved surfaces." The WorkBoss CT's shallow center groove increases stiffness, which results in less bending under load for greater stability. Other key features include aggressive centerline lugs with deep inter-lug grooves, offering an unrivaled mix of forward traction, self-cleaning performance, and rapid water displacement. The shoulder blocks have a high void-to-lug ratio for excellent lateral stability, while enhancing grip when cornering under torque. Tapered lug faces reduce rolling resistance and increase service life. Additionally, the reinforced sidewall knuckles offer maximum sidewall

protection against impact or abrasion. The WorkBoss CT is currently available in 18x8.50-10 and 26x12.00-12 (215/50-10 and 305/60-12) sizes, with others to be produced over the next few months. Each size is available in multiple ply ratings to accommodate the load capacities of various applications. This new line tires also marks the launch of OTR's ability to mold QR codes directly into the sidewall, which opens multiple opportunities for easier access to enhanced product information, inventory tracking and support.



[www.otrwheel.com](http://www.otrwheel.com)

# New Innovative Technology from Weka for Practical Use

In an industry where precision, durability, and efficiency are crucial, Weka, as a manufacturer of concrete drilling and sawing technology, regularly brings practical innovations to the market. Three current new developments show how Weka translate the everyday requirements of concrete drilling and sawing operations directly into well-thought-out solutions – with a clear focus on performance, user-friendliness, and safety.

## New Weka BL20/21 diamond core drilling machine

With the Weka BL20/21, Weka present a diamond core drilling machine that sets new standards with its brushless motor, compact design, and low weight. Thanks to four gears, the speeds can be optimally adjusted to the respective drilling project, ensuring high drilling speeds and clean results. The BL20/21 is particularly suitable for working in confined spaces. Its completely enclosed motor housing provides reliable protection against dust and moisture, which has a positive effect on its service life, an important aspect in the harsh everyday conditions of a construction site. Weka were able to see for themselves that the machine not only proved itself in theory, test customers already used the



forming complex cutting tasks, such as on stairs or when making bevel cuts. The most important features at a glance are stepless adjustment of the angle of inclination, scale for displaying the current saw angle, saw cut indicator for precise positioning when cutting vertically and clamping claws and mounting plate, individually adjustable by 90° relative to each other. This bracket enables flexible, safe, and precise working even at difficult cutting angles, without compromising on stability and handling.

## New guide rail for the TS40 and TR40 hand saws

The third innovation concerns the Weka TS40 and TR40 hand saws. The newly developed guide rail, which is specially designed for door and window openings, was released in November. After extensive reworking, it is now ready for the market. Highlights with the new guide rail include tool-free quick-change system, quick assembly and disassembly, effortless and back-friendly working as well as the rail can be extended as required.

The new rail makes work much easier, especially when sawing openings with precision. It is, according to Weka, a real relief for the operator, especially when working in series or in difficult environments. With these three new developments, Weka is demonstrating that technological innovation and practical application can go hand in hand. Weka's goal is not only to supply powerful machines, but also to offer real solutions for everyday construction site use, developed from practical experience, for practical use.

[weka-elektrowerkzeuge.de](http://weka-elektrowerkzeuge.de)

BL20/21, both by hand and in a drill stand. The conclusion was a powerful, handy, and precise machine that really impresses in practice, according to Weka.

## Swivel mounting bracket for WS76 wall saw

Weka has also developed a new swivel mounting bracket for the WS76 wall saw, which really comes into its own when per-



# The Egli Brothers

Located in Switzerland, family-owned Gebrüder Egli Maschinen AG (Egli) is today rapidly advancing as a strong player in the development and manufacturing of efficient equipment for demolition, recycling and the dismantling of concrete and metal structures.

Founded by Roland, Heidi, and Urs Egli, the business began in 1992 in a simple barn in the town of Rossrüti. Initially a rubber workshop, the business soon expanded to also include the resale of composting mills for smaller gardens and for private use. A sales network throughout Switzerland was built up in a short time. Throughout the 1990s the business expanded, and the former barn was transformed into a full-fledged workshop with its own processing capability. In 2001, the company started selling various types of excavator attachments for construction and civil engineering. In 2007, Egli started developing and manufacturing magnets for excavators for handling scrap metal.

Having outgrown its existing facilities in 2010, Egli razed the buildings and built a new 86000ft<sup>2</sup> (8,000 m<sup>2</sup>) production center on the same site. In 2013, Egli launched its own bucket series with a new, fresh design made of high-quality steel. It would only take another year before the company became a player in the demolition industry by launching the first series of Egli concrete crushers and shears for demolition and cutting beams and scrap metal. In 2016, Egli exhibited the range for the first time at Bauma. Five years later, the business expanded



further, and a branch was opened in the city of Biel, Switzerland.

Today Egli employs around 90 people, producing an extensive product range now sold around the world. A rental business, Egli Rent, is growing steadily and utilized by demolition contractors in Switzerland and neighboring countries.

## Vast product lines

Egli today has an impressively wide range of different types of both mechanical and hydraulic tools comprising some 20 different product lines of attachments. Demolition products include magnets, multi-concrete crushers and scissors, scrap shears, demolition and sorting grapples, hydraulic hammers, demolition arms, mulchers, and crushing buckets. Egli also recently introduced a hydraulic saw that can be mounted on the machine boom for effective concrete cutting in ceilings, walls and floors.

Egli's hydraulic magnet series is available in three different sizes for carriers from 6.5t to 20t and upwards. Weighing 1,520 to 4,564 lb (690 to 2,070kg,

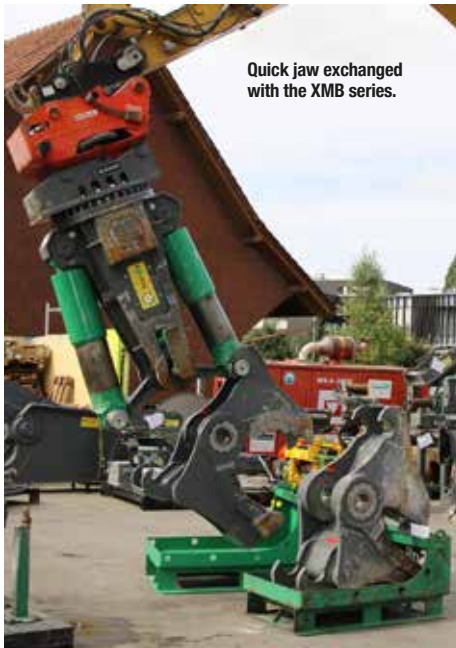


PDA Magazine met with Pascal Egli, International Sales and Consulting at the Egli Brothers.



The Gebrüder Egli Maschinen facility in Rossrüti, Switzerland.

# from Switzerland



Quick jaw exchanged with the XMB series.

they are among the most powerful on the market, designed to offer maximum performance, accuracy and effective ejection control with an impressively long service life. With the Egli hydraulic magnet, the contractor can significantly reduce the amount of steel in the construction waste and thus prevent damage to construction machinery. The magnets also effortlessly ensure neat and easy to man oeuvre construction sites.

"Our hydraulic magnet series is a product where high efficiency clearly meets performance," says Pascal Egli, who manages sales and international consulting. "We have long experience in developing and manufacturing magnets, and with our hydraulic magnets, the contractor not only optimizes the quality of demolition material, but also increases profitability, because the separated iron can be sold on directly."

## Egli multi concrete crushers and shears

For more than 10 years, Egli has developed and manufactured its innovative XMB concrete crusher produces recycling- and crusher-ready material. By simultaneously breaking and cutting concrete and rebar, the attachment generates compact, uniform pieces that can be directly processed further. Unlike conventional pulverizing methods, the concrete is fragmented into segments with short, cleanly cut rebar ends. This preserves the material's structure and enables efficient recycling without loss of quality – a decisive advantage over traditional demolition



The Egli XMB series with bionic jaw.



The CMS diamond tool saw arm easily cuts vertically, horizontally, and diagonally.

techniques.

It comprises of concrete crushers, pulverizer, and metal and scrap shears, where the jaw is interchangeable for five different types of application. The jaw options include bionic (developed 1989 by Thomas Ostermeyer and based on the jaw structure of a predator), tripod, steel, multicut, and pulverizer. The patented concept includes the jaws' unique appearance, with round jaws with replaceable teeth that effectively grind down the concrete and distribute the scrap.

"All of our jaws have been carefully tried and

tested before the concept was patented and released into the market," says sales and marketing manager Ertan Keskin. "We are completely alone in this technical design solution."

The series includes five different sizes of Egli's multi tools, where each size can be used with five different jaw types. XMB 0.9 weighs 2,723 lb (1,235kg) and is designed for 8-15t carriers. XMB 1.6 weighs 4,123 lb (1,870kg) and is designed for 15-25t carriers. XMB 2.8 weighs 5,975 lb (2,710kg) and is designed for 18-30t carriers. XMB 3.7 weighs 8,885 lb (4,030kg) and is designed for carriers between 30-50t carriers. The largest model, XMB 5.4 weighs 13,547 lb (6,145kg) and is designed for 45-85t carriers. Several models can also be supplied with a booster to increase power and speed.

Among the series' important advantages are fully protected hydraulic cylinders and a speed function for opening and closing the jaws. The swing gear is disengaged during crushing and under load. The system features a swing gear disengagement function to protect the excavator boom, while the change bolt is automatically retightened each time the jaws close. Optimized for the OilQuick quick coupling system, the tools can be used on all excavators with traditional quick coupling systems. Only the jaw needs to be changed, and the operator can



perform a complete hydraulic jaw change in about two minutes without leaving the carrier's cab. This means reduced wear costs thanks to the right jaw being used for each job.

