

# VACCUMS & DUST COLLECTION

## CONTRACTORS CAN BREATHE EASIER WITH THESE TOOLS ON THE JOB

As safety and silica related regulations become more stringent, manufacturers are responding with the most efficient dust suckers ever, much to the relief of contractors who use them on the job — and their employers who face fines for noncompliance. These seven manufacturers are truly helping to create a cleaner world.

### FESTOOL USA

Portable dust control is an integral part of the Festool system and design philosophy because it saves time, increases efficiency, improves work quality, creates a healthier work environment and also results in happy and loyal customers. Whether you're working in the shop or

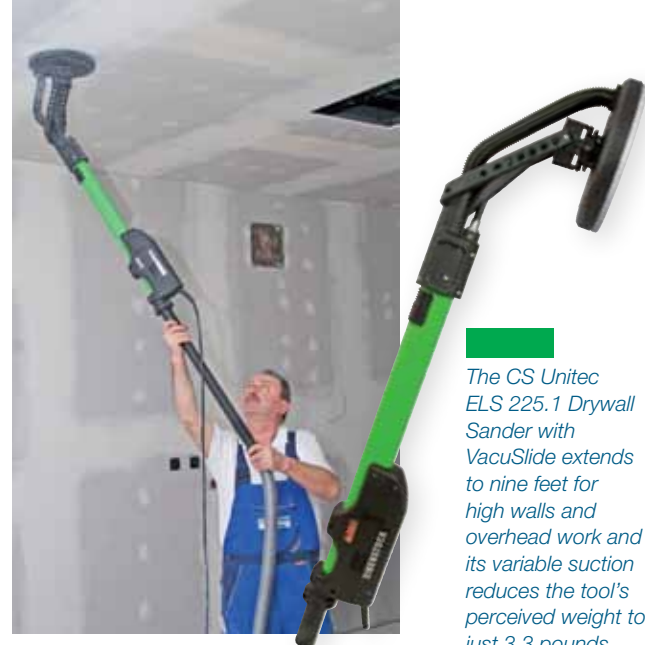
on a jobsite, a good dust extraction system should start removing dust at the source, where it is being created. Clean air and fast clean-up are two things that you and your customers can appreciate.

"One thing is clear, regulations are moving in the direction of requiring contractors use a HEPA dust containment system," says Leo Zirkler, vice president of marketing, Festool USA. "At Festool, we continue to raise the bar as the leader of dust extraction technology. Festool has six different CT Dust Extractor models which have been independently tested and certified to be Full Unit HEPA Dust Extractors and this includes our most recent addition, the ultra-portable CT SYS.

If you are a remodeler who does RRP work, you want a dust extractor that is going to protect you from being fined for non-compliance with RRP regulations. After all, a HEPA filter is only as good as its seal with the vacuum. While there are other manufacturers who claim to meet the RRP requirements, you need to make sure that they also meet the requirement for "no bypass leakage;" otherwise, you might be subjected to some hefty fines. Contractors who use a Festool CT HEPA Dust Extractor can perform RRP tasks with the confidence that they have chosen a vacuum that is fully HEPA certified.

"Festool also leads the way in portable dust extractor technology with innovations like self-cleaning filter bags, tool-triggered operation, variable suction control, and the

Festool's CT SYS "suit-case" vacuum is cleverly designed to look like and stack with other Festool Systainer tool storage and transport boxes. But don't let its size fool you, it is a Full Unit HEPA dust extractor.



The CS Unitec ELS 225.1 Drywall Sander with VacuSlide extends to nine feet for high walls and overhead work and its variable suction reduces the tool's perceived weight to just 3.3 pounds.

best available storage and transportation capabilities," Zirkler continues. "Our new, ultra-portable CT SYS is a Full Unit HEPA Certified dust extractor, that's ideal for remodelers and painters who need the utmost in portability, yet without compromise in function."

### CS UNITEC

Drywallers face some of the most insidious dust in the industry — the stuff gets everywhere. For that reason, the CS Unitec ELS 225.1 Drywall Sander with VacuSlide makes our list of top dust-busting products.



CARROLL

"The adjustable vacuum suction of the VacuGlide System holds the sander to the surface, reducing the amount of pressure that needs to be applied," explains Thomas Carroll, CS Unitec president. "This makes guiding the sander easier and reduces the perceived weight of the tool to 3.3 pounds. A spring-mounted dust shroud with sealing lip adapts to the surface, compensates for unevenness and prevents grooving when beginning to sand. The ELS 225.1 extends up to nine feet and easily adapts to angles. The lightweight

sander handle's balanced, ergonomic design allow it to be guided for long periods of time with less operator fatigue, whether working on walls or overhead on ceilings."

