

# WHICH IS BETTER, THE SAW OR THE BLADE? WHAT DAY IS IT?

PFERD ultra-thin, bonded cut-off wheels maximize battery life and performance when cutting hardened boron steel materials with light-weight, portable cordless tools.

riven in part by rapidly developing cordless technologies and in part by the relentless push for improvement, saws and blades continue to springboard each other to new heights of productivity and lifespan. As evidence, this is our largest saw and blade update ever, with 15 leading companies' latest products.

# maximum productivity based on the unique requirements of the respective material being worked. We offer bonded-based diameters from two inches for straight-shaft tools to 50 inches for large stationary saws."

PFERD's ultra-thin, bonded cut-off wheels maximize

material with light-weight, portable, cordless tools in ap-

plications of boron steel used in the automotive market for

battery life and performance when cutting hardened

entry door roller deadbolts.



# **PFERD**

The goal of metal cutting is to separate a desired piece of material with minimal operator effort and without nega-

tive affect to the original material. Ease of use and cutting speed are also very important to the safety and productivity of the operator. To have a clean cut with no excess material (bur) left requires the cutting blade to be formulated for the type, size and make-up of the material. PFERD designs different types of cut-off products based on the material, power tool requirements and desired application results.

"We offer specific abrasive products for cutting steel, stainless steel, aluminum, ductile iron, concrete, asphalt, carbon fiber and fiberglass," says Maria Cartier, marketing manager. "This is done to achieve



With nearly 220 years of metalworking expertise, PFERD products cover every type of metal and every type of cutting, grinding and finishing application.

PFERD offers a complete line of high-performance materialspecific carbide burs for cutting metals ranging from titanium to carbon fiber. This technology is ideal for use with alloys, now used increasingly in aerospace, construction, transportation and fabrication industries.

"As a 217-year-old global manufacturer of abrasives, brushes and cutting tools, we continually develop innovative products to meet the ever-changing market demands," Cartier adds. "We are currently field testing new products developed as a direct result of the advances of lighter-weight power tools and the increased need to cut material faster and cleaner."

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 44** 



# **UP HERE, THERE'S NO TIME FOR BREAKS. GET THE BLADE THAT'S BUILT STRONGER TO CUT LONGER.**

The new LENOX BI-METAL RECIPS are built with Power Blast Technology,™ which means extended blade life and less trips to the tool box. The blade's steel is strengthened using a unique, high-speed blasting operation that reduces breaks and increases durability, so you can cut on and on, Learn more at Jenoxtools, com and put it to the test for yourself,







INDUSTRYUPDATE



When it comes to the concrete market, customers are always looking for a blade that delivers fast and long-life cutting and is built to withstand tough materials. Bosch brings rigorous testing, both in laboratories and in the field, to its new product introductions. Bosch premium

"Bosch premium segmented rim diamond blades are the right tool for the job when cutting concrete and hard masonry materials," says Matt Van, product manager, concrete accessories, Robert Bosch Tool Corporation. "Vibration and wobble are the enemies of any quality cut in hard materials. These premium segmented blades reduce

that concern and deliver a smooth cut."

These 12- and 14-inch diamond blades deliver fast, efficient cutting in concrete and other hard materials thanks to a tensioned blade core and a high-quality diamond formulation. The tensioned steel core is engineered with an innovative process that ensures each blade delivers smooth cuts with low vibration to reduce blade wobble.

segmented rim dia-

mond blades have

that provide up to

standard diamond

offered in 12- and

14-inch diameters.

blades. They are

10mm-tall segments

three times the life of

These general purpose segmented rim blades offer a Bosch-exclusive diamond formulation that cuts most masonry and concrete materials. The 10mm segment height provides up to three times the life compared to standard diamond blades.

Each segment is laser welded to the steel core in a premium connection method that offers the blade high mechanical strength and rigidity, ensuring greater stability during the cut.

Bosch premium segmented rim diamond blade reduction rings are 1-inch to 20mm, which allows the blade to be used on application-specific concrete-cutting saws. The drive pin ensures the blade can be used on a walkbehind saw. These blades provide long life and smooth, fast cuts in concrete and masonry.