### A new excavator saw

Egli's new CMS saw arm equipped with diamond blades was shown internationally for the first time at Bauma 2025. This type of attachment is clearly starting to gain interest thanks to the fact that the saw arm itself can now be optimally fixed to the excavator arm. The saw is designed to be highly versatile, able to saw horizontally, vertically, and diagonally as well as be able to make flush cuts in floors, walls, and ceilings. Weighing 1,433 lb (650kg), the excavator saw is designed for excavators in the 8-16t weight class, but can also be fitted on bigger machines. The cutting depth is 19.7 in (500mm), but can be increased up to 31.5 in (800mm). The saw system is equipped with an overload protection for the saw blade and the blade has a variable rotation speed with speed monitoring and automatic speed control.

Egli believes its diamond saw for all types of



carriers makes the work of the concrete cutting or the demolition contractor much more efficient, easier and safer.

"We are increasingly seeing demolition being carried out more as dismantling, where buildings are sawed into parts, instead of being crushed with concrete shears," says Keskin. "This is often a preferred method to reduce environmental emissions of hazardous building materials and that it is often easier to handle and recycle by sawing a building into parts."

Egli's goal over the next few years is to increase export operations, selling to all markets in Europe and beyond—wherever the products fit.

"We see great potential for this," says Pascal Egli.

[www.gebr-egli.ch](http://www.gebr-egli.ch)

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# LOAD MAN

If you were asked what the word “versatile” means to your construction and demolition business, you could come up with any number of appropriate synonyms—adaptable, skilled, multi-purpose, to name just a few.

Or, you could simply point to a compact loader—the can-do, do-all machine that every contractor counts on to efficiently move supplies and material indoors and out, in tight spaces and open areas, and with the reliability that provides long-term value for the investment. What’s more, the new and upgraded models in this year’s PDA magazine report represent many exciting breakthroughs that enhance productivity, lift power, and operator comfort—all coveted attributes at a time when contractors need every advantageous attribute to provide stand-out service, and epitomize their customers’ own expectations of versatility.

## SVL65-2s compact track loader enhances Kubota’s SVL line

The new SVL65-2s joins Kubota’s compact track loader lineup, delivering an enhanced operator ex-

perience with several technology and productivity upgrades. Building on the SVL65-2 platform, the SVL65-2s retains its core specifications, including a 68.4-hp (51kW) Kubota engine, 2,100-lb (952.5kg) rated operating capacity at 35% tipping load, and available high-flow auxiliary hydraulics up to 27 gpm (102 lpm) on select configurations.

Inside the cab, operators will find a standard high-back seat with an available heated air-ride option, an LCD monitor with jog dial control, keyless start, an integrated backup camera, and an integrated Bluetooth radio. LED front and rear work lights and backlit switches further enhance visibility and

ease of operation. New performance features include Kubota Shockless Ride, a loader suspension system that enhances stability and helps reduce material spillage on rough terrain. An auto-shift function automatically transitions between high and low ranges while turning to maintain smooth travel and consistent torque. Operators can also fine-tune machine responsiveness through the LCD panel using adjustable track response settings, allowing precise control in varying job conditions. The SVL65-2s also features an Advanced Multifunction Valve that enables simultaneous operation of auxiliary hydraulics, bucket, and loader arm functions for greater productivity.

[www.kubota.com](http://www.kubota.com)

## Vermeer unveils next-generation ML series mini loaders

Vermeer’s new streamlined lineup of ML mini loaders includes the ML80, ML100, ML130, and ML150. Built upon the success of previous Vermeer mini skid steers, the ML series delivers outstanding hy-

draulic performance, thanks to an updated hydraulic system designed to maximize horsepower transfer efficiency.

The new Vermeer ML series offers a machine for every application. With a 760-lb (344.7kg) rated operating capacity (ROC) and a 25-hp (18.6kW) diesel engine, the ML80 is the ideal machine for replacing manual labor in residential landscape settings, light tree work and rental applications. Its compact footprint and radial lift path provide excellent access and performance in tight jobsites. The ML100 steps up to a 950-lb (431kg) ROC and adds a turbocharged 25-hp (18.6-kW) diesel engine. The ML100 is a versatile radial lift path performer for the demanding rental, landscape and urban tree care markets, pro-



# MANAGEMENT

viding additional torque for more power when running attachments. For contractors taking on bigger jobs, the ML130 delivers serious power with its 40-hp (30kW) turbocharged diesel engine and 1,270-lb (576kg) ROC. Its vertical lift path design tackles larger-scale landscape projects, demanding tree care and truck loading applications. And when jobs demand maximum capability, the ML150 features a powerful 1,530-lb (694kg) ROC and 40-hp (30kW) turbocharged diesel engine. Designed for the most challenging tasks in landscape, hardscape, utility and tree care, the ML150 handles trenching, hauling, digging and grading applications. Its vertical lift path design provides optimal loading and dumping at height, making it ideal for the most demanding heavy-duty operations.

The ML100, ML130, and ML150 models also feature turbo-charged engines for added torque when under load. The chariot-style operator station is designed with both

ics to provide operators with additional operational insight and confidence.

To maximize time on the job, the ML series is designed for simplified serviceability with a greaseless track system and convenient access to the engine and other components. The standard



comfort and safety in mind. A cushioned platform and supportive padding enhance operator comfort, supporting productivity during long hours on the job, while the integrated operator presence system suspends the ground drive and hydraulics if the operator steps off the platform. A single pilot-operated joystick provides intuitive control for precise maneuvering. The ML series is also built with top-tier ground drive components and Vermeer Fleet standard telemat-

telematics on the ML series feed directly into the VermeerOne platform, giving contractors the ability to monitor machine hours, location, and fault codes from a single interface. The platform also provides convenient access to parts manuals and maintenance records, helping contractors streamline fleet management and stay connected to their local Vermeer dealer.

[www.vermeer.com](http://www.vermeer.com)

## Takeuchi TL11R3 electric-over-hydraulic controls provide greater precision, less fatigue

Takeuchi has introduced the sixth model in its compact track loader product line, the TL11R3. This new machine features new electric-over-hydraulic (EH) controls for greater precision in loader arm, bucket and travel speed operation. The advanced controls also enhance jobsite productivity by making several new features possible. Operators can instantly switch between ISO and H patterns through the machine's monitor to match their preferences.

The TL11R3's self-leveling up-and-down feature automatically keeps the bucket or attachment level while raising or lowering the loader arm for improved load handling. Fourteen-pin detent provides continuous power to electrically operated attachments for uninterrupted operation. Operators can also adjust the track loader's boom, bucket and travel sensitivity to match their needs for greater control during high-precision work. In low-clearance environments, the arm height limit feature prevents the TL11R3's loader arm from exceeding a predetermined height, protecting attachments and surroundings from accidental damage.

Available in both standard- and high-flow configurations, the TL11R3 allows operators to adjust

flow rates and attachment presets from inside the cab. The high-flow configuration delivers up to 40 gpm (151 lpm) per minute of auxiliary flow for use with more powerful attachments. Both configurations come equipped with a 14-pin connector enhancing versatility and functionality for a wide range of attachments. Swapping attachments is simple with the mechanical universal quick attach on canopy models and the hydraulic universal quick attach on cab models. A 270-degree rearview camera comes standard on the high-flow configuration and is optional on the standard-flow configuration.

Built with the robust durability that defines the Takeuchi brand, the TL11R3 canopy model has an operating weight of 11,650 lb (5,284kg), a rated operating capacity of 2,735 lb (1,240kg), and a bucket breakout force of 7,958 lbf (35.4kN). Its radial-lift boom design is engineered to deliver superior breakout forces for exceptional lifting power with fewer moving parts, making it particularly well suited for grading and dirt work. Rugged steel construction and a one-piece, purpose-built, fully welded frame offer greater strength and rigidity while protecting the engine and hydraulics.

With a 12.4-in (315mm) ground clearance, the TL11R3 provides excellent flotation, traction and stability for navigating on challenging terrain with ease. The machine's undercarriage features heavy-duty sealed rollers with metal face seals to keep dirt and debris out, while double-reduction planetary drives and 18-in (457mm) tracks deliver powerful tractive effort.

Inside the TL11R3, operators will find a six-way, adjustable high-back suspension seat and an eight-inch touchscreen display for real-time machine vitals and visibility to the rearview camera, as well as access to the Bluetooth radio, HVAC controls and other machine functions. The track loader can operate whether its overhead roll-up door is open or closed, regardless of the loader arm position. A lockable hood, steel rear door and integrated bumper protect vital engine components, with the rear door also providing access to a swing-out cooling module for easy cleaning and inspection. The TL11R3's 107.3-hp (80kW) engine meets Tier 4 Final emissions standards with a DOC, DPF and SCR after-treatment system.

[www.takeuchiglobal.com](http://www.takeuchiglobal.com)

## Bobcat MT120 delivers increased operating capacity, leading lift height

Earlier this year, Bobcat introduced the MT120,

its most powerful mini track loader. Powered by a 1.2-liter, non-diesel particulate filter (DPF) engine, the MT120 provides a maximum rated operating capacity of 1,200 lb (544kg), lift height of 88 in (2,235mm), and reach of 22 in (559mm). The powerful, high-torque engine, optimum machine balance, fast travel speeds and smooth pilot controls all work together to deliver fast cycle times for peak productivity. At just under 36 in wide, the MT120 is ideal for confined workspaces. With low ground pressure of 3.9 psi (.27 bar) with optional 11-in (279mm) tracks, or 4.3 psi (.30 bar) with standard 9.1-in (231mm) tracks, operators can achieve optimal flotation for greater performance on soft ground and travel over established surfaces with minimal disturbance. The integrated, ride-on platform provides an optimum vantage point to the bucket's cutting edge or attachment, as well as to the sides of the machine. Operators can quickly become proficient with pilot controls that deliver consistently smooth and precise movement.

The MT120's low- and no-maintenance features include the non-DPF engine, a direct-drive system that eliminates belts, maintenance-free rollers and idlers, and maintenance-free bushings. With more than 20 compatible attachment categories, the MT120 can be used for digging, breaking up and removing concrete, trenching, and many other applications.