# **ALFA TOOLS**

Alfa Tools expands its successful MegaCut line to include carbide-tipped circular saw blades for dry metal cutting. These premium quality blades are designed to quickly and cleanly cut difficult materials, including pipes, threaded rod, profiles, wire ducts, sandwich panels, dry mortarless construction profiles and more.

These tungsten carbide tooth blades are suitable for

both stationary and portable metal cutting saws for use in steel and aluminum applications. All MegaCut Blades are U.S.-made, and they are hardened for heavy loads and to offer higher performance and

greater durability than ordinary steel blades.

"We are very happy to be adding carbidetipped circular saw blades for metal to our existing Mega-Cut lineup," says Shaan Ahluwalia, vice president of sales and

marketing, Alfa Tools. "Now we have a complete line of saw blades to offer our distributors."

The Tungsten carbide teeth provide exceptional wear resistance for longer, more consistent blade life. MegaCut blade body construction is designed to lower vibration and dampen noise, mak-

ing it easier on the user. Bur-free cutting means that there is no additional finishing needed.

Also new to the entire MegaCut circular saw line is its updated packaging. Now distributors can order any MegaCut blades as a single SKU in a reusable clamshell to display in a showroom or to sell one at a time. This new packaging is designed to be easily opened or closed for future use, providing a safe place to store the blade in between cuts.

MegaCut metal cutting blades come in a variety of sizes from seven to 14 inches depending on the metal material that needs to be cut.

# **CS UNITEC**

Alfa Tools' new carbide-

circular saw blades are

designed for low-vibra-

tion, high-performance

metal cutting with with

portable or stationary

saws. They are offered

in sizes from seven to

14 inches.

tipped MegaCut

CS United continues to expand its dustfree tools with a five-inch diamond saw for hard tile and natural stone materials. This lightweight saw, weighing only 6.4 pounds, is ideal for wet- and dry-cutting of different



"With today's ever increasing demand to source capture airborne particles, the EDS 125 tile saw comes fitted with a combination wet/dry dust shroud," begins CS



of the water volume for dust free working while wet cutting and the industry unique shroud virtually eliminates all dust whether your application calls for a dry or wet cut."

The five-inch blade allows for an adjustable cutting depth up to 1 3/8 inches. With this depth adjustment, plunge cutting is easy and no tools are required for

Weighing just 6.4 pounds, the EDS 125 tile saw from CS Unitec features a GFCI for operator safety and one of the best powerto-weight ratios on the market and handles up to 1 3/8-inch tile.

step-less miter adjustments up to 45 degrees. The roller-guided plate on the guard ensures smooth travel across the work surface and protects the material.

The EDS 125's powerful 11.4amp motor provides one of the best power-to-weight ratios in the

tile saw market and is equipped with another inherent safety feature; a GFCI. The saw has an ergonomic handle with a soft grip for increased operator safety and productivity. The tool is equipped with a 5-inch disc standard but an optional cutting blade is available for making curved cuts.

Optional guide rails are available to provide precise cuts on tiles up to 3/4-inch thick. No tools are needed to attach the saw to the guide rails. The frame is composed of aluminum and stainless steel to prevent rusting. The easily transportable guide rails are available in two lengths, 28 and 47 inches and can be combined for longer cuts.

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## **ARBORTECH**

Previous caulking methods and blades for concrete and masonry applications have included products such as the pipe knife, ripping chisel and various single-bladed machines. All traditional methods have their disadvantages, ranging from great effort exertion to poor cutting action and possible damage to ad-

The Arbortech AS170 Caulking Blade saves time and effort by removing caulking and simultaneously cleaning both sides of expansion joints from 1/2 to 2 inches wide.

joining structural parts. But the thing almost all traditional caulking methods and utensils have in common is that they take time and result in higher labor costs. Arbortech believes it has the answer.

"The Arbortech AS170 caulking blade is engineered specifically to save users a significant amount of effort and inconvenience in a wide variety of caulking removal jobs,"



begins David Pellegrine, sales manager at Arbortech. "The uniquely shaped carbide blades remove caulking while simultaneously cleaning both sides of the expansion joint, leaving the surface prepped and ready for re-application.