## Also from Bobcat, a powerful small articulated loader

The Bobcat L35 is designed for users seeking superior power and lift performance while retaining the agility and comfort of the company's L23 and L28 models. It boasts an impressive 2,072-lb (940kg) rated operating capacity and is driven by a robust 57-hp (42.5kW) turbo-charged engine, all with a compact 54-in (1,372mm) footprint. Other key features of the L35 include a telescoping lift arm that extends to 114.8 in (2,916mm) with a dual parallel leveling system to minimize spillage and maximize cycle times; tight-turning articulated steering and a light overall footprint; and a comfort-first cab with heat and air, enhanced legroom, sound-dampening headliner, ample storage; and USB connectivity. The L35 is compatible with more than 60 Bobcat attachments with optional high-flow auxiliary hydraulics. With the optional Power Bob-Tach, users can change non-hydraulic attachments quickly and easily without leaving the cab.

[www.bobcat.com](http://www.bobcat.com)

## GIANT launches new generation compact loaders

GIANT has unveiled its latest innovation in compact wheel loaders—the G2400, G2400HD, G2550HD and G2550HD+. Built from the ground up, these new generation loaders are designed to address the evolving needs of the construction, agriculture, and landscaping industries. Each of the new models is a true tool carrier, featuring advanced hydraulic functionality and precise control for handling a variety of hydraulically-driven attachments. By using hydraulic



wheel motors instead of traditional axles, key components such as the engine are positioned lower in the frame. In combination with a long wheelbase, a low center of gravity is the final result, optimizing tipping load and safety when handling loads.

The G2400 and G2400HD are powered by a 26-hp (19.4kW) Kubota D1105K engine, while the G2550HD and G2550HD+ are equipped with a 50-hp (37.3kW) Kubota D1803 CR engine. Both engines are electronically controlled, ensuring optimal fuel efficiency and reduced emissions. The G2550HD and G2550HD+ also feature a hydraulic-driven cooling fan that automatically adjusts its speed according to the local working conditions, allowing the engine to rapidly reach and maintain the working temperature, enhancing fuel efficiency and emissions. In cold conditions it provides more driver comfort as the heater warms up faster while the engine is at idle. Optionally the fan direction can be reversed as well for cleaning out debris from the radiator.

Each model is equipped with four hydraulic wheel motors, featuring varying displacement tailored to the specific performance needs of each model. All models with exception of the G2400 feature a two-speed range. The G2400 features delivers a traction force of 2,922 lbf (13kN) and reaches a maximum speed of 7.5 mph (12 kph), while the G2400HD delivers 4,046 lbf (18kN) with a maximum speed of 12.4 mph (20kph). The G2550HD also features 4,046 lbf (18 kN) traction force and top speed of 15.5 mph (25kph), and the G2550HD+ boosts an impressive traction force of 5,508 lbf (24.5 kN) with a maximum traction speed of 17.4 mph (28kph) on standard tires.

For improved traction in challenging conditions, all models come equipped with a longitudinal differential lock as standard and an optional lateral differential lock. Each model features an electronically activated Spring Applied Hydraulic Release (SAHR) braking system that applies the brakes at all times, except when the drive pedal is pressed. This system ensures the loader remains stationary on inclines and automatically applies the brake in the emergency of a hydraulic failure or power loss, enhancing safety on the job site.

Users can choose between a standard ROPS/FOPS safety roof, a convenient folding roof, or a luxury cabin. The new cabin will offer enhanced comfort, visibility and ergonomics. A heater is equipped as standard, whereas air-conditioning



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master the machine. The narrow-track model of the TX 750 is expertly designed to navigate tight, confined spaces with ease, making it the perfect choice for complex interior projects where maneuverability is crucial. This unit offers maximum traction on hard terrain, tackling even the toughest materials and obstacles with ease.

The wide track model offers stability on soft job site surfaces, minimizing

rotary cutters and trenchers) while still supporting standard-flow attachments for everyday tasks, making your machine more versatile across jobs. Flow+ optimizes performance and long-term durability by providing more power than standard flow systems, while reducing heat and wear compared to high-flow alternatives. It enhances productivity by enabling quick attachment changes, minimizing job downtime. Additionally, its optimized hydraulic power management conserves fuel, extending operational hours without unnecessary consumption.

[www.kioti.com](http://www.kioti.com)

### Hyundai HT38 is ideal combination of power, affordability

Hyundai says its HT38 compact track loader is built with durability, performance, comfort, and serviceability in mind. Powered by a 115-hp (86kW) turbocharged D34 Hyundai engine, the 12,785-lb (5,799kg) machine features a modular cooling

package with a variable speed, hydraulic driven reversible fan, ensuring long-lasting performance. Rated operating capacity is 3,806 lb (1,727 kg), bucket breakout force of 6,649 lbf (3,016kgf), and a dump height of just over 8.5 ft (2.6m).

Engineered for long-term durability, the HT38 features a torsion bar undercarriage for stability and high-grade steel components that Hyundai says are sourced from the company's shipbuilding expertise. Other standard features include 4,000 psi (276 bar) high flow, ride and creep control, a one-piece, pressurized ROPS/FOPS cab with heat and A/C coming through eight vents. A reversible fan and PowerCore air filter help keep the engine free of dust and debris, while a quick coupler accommodates a wide range of attachments.

[www.hd-hundaice.com](http://www.hd-hundaice.com)

### New Holland W100D redefines operator experience

The new W100D compact wheel loader from New Holland combines reliable power with an intentional design to deliver productivity and performance in a compact class size. The W100D's new cab features a roomier layout and improved sightlines via the redesigned front windshield, which provides clear views to both the bucket edges and tire alignment for more precise operating. Operators will find enhanced comforts and advanced features that are typically reserved for larger machines: A standard heated air-ride seat, Bluetooth, FM and AM radio capabilities, HVAC system and high-visibility LED lighting. A new in-cab LED monitor and standard rearview camera offer access to real-time machine data and elevated awareness on the jobsite, helping operators stay efficient and confident in their surroundings.

One of the new cab's standout features is the seat-mounted joystick, part of a true pilot control system. Unlike fixed joystick configurations, this

will be optional, ensuring a comfortable working environment in all weather conditions. All models are compatible with a variety of attachments thanks to the hydraulically locked quick hitch system, allowing operators to easily switch between tools from the operator's seat. In addition to the standard GIANT quick hitches, universal and competitive brand hitches are also available.

[www.giantloaders.com](http://www.giantloaders.com)

### Toro eDingo TX 750 provides compact power for every job

Toro's eDingo® TX 750, the next evolution in Toro's battery-powered compact utility loaders, is engineered to conquer even the most confined and challenging indoor spaces. Available in narrow-track and wide-track models, the Toro eDingo TX 750 is purpose-built to tackle demanding tasks with ease, optimize productivity, and deliver superior efficiency and all-day reliability for interior demolition and construction jobs.

Building on the success of Toro's eDingo 500, the new eDingo TX 750 combines the versatility and maneuverability of Toro's trusted Dingo line with advanced electric power, meeting the growing demand for reliable battery-powered solutions in the compact utility loader market. Powered by Toro's proprietary HyperCell Battery System, this machine delivers up to eight hours of relentless runtime, guaranteeing maximum productivity for crews pushing through long, demanding shifts. Intuitive, easy-to-learn T-handle controls empower operators to quickly

ground disturbance with its wider footprint, making it an ideal choice for outdoor job sites.

[www.toro.com](http://www.toro.com)

### Kioti introduces Flow+ technology for improved hydraulic performance

KIOTI Tractor, a division of Daedong-USA, Inc., has launched Flow+ technology for its compact construction equipment lineup, including the TL750 compact track loader and SL750 compact skid steer loader. Built with a five-port coupler block, dedicated Flow+ tube lines and valve, and an added gear pump, Flow+ system ensures seamless hydraulic operation. Flow+ enhances hydraulic capabilities for operators, who need more power than standard flow, without the excessive cost or fuel consumption of full high-flow systems.

While Kioti's standard models operate at 3,335 psi (230 bar) with a hydraulic flow of 21.9 gpm (82.9 lpm) and 41.80 hp (31.10 kW), the Flow+ models operate at a lower pressure of 2,900 psi (200 bar) but provide a higher hydraulic flow of 34.0 gpm (128.80 lpm) and an impressive 65.70 hp (46 kW). This increased flow and horsepower in the

Flow+ models translates to greater attachment versatility, improved operational efficiency, and the ability to handle more intensive applications with ease.

Designed for light to medium-duty hydraulic attachments, Flow+ allows operators to seamlessly run attachments (e.g.,





system moves in sync with the operator's seat, delivering better control and stability, especially in environments where there is uneven ground. This added precision and comfort improves operator productivity and safety by contributing to fatigue reduction during long hours of operation.

The W100D is powered by a Stage V-certified FPT Industrial engine, delivering performance with the added benefits of fuel-saving features such as eco mode and auto idle. Ride control and creep mode comes standard, and high-flow hydraulics options are available for applications that require more specialized performance. A standard JRB-compatible coupler and an optional ISO-compatible coupler accommodate a wide range of attachments. Operators can choose between the standard 1.9-yd<sup>3</sup> (1.4m<sup>3</sup>) bucket or a high-capacity 2.2-yd<sup>3</sup> (1.7m<sup>3</sup>) light material bucket for a wide variety of lifting, loading and scooping tasks.

Maintenance is also made simpler with three wide-opening service panels that offer unobstructed access for efficient maintenance of the engine and other critical service components. A five-year telematics subscription comes standard with purchase, ensuring owners, operators and fleet managers can stay connected in-person or remotely to monitor and manage performance insights and diagnostics.

[www.construction.newholland.com](http://www.construction.newholland.com)



### Volvo electric compact wheel loaders provide diesel power with less maintenance

Volvo's L20 and L25 electric compact wheel loaders offer all the power and performance of their diesel equivalents but with significantly simpler maintenance, no fumes and lower noise and vibration. Their compatibility with buckets, forklifts, grapples, and material handling arms make them great clean-up machines.

One of the biggest advantages of these battery-electric CWLs is that there is no internal combustion engine to maintain. That means no engine oil, oil filters, diesel particulate filters, or DEF. Volvo conservatively estimates that users will see a 35% savings in maintenance costs and time over the life of these machines. Plus, refueling with electricity typically costs much less than diesel fuel.

Another perk of these loaders is the elimination of idling. When the operator pauses, the machine turns off, saving battery life and hours accumulated. This allows either model to work a full day in many applications (or with a top-off charge over a lunch break) and contributes to better residual value in the long run.

The L20 and L25 Electric include 48V traction batteries with a capacity of 40 kWh. The most common charging setup is to use the on-board charger and plug into a 240V, 32-amp Level 2 AC

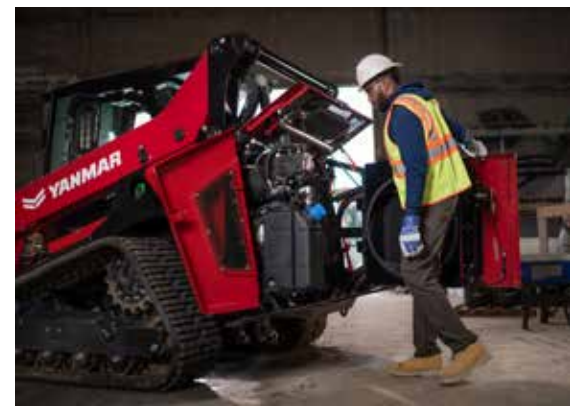


outlet (the same as what's recommended for electric cars and household appliances) for a few hours. Other setups for portability and shorter charging times are available.

### Yanmar's new extended warranty program for compact equipment

Ycare, Yanmar Compact Equipment's Extended Warranty is a new extended protection program designed to give customers added peace of mind and value for their equipment investment. Ycare is designed to complement Yanmar's standard base warranty, offering up to three additional years or 3,000 machine hours of coverage for all Yanmar compact equipment — including both machines and attachments. When combined with the base warranty on Yanmar mini excavators, for example, Ycare can provide up to seven years or 7,000 hours of total protection. Customers can choose from three plan levels — Comprehensive, Powertrain, and Powertrain Plus Hydraulics — to match specific needs. In addition to peace of mind, Ycare offers the convenience of one-stop maintenance, regardless of whether the work is under the standard warranty or the extended plan. All repairs are completed by authorized Yanmar dealers, ensuring quality service and consistent support. Ycare coverage is fully transferable if the equipment is sold, increasing resale value and buyer confidence. To make things even easier, Ycare plans are available for purchase at any point during the machine's base warranty period. In addition to Ycare, Yanmar Compact Equipment North America also introduced MAX-Guard, providing similar extended warranty options for the ASV brand. Qualifying machine owners can register for Ycare at their local dealer.

[www.YanmarCE.com](http://www.YanmarCE.com)



# Fredrik Åkermark and

In 2019, Fredrik Åkermark acquired the manufacturer Von Arx. Much has happened since then, with a deepening and broadening of the range of unique scarifiers as well as the development and investment in a number of new products for surface preparation.

Von Arx is a well-known and strong brand since a long time ago, especially for its popular scarifiers where the principle was invented many years ago. The company was founded in 1941 by Paul Von Arx, who sold the business to American Emerson in the early 2000s. But in 2019, the business came under Swedish ownership by industry veteran Fredrik Åkermark.

Åkermark knows the concrete floor grinding and polishing as well as surface preparation industries thanks to that he has been working with industry vacuum cleaners during many years. At age 23, he started working Bevaclean, which imported a wide range of machines for dust handling, cleaning, and scrubbing from Italy and elsewhere. Åkermark and colleague Torbjörn Bengtsson would be part of Bevaclean's evolution through the acquisition of Pullman, in 2000, the acquisition of Ermator five years later, and a name change to



Parts of the workforce at Von Arx in Plovdiv, which has grown from six in 2019 to around 40 today.



Von Arx' scarifiers are assembled for delivery to users around the world.

Pullman Ermator that set the stage for pursuing sales around the world.

The company's development of efficient and unique HEPA-filtered vacuum cleaners and cyclones with the Longo-Pac system as well as air scrubbers was far ahead of many other markets. Pullman Ermator's products meant a revolution when they were launched, particularly in the American market where, in 2007, Åkermark and his family would relocate to Tampa, Fla., to keep close watch on its operation there. Pullman Ermator's 2017 acquisition by Husqvarna Construction Products marked another turning point, and Åkermark was initially content to stay with the company. But when the opportunity arose in 2019 to acquire

# and the "New" Von Arx



Production in Plovdiv is running at full speed and shows no signs of the recession that prevails in many other parts of Europe.



Most of the components come from local subcontractors in the surrounding area. Some machining and welding is done in-house.

Switzerland's Von Arx, he couldn't pass it up.

"I missed the entrepreneurship and working method within Pullman Ermator," Åkermark says. "By taking over Von Arx, I saw a way to get it back."

### "A big challenge"

In principle, Von Arx needed to be built from scratch and all products updated and further developed. Even the plans for the company's products needed to be renewed and digitized in new, efficient computer-based drawing systems. Åkermark admits that taking over the company was a big challenge, but one his 25 years at Pullman Ermator had prepared him well for.

"I had a good grasp of dust management

equipment," he says, "but concrete scarifiers and handheld pneumatic tools were something new."

One requirement of the takeover was that product development and production could not remain in Switzerland. The decision was made to move the entire operation to Plovdiv, Bulgaria. Starting with just six employees, Von Arx now has nearly 40 employees in a production area measuring 43,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (4,000 m<sup>2</sup>). Gergely Szacsuri recently joined the company to oversee daily operations. The original product range was expanded with larger scarifiers, including propane-powered models primarily for the American market. Von Arx also developed and began manufacturing its own series of so-called floor scrapers, which

are now available in three sizes. After a couple of years, Von Arx began manufacturing single- and three-phase vacuum cleaners and cyclones, soon followed by a line of single-rotor floor grinders and surface shavers. Eyeing the U.S. surface prep market, Von Arx jumped at the opportunity to acquire the German manufacturer Impacts, which is well known for shot blasters, floor grinders, and vacuum cleaners. While most Impacts products are now made in Bulgaria, Von Arx has retained a small operation at the original facility in Germany.

Åkermark is understandably reticent about the direction for the future of the company, but Von Arx scarifiers are of course the basis of the business, while the idea is to become strong in terms of



**Maria Spasova is responsible for production. She ensures that all components and parts are in stock so that they can respond to the high demand.**

products for the entire surface prep sector.

"Right now, we are focused on consolidating the company," he says. "We have grown very quickly since 2019 and broadened the product range. All that that takes its toll. Now we want to be really strong with the range we have before we take the next step."

Von Arx and Impacts currently sell products all over the world, to nearly 54 countries managed by around 50 distributors. Since 2024, they have been investing heavily in the markets in the Middle East and have started their own subsidiary located in Dubai. In addition to the entire Middle East, Dubai also handles the African markets, Pakistan and parts of Asia. In North America, Von Arx and Impacts collaborates with distributor Runyon Surface Prep, which has seven of its own depots spread across the U.S. and Canada. Åkermark's son, Filip, also works at Runyon.

Despite a lingering recession in Europe,



**Fredrik Åkermark (right) and new employee Gergely Szacsuri, who is responsible for the operations in Plodiv.**

Åkermark expects 2025 will prove to be a good year for Von Arx and Impacts, with sales projected to increase by 28 and 20 percent, respectively. Still, he knows the company can't be complacent with competitors such as Airtec, Husqvarna,

Schwamborn, and others. "You can't relax for a second," he says.

### New products

Small wonder, then, that Von Arx and Impacts are continually focused on product development. Several new products debuted earlier this year at Bauma, including the new Impacts 430EQ shaver. A larger model grinder will be launched in 2026.

Åkermark feels very comfortable with the way the business is set up today. And he is very proud of his staff, who are all talented, hardworking and very loyal.

"The staff is everything in the company," he says. "It is important to me that they enjoy their job and what they get in the salary envelope. A satisfied staff also makes our customers satisfied."

Looking ahead to 2026, Åkermark is pleased with where the "new Von Arx" is heading.

"It is a completely new company in many ways," he says, "but we were the ones who invented the scarifiers and we are keen to protect that. Von Arx's world-renowned scarifiers will continue to be world-leading. It is the basis of our business and here we will always be several steps ahead of the competition."

[www.vonarx.com](http://www.vonarx.com)

**Von Arx's philosophy is to have products on the shelf when customers request them so they don't have to wait for delivery. "When a customer requests a product, they want it immediately and not wait a number of weeks," says Åkermark.**





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2023 Attendee Dylan Mercier,  
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# Latest News From the Floor Prep Sector

Floor preparation is a concept that today encompasses a great deal but is very much connected to concrete floors. Where once concrete floors were covered with some form of coating or with epoxy and paint, today's situation is completely different. Here's a short history and some news from the global concrete floor prep industry.

Thanks to the introduction of new methods for treating floors in the early 1990s, a new industry sector emerged. The terms "floor prep" or "surface prep" include many different methods of treating a concrete floor—grinding and levelling, polishing, milling, scarifying, shot blasting, bush hammering, and so forth. In the 1990s, HTC Sweden developed the then revolutionary planetary grinding method for grinding concrete floors, leading to the removal of single-disc grinders. As many demolition contractors were often involved in construction sites at the same time floors were renovated, it was logical for them to deal with floors as well.

Still, it took some time for the technology to find wide usage. The main focus was on the new planetary grinding method, but other methods, such as milling, scarifying, and shotblasting, were already established. However, the use of multiple grinding heads in a planetary movement was primarily the work of manufacturers such as Diamatic and King Concrete. After a few years, that group expanded to include such companies as Schwaborn, Superabrasive, Scanmaskin, and Husqvarna, which acquired longtime sector leaders HTC and Blastrac some years back.