"The secret is in the carefully engineered design of the blade which allows users to follow different widths in one pass, making it ideal for busy contractors who work with tilt ups, pre-cast, bridges, garages, fountains and more."

These blades are available in 1/2-, 1- and 2-inch sizes for a wide range of caulk-removal projects from 5/16 to 2 inches in width.

"Arbortech is all about creating some of the most innovative products in the industry that will make any professional contractor's job safer, easier and more productive," Pellegrine adds. "Our caulking removal system adds to the versatility of our AS170 and is unmatched in the industry. The caulking blade is just one of many Arbortech engineered AS170-compatible blades."

### **SOLO**

Solo Kleinmotoren GmbH in Germany, the world's largest producer of sprayers and mist blowers, has also been a leading manufacturer of two-stroke engines since 1948. In 2012, Solo introduced Solo cut-off saws for cutting materials such as concrete, steel, asphalt, castings or stone.

Available in both 12-inch/300mm and 14-inch/350mm cutting wheel diameters, the models 880 and 881 are powered by an 81cc Solo two-stroke engine. Even the hardest metals don't stand a chance against 5.45 horse-power and 4 kW of power. And, thanks to an automatic choke system, which eliminates the need for a manual choke, users can start the saw easily on every use.

"Our One-Push-Stop System allows the operator to safely stop the saw with the easy push of a button," says Tim Leahey, Solo CI national sales manager.

With the 881 cut-off saw series, Solo introduced its patented, world's first iLube engine. iLube, which stands for "intelligent lubrication" system, eliminates the need for pre-mixed fuel. From a separate oil tank with a volume capacity of 10.8 ounces (0.32 liters), an electronically controlled pump adds the correct quantity of 2-stroke oil to the gasoline.

"Solo's innovative technology isn't limited to just our cut-off Saws," Leahey adds. "Solo has also engineered the top selling compression sprayers on the market today.

Solo 407-CI and 487-CI sprayers were designed specifically for use in concrete preparation and treatment, and provide outstanding performance, efficiency and durability. These construction sprayers are only a fraction of the cost of traditional steel sprayers and are made here in the USA."

Solo 880 and 881 cut-off saws, available in 12- and 14-inch versions, produce 5.45 horsepower and have automatic chokes for easy starts. Their unique iLube system eliminates the need to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 48





Unlike traditional shop-style vacs, Nilfisk vacuum cleaners are powerful enough to collect fine dust and contain it so it doesn't blow back into the air. Self-cleaning filters keep the vacuum running at peak performance at all times.

So now you can breathe easy, knowing your job sites are safe and compliant.

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Carbide-tipped LENOX Demolition CT blades outlast standard blades 5-to-1. LENOX Gold blades feature a titanium nitride coating that dissipates heat for faster cutting and

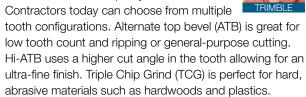
because of the convenience associated with a cordless saw."

You may think that a saw blade you buy today is the same item your dad or grandfather used many years ago.

"That is simply not the case. Technology has given us a more advanced blade

manager at Mercer Industries. "Today's blades have expansion slots laser-cut into the blade to help prevent warping as the blade expands and contracts during use. They also reduce vibration and allow for a straighter cut. Modern high strength steel allows for a thinner kerf (thickness) giving users the ability for more precise cutting. In addition, an anti-rust coating helps extend the life of the blade."

The teeth do the cutting, not the blade body. A higher number of teeth denotes a finer, more accurate cut. The shape of the teeth affects the quality of the cut, too.



Mercer Silver Lightning carbide blades incorporate all of the latest technologies to provide users with high quality

time after time.

Mercer Silver Lightning blades are available with either alternate top bevel (ATB) teeth for circular saws cutting wood, Hi-ATB teeth for miter and table saws for knife edae cuts or Triple Chip Grind for miter and table saws cutting hard materials.

choosing a blade," Trimble continues. "The first thing to determine is the required bore and diameter. You can have the fanciest blade in the world but if the bore doesn't match your machine or if the diameter is inappropriate, you're CONTINUED ON PAGE 50



Next to hammering, sawing is perhaps the second oldest tool-related activity in existence. While the process of sawing has changed little, new technologies can enhance the performance of saw blades and LENOX is continually improving its products to deliver sharper, cleaner cuts in any material.