When the technology really started to take



hold in the US market, HTC Sweden began to offer equipment to process the concrete floor further through polishing. Demand increase, resulting in the concrete floor grinding a prominent position in new installations, as it was possible to color and pattern the floor, then grind and polish it like a regular terrazzo floor. Since the early 2000s, World of Concrete has provided an informal gauge in grinding and polishing concrete floors, having ranged from 50 and to 100 exhibitors of floor prep equipment. A large proportion of the exhibitors came directly from China, though many other machines manufactured there were branded by American companies. Before long, the market became overheated, leaving only a handful of major manufacturers. Today, those who work purely with floors have once again become prevalent. Demolition and concrete cutting contractors are undoubtedly still there, but work mostly with the grinding part of the job. Polishing and finishing work is mainly the responsibility of the specialized flooring contractors. That's enough history. Let's look at what's new.

## New shot blaster and dust collector from Fujian Xingyi Intelligent Equipment

Chinese manufacturer Fujian Xingyi Intelligent Equipment Co., Ltd. recently introduced the new CB1-10E shot blasting machine, and the CD-756B dust collector, which are sold under the

Conglor brand. The machines are equipped with a "Digi-steer" which has a speed of 0-75 ft/min (0-23m/min) and is designed to prevent mis-operation during the shot blasting process.

The CB1-10E is powered by a 11kW 220/380V three phase electric motor, and has a 10-in (250mm) working width. The 7-in (177mm) display can be set up with any language and display all relevant data, while blasting parameters can easily be adjusted. The machine can tailor the shot blasting process to fit a project's unique needs. Easily customized blasting parameters provide adaptability across multiple applications, from light preparation to heavy-duty treatment. The machine is equipped with a battery drive transportation system which makes it easy to transport by one person.

The CB1-10E can be used for removing paint, rust, and epoxy coatings. It is designed to add a rough profile to concrete for a non-slip surface, or in preparing a concrete surface that can then be painted or coated. When paired with the CD-756B dust collector, CB1-10E is designed to deliver safety and cleanliness on the job site.

[www.xingyimachine.com](http://www.xingyimachine.com)

## Will Husqvarna's Autogrinder transform the surface preparation industry?

Introduced at Bauma, Husqvarna's Autogrinder is designed to provide contractors with unprecedented freedom, the company says. The Autogrinder

8 D is based on the PG 8 DR, a planetary floor grinder with dual drive technology. Husqvarna states that due to its unique navigation system and safety settings, Autogrinder can self-navigate while grinding and polishing, freeing up operators to attend to other floor finishing tasks. With its product development and strategic acquisitions, Husqvarna Construction has been shaping the floor grinding industry for more than 30 years. The company believes that its pioneering innovation marks a significant leap forward in terms of maximizing operator and machine efficiency on job sites. More technical data will be released when sales begin in Europe, with other markets to follow in stages.

[www.husqvarnaconstruction.com](http://www.husqvarnaconstruction.com)

### First floor grinding robot from Orca ready to be launched

ORCA Robot Co., Ltd. located in Foshan, considered the cradle of construction robots in China, has introduced two floor grinding robots, the Pioneer 860 and Hera 900. They are designed for the automated removal of floating slurry from the concrete surface (after the concrete is completely dry) in order to carry out subsequent floor surface construction work. Features include intelligent, automatic navigation operation; self-built automatic path planning; automatic stop; and precise speed control.



Both models have a high safety and reliable, intelligent grinding gear box protection; whole machine slope climbing and anti-tipping protection; and leakage, overcurrent, and undervoltage protection. The robots are designed for high efficiency, automatic grinding with ultra-large grinding pressure, long lithium battery life, a portable power source, and a compact structure with a small turning radius. They are said to provide high quality, stepless grinding pressure, while automatic operation involves less labor and ensures uniform grinding quality.

[www.en.orcasrobot.com](http://www.en.orcasrobot.com)



### News from Schwaborn

Celebrating its 90th anniversary this year, German manufacturer Schwaborn has released a number of new products, beginning with the WDS 530S concrete grinding attachment for cleaning, demolition, and bush hammering. The WDS 530S weighs 1,018 lb (462kg) and has a highly stable design and powerful gear ratio. The precise pre-setting of contact pressure and speed is conveniently done via a remote control, enabling the operator to continuously monitor the machine's position in relation to the wall, angular position of the grinding head, and extension path.

Schwaborn's WSS 530 is designed to make the mechanical stripping of substrates and walls easier and more efficient. Said to be the ideal tool for renovating underground parking garages, its adjustable pressure enables gentle work on material and is designed to save labor costs. Thanks to the adjustable contact pressure and the variable speed, the machine adapts to different surfaces and coatings. The cardanic suspension of the grinding head ensures material removal, even on uneven walls. Tools can be changed quickly and easily with the ETX quick change system. Floor edge mobility minimizes manual reworking, while the effective dust extraction system provides a healthy working environment.

Schwaborn's new DSM 800RC floor grinder is designed for processing large surfaces, combin-



From left, Stijn Verherstraeten, Senior Vice President Technology, Products & Operations at Husqvarna Construction and Joakim Leff-Hellstein, VP Product & Service Management Husqvarna Construction Products.

ing the special PCD and diamond technology for on a variety of surfaces. The two-stage gearbox and belt can be changed quickly and easily on the job-site. In addition, the new belt drive technology better absorbs shocks on the gearbox, helping double its life. The machine weighs 1,356 lb (615kg) and





has a grinding width of 31.5 in (800mm).

The BEF 400RC milling and cutting machine is designed to set new standards for the processing of all surfaces as it combines precision with high surface capacity while being easy to operate thanks to its remote control. The machine's high adaptability is optimized thanks to a powerful motor and a continuously adjustable working speed. The integrated battery enables mobile use even on short distances and ramps without an external power supply, and is automatically charged during operation. Intelligent functions such as tool recognition and overload protection enhance safety. The machine weighs 747kg, has a milling width of 15.7 in (400mm), mills .4 in (10mm) deep, and cuts 1.4 in (35mm) deep. Schwamborn is also releasing three new industrial vacuum cleaners, the STS 110A, STS 330A, and STS 1100A. The compact cleaners specially designed for the effective handling of very fine and hazardous dust. They meet the highest safety and filtration standards, and utilize a continuous dust bag system for efficiency and trouble-free dust free waste disposal. Thanks to the integrated automatic filter cleaning system, the machines enable uninterrupted vacuuming without compromising on performance. Finally, Schwamborn has added the cyclone pre-separator STA 1000 to its line of vacuum systems. The machine has a capacity of 26.4 gal (100 liters) and a diameter of 18.1 in (460mm). It separates coarse dust upstream of the vacuum cleaner, protecting the filters from rapid contamination. The flap automatically empties the pre-separator into the big



vides four-stage dust collection with an integrated pre-separator in both 115V and 220V versions. It is equipped with high quality filters and is manufactured in heavy-duty metal. The machine is designed to be easy to clean, maintain and transport, and is equipped with Longopac bagging with an upgraded attachment system to work with a variety of grinders. The series has been developed specifically for extremely hard concrete and features a new shape and is offered with one or two segments in 30 and 70 grit.

[www.superabrasive.com](http://www.superabrasive.com)

**Tyrolit becomes a full range supplier in floor preparation**

Over the past two years, the Tyrolit Group has acquired majority stakes the German surface preparation equipment manufacturer Contec and Sweden's Scanmaskin. Now, with more than 50 machine types, more than 300 tool variants, and a wide range of chemicals and accessories, Tyrolit now covers the entire floor processing chain from preparation and removal to grinding and high gloss polishing. The Tyrolit Group states it will continue to focus expansion in the field of floor prep and

bag as soon as the maximum fill level is reached. Flexible hose connections enable a wide range of applications. The mobile, height adjustable carrier and rubber wheels are designed to provide mobility and efficient work processes on the jobsite.

**New dust extractors and metal bond series from Superabrasive**

Superabrasive's new LV650 dust extractor pro-



grinding in the future. "This business field is a strategic growth market for us in which we will continue to invest in a targeted manner," explains Tyrolit Group executive board member Andreas Sauerwein. Tyrolit's new FGE750M3V is an extremely robust and stable floor grinder made entirely of steel to withstand intense use as well as the harsh conditions on construction sites. With a grinding width of 750mm, this machine is designed for all tasks, from renovating living spaces to large commercial floor areas. Also new is the FPE340 milling machine, where the milling drum in the machine room can be lowered electrically, enabling cutting depths of up to 2 in (50mm). This gives users great flexibility and an extended range of applications.

### The arrival of the WORX+ GrindWorx King Series

As the concrete surface preparation industry presses ever harder on productivity, precision and durability, Australian manufacturer WORX+ has introduced a machine that is designed to redefine all three elements. The new GrindWorx King Series grinders mark WORX+'s entry into the grinder market with a brand-new machine, signaling a clear return to its roots in heavy duty floor preparation machinery.

Currently the King Series comprises two main models: the GK 700 and GK 850. Both are aimed at commercial contractors and high-end surface preparation specialists. At the



heart of the King Series is a 29.5-hp (22kW) permanent magnet motor. Key benefits highlighted by WORX+ include reduced weight compared to standard induction motors, meaning less mass to move, and therefore more rigidity in other components such as heavy-duty axles and bearings. WORX+ has opted for a three-head design, coupling large discs to give approximate contact area of a four heads, with space for more effective drive ratios better floor flatness, and speed.



WORX+ has also focused on the systems around the motor and head, because in practice the difference onsite often comes down to drive, maneuverability and logistics. Some standout features are the wheel drives are built to handle inclines up to 30°, ensuring that when contractors are working on ramps, around obstacles or on tight commercial jobs, the machine won't stall or struggle. Better joystick precision and configurable responsiveness are provided for facilitate subtler control rather than brute force. The machine is equipped with a tip back system with inbuilt jockey wheel designed for ease of transport between jobs, with the wheel retracting neatly out of sight when not used. The chassis geometry has been optimized for maneuverability in tight jobs.

[www.worxplus.com](http://www.worxplus.com)



### Seven new products from Von Arx

Von Arx released a number of new products for the global floor prep industry, including the DC3324-LP and DC4025-LP dust collectors, which are designed to be used in conjunction with medium to large surface preparation equipment. Also, the 114-lb (52kg) FG250S floor grinder has a working width of 10 in (250mm) and a rotating speed of 1,410rpm. Several new dust extractors are now available from Von Arx. The new S2 has an airflow of 523 yd<sup>3</sup> (400m<sup>3</sup>), a conical polyester pre filter with a 32.3 ft<sup>2</sup> (3m<sup>2</sup>) filter surface, and a H13 Hepa filter with a surface of 3.13 yd<sup>3</sup> (2.4m). The three-phase 436-lb (210kg) T6 has an airflow of 824 yd<sup>3</sup> (630m<sup>3</sup>), four conical polyester pre filters with a 64.6 ft<sup>2</sup> (6m<sup>2</sup>) surface, and two H13 Hepa filters with a filter surface of 54 ft<sup>2</sup> (5m<sup>2</sup>). Another new release is the S410E shot blaster, a compact, self-propelled machine designed for use on medium and larger horizontal surfaces. It has a working width of 16 in (41cm), weighs 1,069 lb (485kg). Key features include the all-in-one lift lock for dustbin handling, and a newly developed Side-Force lining system with improved wear resistance. Last of the new releases from Von Arx is the electric three-phase VA35SH scarifier. Weighing 763 lb (346kg), the VA35SH has a working width of 1.4 in (35mm) and cutting depths of .3 in (8mm) in hard concrete of 8mm, and .4 in (11mm) in regular concrete using the standard octagonal carbide cutters.

[www.vonarx.com](http://www.vonarx.com)



# CU @ WOC i

**Soon the world of equipment for concrete cutting, floor grinding and polishing, and demolition will again meet in Las Vegas. Yes, it's time for World of Concrete, January 20-22, 2026, at the Las Vegas Convention Center. PDA Magazine will be there as usual, so please visit us at Central Hall Booth C4240.**

For more than 50 years, World of Concrete has been the world's largest concrete construction and masonry trade show, and an essential gathering of contractors, builders, business owners and craftspeople. Even with the massive ConExpo show around the corner, you can still count on seeing the largest-ever showcase of innovative products, plus enhanced educational

programming and strengthened industry networking opportunities.

### New in 2026

The show floor will feature more than 200 first-time exhibiting companies, bringing new perspectives and innovative building and repair solutions—all brought to life by emerging technologies that will become the next generation of essential tools and solutions for every jobsite. Product exhibited at World of Concrete represent more than 100 categories, such as composite materials, resurfacing agents, mixers, pavers, pumps, ready mix and many others.

In addition, World of Concrete will deliver the most comprehensive education program and learning experience in the event's history, with more than 150 sessions. Topics will cover

technical applications, best practices for business, project management, and critical safety protocols for every skill level and industry role. World of Concrete also is bringing back several of the most popular technical seminar series, industry certifications with exams, interactive workshops, featured education sessions, re-designed surveying development, and industry training courses.

### Key Educational Highlights:

- More than 150 sessions of core, in-depth learning opportunities for every concrete and masonry professional.
- More than 60 new topics addressing current industry challenges and emerging trends.
- Multi-Lingual Learning Environment, with Wordly available for certain education sessions.

Captioning and translation capabilities will attendees to read live captions or listen to audio in dozens of languages using their own devices.

# n Vegas!

## Selected Exhibitors

Exhibitor	Booth number
Aramco, Inc	S10943
Ashine Diamond Tools	S11207
Astec Industries	N937
Autec North America	C6173
Aztec Products, Inc.	S12406
Bartell Global	S10627
BHS-Sonthofen Inc.	N449
Blades Direct C3317,	S10643
BlastPro Manufacturing, Inc.	S11627
Bobcat Company	C6126
Brokk / Aquajet	C4333, C4537
Caterpillar, Inc	C6061
Chang Shin International	C6703
Concrete Sawing & Drilling A.	C4211
Conjet AB	O31932
CS Unitec Inc	O31313
Darda	C4537
Diablo Tools	O32033
Diamabrush	O32418
Diamond Blade Warehouse	S11815
Diamond Products	C4305, O30761, O30850
Diamond Speed Products, Inc.	S12926
Diamond Vantage	C4663
Diaquip	O30917
DITEQ Corporation	C4832, O31865
DMI Tools	C3049
Dustcontrol, Inc.	S12655
Dustless Technologies	S12349
EDCO	S12318
EDILGRAPPA	N2750
Everything Surface Prep	S11609
Fujian Diamond Tools	S13251
Fujian Quanzhou diamond	S12648
Fujian Skystone	S13549
Fuzhou Bontai Diamond	S11407
Gorilla Concrete Tools	C5989
GSSI	N1848
HG HYPER GRINDER	S11351
Hiliti, Inc.	O30329
Hongtai Diamond Abrasive	S12701
Husqvarna Construction	O31350
ICS Diamond Tools	O32063
Ignite Attachments	C6102
International Concrete Repair	S10817
International Grooving	C4332
Jetstream of Houston	C4129
JK (Thai) Diamond Tools Co	S13407
LISSMAC Corporation	C4617
Makinex	S13443
Makita U.S.A., Inc.	O31750
MB Crusher	O31801
Multiquip	C4804
National Flooring Equipment	S11426
Norton Clipper	C3421
PDI Magazine/ PDA Magazine	C4240
Pentrunder	O32063
Proceq - A Screening Eagle	N1545
Protech Diamond Tools	O31813
QUANZHOU SANG DIAMOND	S11506
Robert Bosch Tool Corp	O30616
RubbleCrusher	C6248
Runyon Surface Prep	O30835
SASE Company	S11227
SCANRECO	C6105
Superabrasive Inc	C4631, O32113, S10205
Syntec Diamond Tools Inc.	S11519
TITAN DIAMOND LLC	S13107
TM Floor System	O40953
USSAWS	S11707
VonArx	O30835
World Diamond Source Inc	S10927
WORX+	O32101
Xiamen Bestop Diamond	S11508
Zhengzhou Sinoblade Indust	S12257
ZipWall	S13212
ZL Diamond Technology	S12453

### Exclusive New Educational Sessions:

- **Economic Forecast with Ed Sullivan and Pierre Villere.** Navigating economic volatility with strategic insights from distinguished economists revealing critical market projections and sector-specific intelligence.
- **Engineering: Designing for Constructability.** A comprehensive program for engineers, architects, and designers focused on improving concrete construction efficiency through strategic design choices.
- **Engineering: Bridging the Gap Between General Contractor and Engineer.** A revolutionary workshop addressing collaboration challenges and improving construction productivity through enhanced communication.
- **The Future is Bright and Blended: Ensuring the Performance of Concrete Mixtures.** This industry panel provides a comprehensive overview of blended cements currently available for use in concrete, combining technical guidance with real-world applications. Attendees will gain insights into current cement types and specifications, practical approaches to trial batching and mixture optimization, and valuable lessons

learned from large-scale construction projects. The program begins with updates on blended cement standards and specifications, followed by strategies for trial batching and performance optimization in ready-mixed concrete.

Case studies from major construction projects highlight practical challenges, solutions, and proven applications in the field. Interactive polling will engage participants throughout the session, gauging audience knowledge and experience. The program concludes with a moderated panel discussion featuring all presenters, offering an opportunity for deeper dialogue and audience-driven Q&A.

- **Women at Work: Tools, Allies & Strategies for Career Growth Strategies in Construction.** An empowering session combining research and practical advice for career advancement, diversity, and industry leadership.
- **Robotic & High Tolerance Floors.** A cutting-edge seminar addressing the growing robotic material handling industry and high-precision flooring specifications.

[www.worldofconcrete.com](http://www.worldofconcrete.com)

# Schwamborn: 90 Y

From humble beginnings in a family house, the grinding and milling machine manufacturer Schwamborn has grown into an international player with a vast offering, all made in Germany. The family company is turning 90 years and has just welcomed the fourth generation of the Schwamborn family to lead the company into the future.

What started as a small, home-based maker of floor cleaning machines grown into a significant manufacturer of construction machinery for grinding, milling, trowelling and cleaning of floors, walls, and ceilings, with approximately 100 dealers all



Eckart and Florian next to the company's first floor cleaning machine from 1962.



From left, Florian Schwamborn, Product Manager; Petra Bleich, Public Relations; and Eckart Schwamborn, CEO.

over the world. Schwamborn got started in 1935 when Alois Schwamborn, a sales representative for vacuum cleaners and floor cleaning machines, decided to start his own company out of his family

home. After an interruption of the business due to the war, his sons Rolf and Dieter joined the company. In 1962, Dieter developed Schwamborn's first floor cleaning machine, a first step towards in-house production and mechanical engineering.

During this time, much of Schwamborn's business consisted of being the exclusive partner for Nilfisk cleaning machines. That began to change in 1967, when Schwamborn established its first production facility, which has since been continuously expanded and modernized. In 1969, the company entered the construction machinery sector, subsequently launching milestone milling and diamond grinding machines.

Today, construction machinery makes up approximately 80% of Schwamborn's output. Their product offering consists of six milling machine models, with one of the latest additions being the BEF 400RC, a remote-controlled milling and



The new BEF 400RC remote controlled milling machine in operation.



A close-up of the BEF 400RC's result.

# Years and Counting



The majority of Schwamborn's staff at the company's Wangen, Germany, headquarters. ©Schwamborn.

cutting machine equipped with diamond blades. With a 15.7-in (400mm) working width, the BEF 400RC includes automatic battery charging while in operation or when connected to the mains, briefly interrupted feed if the motor is overloaded, as well as motor starting properties automatically adapted to suit the type of tool.

Schwamborn also offers and ten grinding machines, ranging from 10 to 31.5 in (250 to 800mm). There's also the new WDS 530S wall and ceiling grinding attachment, developed for use on excavators from 4t. The WDS 530S can be used for renovation, demolition and bush hammering



The WDS 530S offers a smooth and well-grinded surface on walls and ceilings.