"LENOX announces bi-metal recip blades with Power Blast Technology — a unique, high speed blasting process that adds strength and durability to the blade," begins Matthew Lacroix, LENOX director of marketing and global team leader. "This leads to longer blade life, which

> helps tradesmen cut more without having to change blades. This Power Blast process became popular in the aerospace industry and LENOX has used it on its Industrial Band Saw blades for a number of years."

Another trend is in carbides, which are stronger and more durable than bi-metal. Carbide-tipped blades are offered in a number of categories — band saws, circular saws, hole saws and recips. The new LENOX Demolition CT blade with carbide tips offers more than five times the performance of a bi-metal blade in nail-embedded wood cutting applications.

The third main trend Lacroix sees is in blade coatings, which can prevent heat buildup, which is critical to the life of a blade. A titanium nitride coating on LENOX Gold recip blades dissipates heat, forcing it into the chips instead of the blade. This extends blade life and allows much faster cutting speeds.

"Finally, there is significant growth in the cordless tool category," Lacroix adds. "Manufacturers are racing to produce stronger, more efficient batteries to power their tools. Reciprocating saw batteries were once 12 volts, then 18, 24 and so on. The power will continue to grow as well as the life of the battery, which will have an influence in how power tool accessories are used, which influences accessory design as well. Historically, corded saws offered more power and better cutting performance. but as cordless technology improves, this gap will close

# **MERCER ABRASIVES**

today than anything previous generations had available," says Ryan Trimble, product



products that can be counted on

"Don't forget the basics when



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24x24-inch tile in construction demands tile saws capable of handling them. Lackmond BEAST saws and Turbo Mesh Porcelain blades are engineered to make precision diagonal cuts in 24-inch tiles with ease.

The growing use of

motor (13 amps or more) is also important. Lackmond offers the first 15-amp saw in its class that is capable of cutting a 24x24-inch tile on a diagonal.

# MAKITA

Innovation in battery and motor technology is bringing more freedom from the cord to job sites, even for demanding cutting applications. At the same time, increased awareness of dust extraction is driving new solutions for related applications

including fiber cement cutting. On the cordless side, Makita is combining efficient brushless motors with the industry's best battery technology to give contractors more opportunities to unplug the cord.

"A true measure of the amount of work performed by these tools is more than just voltage or amp hours, it is a product of both," observes Andrew Camp, product manager, residential construction, Makita USA. "For example, a Makita 18V 5.0Ah battery has 90 watt hours (18V x 5.0Ah = 90). Apply this formula to the new 18V X2 LXT (36V) Recipro Saw powered by two 18V 5.0Ah batteries and users get a full 180 watt hours of output. The numbers are even more impressive with the new 18V LXT 6.0Ah battery."

Makita's 18V X2 means freedom from the cord, even for demanding applications like cutting and demolition that traditionally called for a corded recipro saw. Dealers and users appreciate that freedom from the cord should not require multiple battery platforms. Whether running a Makita 18V or 18V X2 (36V) tool, users will enjoy using the same fast-charging 18V batteries with the compact size and weight preferred for use with core tools like drills and impact drivers, as well as over 125 other Makita 18V tools.

"For improved dust extraction, the Makita model 5057KB 7 1/4-inch circular saw with dust collector is ideal for cutting fiber cement materials," Camp continues. "The **CONTINUED ON PAGE 52** 

Recipro Saw combines leading

cordless capacity with a refined crank

mechanism design

tion for increased

cutting efficiency.

Makita's new 18V X2 LXT (36V) Brushless that minimizes blade deflection and vibra-

not going to get much work done. Pay attention to the maximum rpm of the machine and the blade. For safety and best results, always make sure the blade is compatible with the machine and that you use the correct personal safety gear."

### **LACKMOND**

With the trend of large format tile, such as porcelain, it is important to understand which diamond blade is best for the job. Most tile installers need to cut a variety of tiles ranging from ceramics and porcelains to glass and natural stone. These materials have a variety of differences that the operator needs to understand when selecting the correct diamond blade for the job. Each diamond blade is designed for use on a specific material or set of materials.

For example, there are ceramic tile blades, porcelain tile blades, glass tile blades and much more. Lackmond's BEAST Pro Turbo Mesh Porcelain tile blade is designed with a unique rim which greatly aids in cooling the blade, resulting in longer blade life and extremely clean and fast

> cutting. This series is appropriate for use in today's hardest porcelain tiles and will also perform extremely well in softer ceramic or natural stone tiles.

"Lackmond Products listened to the tile contractors, saw the market trend towards porcelain tiles and developed a blade that can be used on porcelain as well as many other types of tiles," says Ted Skaff, vice president of marketing. The BEAST Turbo Mesh Porcelain blades come in 4- to 7-inch diameters — for dry or wet use — and 10-inch diameter for wet-only use."

Selecting the right saw for the job is very important. If the job requires 24x24-inch tiles in a diagonal pattern on the floor, then the operator will need to make a lot of diagonal cuts. Ideally, he should use a saw that can make 24x24-inch diagonal cuts. With the growing number of hard porcelain tiles being installed, a saw with a durable







usage of fiber cement products on job sites, SKILSAW saw the need for a tool that could handle its unique demands. Enter the 7 1/4 inch SIDEWINDER circular saw for fiber cement.

built-on dust collection container is engineered to collect dust created while cutting, and the saw can also be used with a job site vacuum for increased dust collection efficiency. With a powerful 13-amp motor, the 5057KB can cut five 5/16-inch sid-

ing boards in a single pass, and the bearings and switch are dust-proof to keep them working longer."

## **SKILSAW**

Cutting fiber cement material can be tough on both the user and the saw, so SKILSAW created the 7 1/4 inch SIDEWINDER circular saw for fiber cement to help pros power through this demanding job. The SKILSAW SIDE-WINDER is engineered with optimal power for greater efficiency on the job site and funnels harmful silica dust away from the tool motor for a longer life and a cleaner

The SKILSAW SIDEWINDER is available with a Diablo fiber cement blade (SPT67FMD-22) or a SKILSAW blade (SPT67FMD-01) and features a unique dust collection system. The tool includes a blade guard extension and dust channel that funnels dust into the included vacuum hose for collection in a job site vacuum.

Sealed bearings and a dust-resistant switch protect the saw from silica dust for longer life. The saw's no-mar cord and hose sleeve keeps these items protected from the cutting surface and makes handling the tool more convenient so users can focus on the job at hand.

"Pros will also benefit from the SKILSAW Dual-Field motor, which ensures best-in-class performance and durability," states Miki Vuckovic, SKILSAW product manager. "Lightweight, yet rugged magnesium components make the SIDEWINDER for Fiber Cement the perfect tool for remodeling and new construction projects that demand cut after cut all day long.

"SKILSAW looks for ways to increase job site productivity, and tackling fiber cement cutting is a natural next step as the demand for this material continues to grow at

a rapid pace," Vuckovic adds. "The new SIDEWINDER for Fiber Cement offers tried and true SKILSAW cutting technology, a comprehensive dust management system and best-in-class ergonomics."

### **PEARL ABRASIVES**

The Pearl Xtreme PX-4000 cuts metal, stainless steel and a variety of ferrous metals with less odor and debris than conventional abrasives. It can cut as much as 50 to 100 conventional disks, significantly decreasing down time and significantly increasing productivity.

"As our reps were meeting with distributors and endusers, they were asking for a longer lasting abrasive disc



for metal cutting applications," says Oscar Checa, product development manager. "Pearl recognized that a diamond blade could be developed for this application, but it would need to have an extremely high concentration of diamonds along with

an extremely strong bond. The result is our Pearl Xtreme

The Pearl Xtreme blade is extremely efficient because it reduces the need to change wheels frequently, which increases productivity dramatically. In addition, the shape of the wheel does not change overtime; therefore, the size of the wheel remains the same from the first to the final cut.