A medium-size excavator equipped with the new WDS 530S concrete grinding attachment.

work, and is characterized by its speed control, counter rotating tools, and adjustable grinding pressure

## New potential, new products

Over the decades, Schwamborn has increased

expanded its sales across Europe and beyond, something they plan on expanding on even further. A natural target is the massive North American market, though Florian says the company first needs a good strategy to establish a foothold.

"In the US, the products have to be made



Eckart (left) and Florian Schwamborn in a field of floor grinders ready to be delivered.



Keeping a good spirit is the perfect key to run a company that is four generations old.

for the US market specifically," says CEO Eckart Schwamborn, Alois's son. "American customers usually treat machines differently than in Europe, for example. It's not just a matter of voltage."

Product manager Florian Schwamborn, who

represents the fourth generation of family ownership adds that entry into the US market requires distribution and after-sales infrastructure to be in place

"We are interested, but it will take some time,"

adds Florian. "There are other markets we want to prioritize first."

Besides increasing exports, Schwamborn also sees potential in the possibly increasing its presence in the renovation and demolition market, as well as an increased focus on the rental market, which already makes up 10% of their sales. There is also a plan to focus even further on their after-sales market, and potentially develop more niche innovations.

"For example machinery for cobblestone renovations and people with visual impairment," says Florian. "The more niche, the better. We have the knowledge."

Apart from exporting plans, the next major step is of course the handover of leadership to Florian, an industrial engineering graduate who also holds a Master of Arts degree in small and medium-sized enterprise management.

The succession of leadership feels like a natural progression as the company marks its 90th anniversary, given that the father-and-son duo are working in an office that used to be the family house. Even though the company headquarters complex has grown significantly from its humble origins, the company's sense of family, four generations later, still pertains.

[www.schwamborn.com](http://www.schwamborn.com)

## Conjet Hydrodemolition Robots Drive Efficiency at the Panama Canal

Few infrastructure projects carry the weight and global significance of the Panama Canal. To keep the canal operational and efficient, its locks must undergo continuous maintenance and modernization. For more than two decades, Conjet AB has been part of that mission, providing cutting edge hydrodemolition robots that ensure precision, efficiency, and long-term durability.

### A proven track record

Back in 1999, the Panama Canal Authority (Autoridad del Canal de Panamá, or ACP) began using Conjet's Jetframe 122 systems for major lock repair projects, particularly the replacement of the canal's tow track system. In 2003, ACP expanded its capabilities by acquiring a Conjet Robot 363 MPA. Unlike the Jetframe, which required cranes for positioning, the Robot 363 worked independently, moving quickly to accommodate ongoing canal traffic. With a reach long enough to operate over and alongside the towing tracks, it allowed work to continue without halting the regular passage of ships. When paired with a Conjet 345-400 powerpack, the Robot 363 boosted productivity by 50%, achieving 26.5 ft<sup>3</sup>/hour (0.75m<sup>3</sup>/hour) compared with the previous rate of 17.6 ft<sup>3</sup>/hour (0.5m<sup>3</sup>/hour). It was an early demonstration of how automation and precision hydrodemolition could transform large scale infrastructure maintenance.

### The next chapter

Fast forward to today, and Conjet's technology has advanced significantly. In one of the largest orders in its history, Conjet is now delivering three units of its flagship Robot 557 MPA XL to ACP for continued lock rehabilitation across Miraflores, Pedro Miguel, and Gatun. The 557 MPA XL utilizes a multi-purpose arm that extends more than 19 ft (6m), allowing direct positioning without scaffolding, loose parts, or unnecessary setup times. It is capable of handling reaction forces of 674 lbf (3,000N) even when fully extended, delivering consistent results without compromising safety or precision. Whether operating on vertical, horizontal, curved, or

overhead surfaces, the 557 adapts instantly, making it equally effective in dams, bridges, tunnels, ports, and lock walls. It also facilitates 'plug and play' operation, being delivered as a complete package. Together with Conjet's ONE™ intelligent control system, operators gain full oversight of both robot and pump, onsite or remotely. This not only shortens the learning curve for new operators but also provides real time diagnostics, built-in documentation, and data driven fleet management via Conjet Connect.

### Efficiency and sustainability

What sets Conjet apart is not just its machines, but its philosophy of total efficiency. This holistic approach covers operational efficiency through maximizing uptime through robust engineering; maintenance efficiency via service friendly design with minimal downtime; productivity efficiency by combining speed with precision for optimal results, and operator efficiency by simplifying complex tasks through intuitive controls and training. By integrating automation, sustainability, and smart technology, Conjet has ensured that lock rehabilitation can proceed quickly, safely, and without unnecessary interruptions to canal operations.

And because high-pressure water jets fully remove deteriorated concrete while preserving reinforcement bars, the approach can extend a structure's service life by providing a superior bonding surfaces for new concrete. For the Panama Canal, this means fewer future interventions and longer lasting repairs.

Conjet's journey with the Panama Canal is a story of continuous innovation and trust. It demonstrates how hydrodemolition has evolved from a niche technology to the global standard for sustainable concrete removal. As global infrastructure faces mounting demands for durability, efficiency, and environmental responsibility, Conjet believes its focus on total efficiency ensures that projects like the Panama Canal are not only maintained but strengthened for the future.

[www.conjet.com](http://www.conjet.com)

## InSite, a Revolutionary Telematics Solution from Epiroc

Epiroc InSite is a revolutionary telematics solution engineered to transform the fleet management of hydraulic attachment tools. By combining advanced asset tracking with real-time data insights, InSite empowers users with unprecedented control and visibility across their fleets.

InSite offers comprehensive monitoring of location, usage, and maintenance needs for attachment tools, regardless of brand. Whether deployed through factory installed units or retrofit ready modules, the system utilizes one of the construction sector's largest mesh networks. With real time tracking, users can pinpoint exact asset locations, monitor equipment utilization, and receive automated service alerts. Maintenance planning also becomes proactive through predictive tools that minimizes downtime and empowers service teams with equipment status visibility. It further helps ensure equipment provides the best productivity, uptime and

highest safety standards with advanced modules with cellular and GPS location via Epiroc's Hatcon.

InSite also supports flexible system integration with most existing fleet management platforms, enabling smooth data exchange. Teams on the ground benefit from real time reporting through the mobile app, allowing immediate response to operational issues. Designed for dependable performance, InSite devices boast extended battery life of three to five years under typical field conditions. All transmitted data is secured using enterprise grade cloud encryption protocols, safeguarding sensitive operational information.

Setting up InSite is said to be as simple as mounting the device, pairing it with the relevant asset, and activating the platform. Epiroc InSite is now available through Epiroc business partners globally.

[www.epiroc.com](http://www.epiroc.com)



# The Latest Development

**Hydrodemolition technology is the gentle but efficient way of repairing and renovating damaged concrete. Here's what's new in the industry.**

## Aquajet's latest developments at Bauma

Aquajet has maintained a very high pace of development over the past decades, delivering one special application after another. At Bauma, Aquajet launched the Aqua Cutter 450A and 450V robots, part of a new electric 450 series designed to provide a more compact, maneuverable solution. As smaller siblings to the Aqua Cutter 750V, these models incorporate the advanced Evolution 3.0 control system, the patented Infinity oscillation system and an array of other features. Despite their reduced size, they can handle reaction forces up to 314.7 lbf (1,400N), making them highly effective in confined spaces without compromising performance.

Like all Aqua Cutter robots, the 450A and 450V efficiently clean and descale rebar without causing

microfractures, ensuring structural integrity. They also deliver reach in horizontal, vertical and overhead applications, making them ideal for a wide range of hydrodemolition projects.

Also at Bauma, Aquajet introduced the Aqua Rail System 3.0, designed to enhance the capabilities and flexibility of hydrodemolition robots in challenging environments. The system centers around the upgraded Aqua Spine 3.0, an extendable rail system that attaches easily to any surface to provide a stable platform for the power head to move along during operation. The Ergo Climbers have also been upgraded to version 3.0, with new features designed to ensure seamless compatibility with the new system.

## Also from Aquajet, the Calculator 3.0 app

The Calculator 3.0 app includes a suite of tools to help contractors plan projects and improve equipment efficiency by automating calculations to remove guesswork. It is designed to allow the calculation of various values, such as pressure, flow, nozzle size, hose pressure drop, removal capacity and pump configuration. Users can also save and share robot configurations for future reference and make easy metric/U.S. conversions. Along with streamlining project planning, the app tools help validate numbers for creating estimates.

The app also displays water consumption and



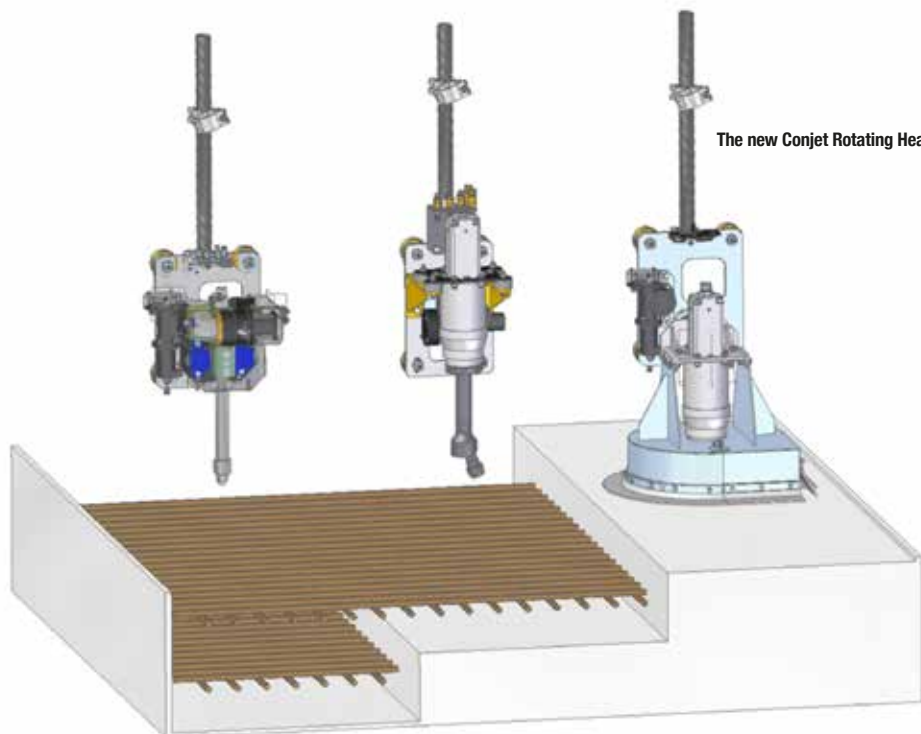
The Aquajet Calculator 3.0 app.

recommended minimum pressure metrics, offers pump configuration, and provides a robot simulator that shows the same calculations as the Aqua Cutter's display. Operators can also easily share equipment parameters as a PDF export. Aquajet equipment owners can use the app to validate their production values for estimates, particularly for jobs that have certain areas requiring different flows. The app also contains metrics for reaction force, power rating, power usage, power loss and exit velocity, which are important to ensure optimal planning. The app will also feature news and contact information to keep customers up to date with Aquajet announcements, and easily connect with company representatives and global dealers. The Aquajet Calculator 3.0 app is available to download through the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. Current app users will need to update it to access the new functionalities.