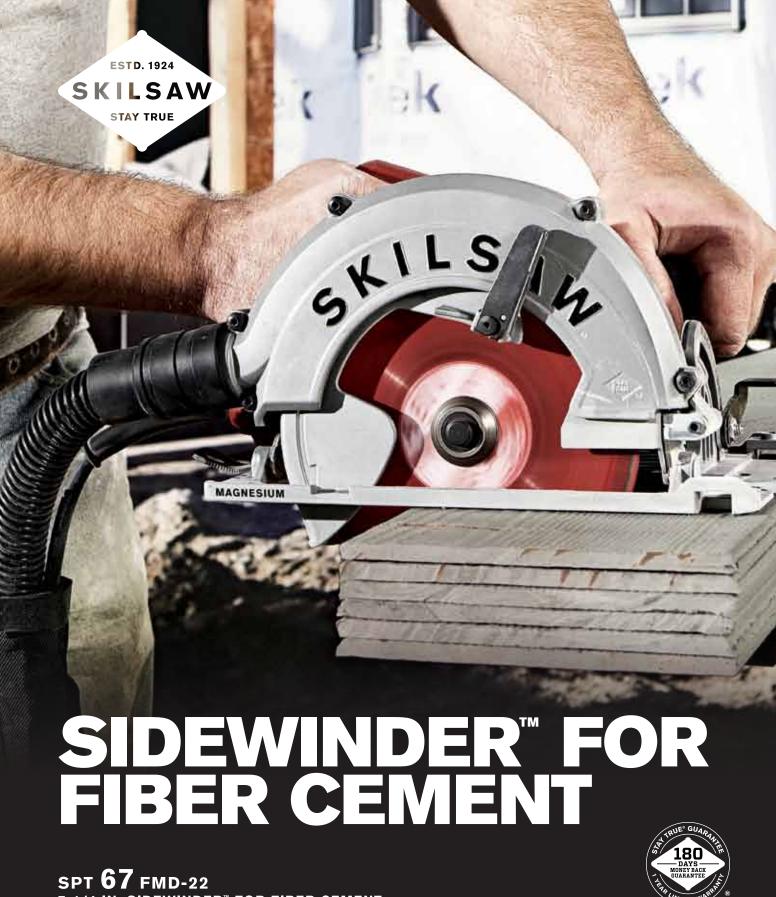
"The Pearl Xtreme blade features an ultra-thin kerf for extremely fast cuts with less dust and debris than conventional abrasives, and has vacuum-brazed technology for extra long life, fewer blade changes and less

downtime," Checa explains. "It maintains its blade diameter for consistent cutting depth. Visit our website and see the Pearl Xtreme cut through 1/2-inch rebar in under five seconds!"

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 54** 

Pearl Xtreme PX-4000 blades feature an ultra-thin kerf for extremely fast cuts, vacuum-brazed segments for long life, and maintain their wheel size from the first cut to the last.





7-1/4 IN. SIDEWINDER™ FOR FIBER CEMENT

Now you can power through stacks of fiber cement while the silica dust is funneled away from the tool motor for longer life. This SIDEWINDER has a blade guard extension and dust channel to funnel dust into the included vacuum hose to be collected by your jobsite vac. We've even added sealed motor bearings and a dust resistant switch to help keep this saw running job after job. Big job or small—this SIDEWINDER will leave all other circular saws in the dust.

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be the only saw you would ever need on the job



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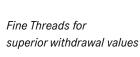


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Alpha Tools' APR Series hybrid blades for intricate and flushcutting applications combine the high performance of Alpha Ultra blades with a unique design for flush cutting applications.