[www.aquajet.se](http://www.aquajet.se)

## Latest news from Conjet

Hydrodemolition's other major manufacturer, Conjet, introduced the Rotating Head technology earlier this year. Designed for use with Conjet's 557 robot and part of the company's standard offering, Rotat-



# Advancements in Hydrodemolition



Aquajet customers can find metrics for hose pressure drop and concrete strength.



The AquaJet Calculator 3.0 is designed to help contractors.



The app offers pump configuration.

ing Head is designed to enhance efficiency and precision in light hydrodemolition and scarifying. It is designed to provide increased flexibility and improved concrete removal, especially in applications where a traditional oscillating lance is not optimal.

The technology features a rotating lance with a combination of an optimized attack angle and a whisk angle. This dual angle design optimizes the result as it combines precision and power to create an even surface while reducing shadowing under rebar, thereby eliminating so-called "pipe-holes." The design and functionality were developed with total efficiency in mind, as Conjet believes this approach is crucial for ensuring customer profitability and satisfaction.

[www.conjet.com](http://www.conjet.com)

## Supplying the power

Hydrodemolition robots rely on water blasting pumps for a consistent, powerful flow of water for their machinery. There are several manufacturers of pumps, including Jetstream of Houston. According to director of sales, Rich Gomes, most projects require operating pressures between 20,000 and 30,000 psi (1,378 to 2,068 bar) to remove deteriorated and structurally



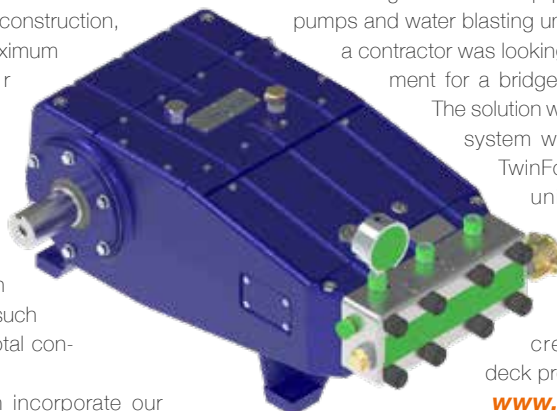
The Conjet Rotating Head in detail.

sound concrete as well as asphalt and grout. "Efficient hydrodemolition requires high flow rates," Gomes says, which is why our customers often rely on the 5200Q UNx bare shaft pump for concrete removal applications."

One of the pump's key advantages, Gomes adds, is its quintuplex design for increased output over a standard triplex design. The packing, univalves and plungers on all Jetstream pumps are easily serviced and can be changed out in as little as five minutes. This benefit combined

with durable construction, results in maximum uptime for hydrodemolition projects. Additionally, swappable fluid ends allow crews to easily convert between operating pressures to quickly switch between applications such as scarification and total concrete removal.

"Contractors can incorporate our



pumps into one of our trailer or skid mounted water blasting units for a complete system to support hydrodemolition robots on jobsites," Gomes says. A trailer-mounted unit includes a pump, onboard water tank, filtration system and an optional hose rack. These systems provide exceptional performance, maximum safety and productivity and minimal downtime in the field.

Jetstream of Houston's dedicated rental centers regularly equip hydrodemolition contractors with leading automated equipment alongside our pumps and water blasting units. In one example, a contractor was looking for the best equipment for a bridge deck replacement.

The solution was to pair an AquaJet system with Jetstream's 650 TwinForce water blasting unit. This combo allowed them to efficiently remove nearly 883,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (2,500m<sup>2</sup>) of concrete for the bridge deck project.

[www.waterblast.com](http://www.waterblast.com)

# The Evolution of Hydrodemolition

**The hydrodemolition method started in Sweden in the early 1980s when the Swedish National Road Administration (SNRA) encountered a problem.**

The conventional way to repair a bridge was to remove damaged concrete with jackhammers, but core samples revealed microcracks in the original parts of the structures. The consequences of those tiny cracks were huge as they compromised the quality of the repair, which reduced how long it lasted, and ultimately, shortened the life of the structure. This prompted the SNRA to initiate a project to seek a science based solution. From that project, a new, non-destructive method of concrete removal emerged: hydrodemolition. While the primary goal of the SNRA initiative was to remove microcracks from the equation, industry leaders identified additional benefits. By controlling the water jet mechanically, the concrete removal process became faster and more precise. These encouraging findings stimulated a whole new industry.

## Turning up the pressure

Today, a full hydrodemolition system includes a robot, a high pressure pump, and a fully automated water treatment plant. The first systems included a semi-automatic robot to control a newly developed water jet and a high pressure pump. Pumps have evolved to be more reliable and to offer higher water pressure outputs. A greater range of pressure is desirable as it allows increased flexibility and precision. Water pressure, along with flow, are primary factors that affect the depth and speed of the removal. Having the choice to use the right pump for the project makes hydrodemolition an even more attractive option for concrete removal and surface preparation. To make these pressure gains, however, equipment manufacturers had to improve pump design and component durability, which also increased reliability. Along with more refined, advanced pumps, industry stakeholders also learned more about ultra-high pressure water.

## Increasing capabilities

When hydrodemolition robots were first manufactured, the basic idea was to control the high pressure water jet to apply consistent energy to the entire concrete surface and control the depth of removal. With increased demand to bring hydrodemolition to more types of projects, manufacturers engineer today's machines for a wide range of concrete removal and repair jobs that



go beyond the applications they were initially designed for. They are engineered with the capabilities to efficiently perform hydrodemolition overhead, on walls or below grade on roads and bridges, tunnels, dams, quays, pillars, underwater structures and building interiors, just to name a few.

In hydrodemolition's early days, most robots were controlled by manual hydraulic valves and basic relays. Machines had a limited number of electronics not being equipped with computers to perform automated functions. When a problem occurred, the operation needed to have someone with good mechanical knowledge to troubleshoot the machine. Over time, manufacturers developed hydrodemolition robots from rudimentary machines to incredibly advanced pieces of equipment. Robots are now built with programming logic controllers, sensors and an operator interface. Their systems feature settings to cut different shapes like circles, triangles and rhomboids. They can even be programmed to seamlessly cut to different depths in one pass without stopping.

## High pressure lances

Historically, lances moved in either an oscillating or rotating motion, but in recent years, some manufacturers have discovered that combining the two movements to create a figure of eight pattern provides optimal production without making pipe holes. This creates a constant speed over the concrete surface that results in greater production and a rough but even finished product, leaving an ideal bonding surface for new concrete.

Despite technological advancements, hydrodemolition robots have become much simpler to use with many more automated functions. Some even let users know when an error occurs to make troubleshooting more streamlined. Hydrodemolition robots are now designed to work reliably for long hours at a time on the jobsite. There have been major leaps from the first hydrodemolition robot to today's machines with this evolution set to continue.

## Environmentally sound

Hydrodemolition work can't be completed without considering water management and how to treat water respectfully while following local regulations. Hydrodemolition, by its nature, uses water, so the industry has engineered solutions to help contractors take a proactive approach to properly handling, treating and even reusing wastewater. Early on, before a manufactured solution

existed, contractors often went to great lengths to cobble together a system to capture and treat the wastewater. It was time consuming and labour intensive, often requiring chemicals to treat the water and continuous manual testing. Some hired a third party to collect and treat the water, which increased the cost of the project.

Today's water treatment systems are compact and fully automated, streamlining the process. The systems treat the hydrodemolition wastewater for pH and remove suspended solids, so contractors can either release it into sanitary or storm sewers, or they can recirculate the treated water through the equipment. By recycling the water in this manner, they greatly reduce the amount they need, which is good environmental stewardship and reduces water costs. Automatic, continuous monitoring makes it much easier to comply with local regulations and provide documentation that requirements are met. A manufactured water treatment solution was a much needed piece to the puzzle and a game changer in the evolution of hydrodemolition.

## Hydrodemolition as the gold standard

Over more than three decades, the hydrodemolition industry has achieved many milestones. Overall knowledge about concrete repair has increased thanks to organisations like the International Concrete Repair Institute. Manufacturers continue to develop equipment, making strides in productivity, safety, operability and reducing environmental impact. Hydrodemolition contractors continue to build their expertise, offering the best solution to a decades old problem.

The goal for all stakeholders has always been to give concrete structures the longest possible lives. After more than 35 years, hydrodemolition remains the only impact free mechanical method for removing concrete, which should make it the gold standard. We're not there yet but remain optimistic that the industry will achieve this defining moment. What will that look like? We'll reach gold standard status when asset owners request it as the process of choice for repair, when it is routinely specified by engineers for its benefits, and when contractors use it any time prolonging the repair is the endgame.

## About the Author

Keith Armishaw is the business development manager for Aquajet's North American subsidiary. He has more than 25 years of industry and leadership experience.

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Aquajet business development manager Keith Armishaw.



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