**ALPHA TOOLS** 

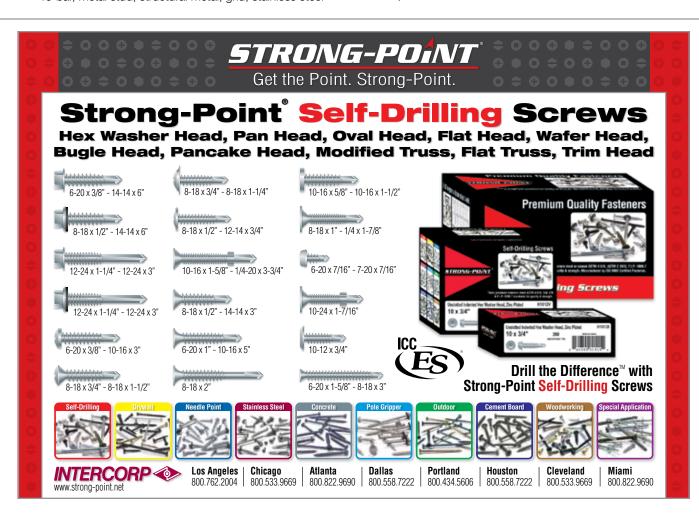
Alpha Ultracut GPM blades are made for building contractors and fabricators who work with metal and composite materials. Their versatility saves contractors time and money with fewer blade changes.

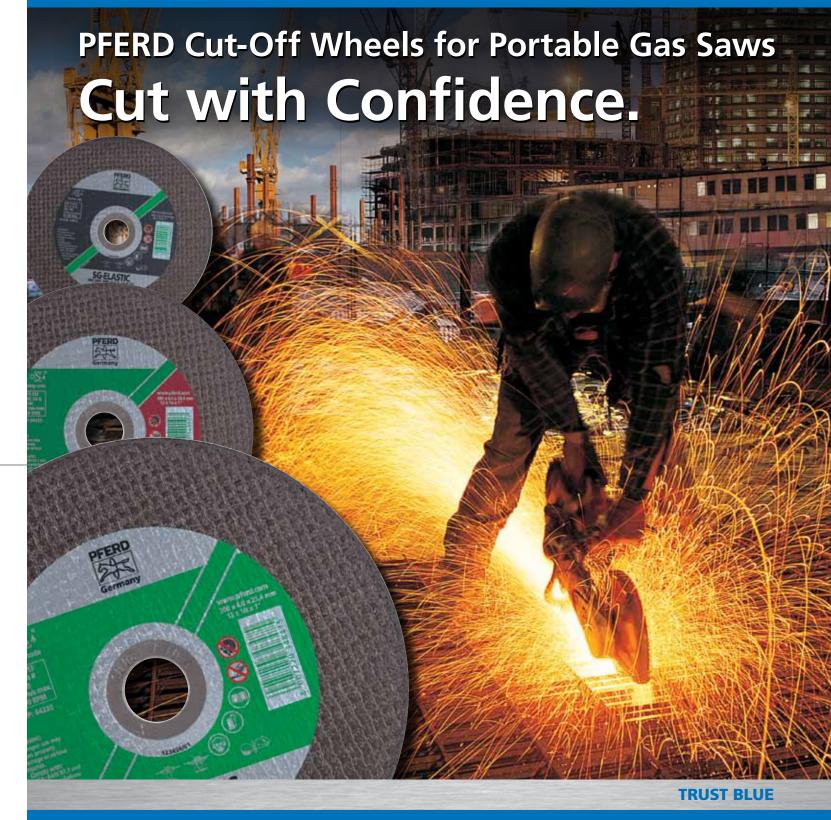
"Alpha Ultracut APR Series blades combine the highperformance of the Alpha Ultracut GPM Series with our unique design for flush-cutting applications," says Mindy Wessel, general manager. "This blade can cut many types of materials including angle iron, pipe, electrical conduit, re-bar, metal stud, structural metal, grid, stainless steel

and concrete, just to name a few. Unlike other blades, the Ultracut APR Series blade accepts Alpha's exclusive Quad Drive adapter,

which eliminates the required lock nut. The Quad Drive adapter has a threaded arbor that permits mounting on angle grinders for 'flush cutting' applications."

For a quick and easy solution, use this blade to completely remove anchor bolts, concrete re-bar and pipe from floors and walls. This blade maintains excellent cutting performance throughout its life and is available in 4 1/2-, 5- and 7-inch diameters." cs







Manufactured with a combination of heavy reinforcement and a high concentration of premium abrasive grain, PFERD's portable gas saw cut-off wheels are the preferred brand of professional contractors, demolition personnel, rescue personnel, and municipalities. For more information, contact PFERD today!