The nine-inch disc diameter is ideal for sanding large surface areas. The ELS 225.1 has a 5.5-amp, variable-speed motor that operates from 1,050-1,600 rpm. Electronic features include soft start and overload protection.

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## Pros Trust the Original

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Contractors can unplug the cord with the new 18V X2 LXT Lithium-Ion Cordless/Corded 2.1Gallon Dry HEPA Vacuum. In cordless mode, the XCV04Z is powered by two 18V LXT batteries for extended run time.

"The 12-gallon Xtract vac wet/dry vacuum is the center of the Makita dust extraction system," begins David Fernandez, product manager, commercial products, Makita USA. "The VC4710 has a powerful 92 inches of water lift, lower noise at 59 dB(A), less weight at 27 pounds, HEPA filter compatibility and more. The filter blow-back process is set at timed intervals and is achieved with a rocker valve that isolates reverse air flow through each filter separately. The result is a more efficient filter-cleaning system that does not interrupt suction and is engineered to extend filter life by up to 50 percent."

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"In the last year, we've focused on creating a vac that is powerful, lightweight, and portable," Carney adds. "The RIDGID 18V cordless wet/dry vac (WD0319) was created with this in mind, specifically for car cleaning, boat cleaning and other smaller projects."

The WD0319 produces 60 cfm of suction, an excellent level for most cleaning applications. It also adapts to the existing 18-volt RIDGID power tool battery system, so there is no need to invest in new batteries. Each vac comes standard with a durable 1.875-inch locking hose that expands to seven feet and won't kink or lose suction when in use.

#### MAKITA

Makita is meeting user demand for better dust containment with more solutions, including new opportunities to unplug the cord. Makita's expanding system offers corded and cordless dust extraction solutions for concrete and woodworking including surfacing, planing, chipping, breaking, drilling, cutting and tuckpointing.



FERNANDEZ



CARNEY

The RIDGID WD1680 16-gallon wet/dry vacuum with detachable blower features Scroll Noise Reduction technology for quieter operation and its head becomes a 180-mph blower.



While handling hazardous silica dust, a high-efficiency, multi-stage filtration system with HEPA filters and filter cleaning is vital to contain toxic dust and debris before it is exhausted from the vacuum. Push&Clean and Xtreme Clean, available on Nilfisk ATTIX wet/dry vacuums, allow users to easily clean the filter during use instead of having to open the vacuum to manually clean the filters and risk exposure to the silica dust.

#### RIDGID

"Our consumers' input is used to drive innovative customer designs, and a recent trend in the shop vacuum industry is powerful vacs that can be used beyond wet or dry pick-up," notes Brett Carney, director of product development, Emerson Tool Company. "RIDGID's model WD1680 16-gallon wet/dry vacuum with detachable blower was created with this in mind."

The WD1680 is essentially two tools in one, making the clean-up of large messes and blowing away debris quick and easy. This multifunctional powerhouse transforms into a 180-mph hand-held blower by simply detaching the power head from the drum and attaching the blower wand. With a powerful 6.5 peak horsepower motor, this vac includes patented Scroll Noise Reduction technology, which provides quiet operation by precisely controlling the flow of air through the vac. Other innovative features found on this vac are its Tug-A-Long locking hose that won't pull loose during use and on-board accessory storage solutions.

Additional product designs that RIDGID offers to those looking for power and versatility are the WD7000 11-gallon SmartCart and the WD1956 16-gallon stainless steel with cart vacuum. The SmartCart is one of the most powerful — yet quietest — vacs from RIDGID. With a large-capacity drum and a powerful 6.5-peak-horsepower motor, this vac's unique rugged style and mobility aid in the cleaning that pros demand. An accessory storage bag gives users quick access to attachments. Moving up and down steps or across rough terrain is no issue for its large fixed rear wheels.



The eight-gallon Nilfisk Alto Attix 30 wet/dry vacuum delivers 120 cfm of suction for 90 inches of water lift and operates at a whisper-quiet 59 dB(A). It is offered in several versions.



#### NILFISK

With OSHA's recent silica dust ruling, it is now more important than ever to comply with regulatory standards and housekeeping guidelines while continuing to provide a timely, high-quality finished project. Contractors have an increased focus as compliance for the building and construction industry is required by June 23, 2017.

Along with this ruling, vacuum suppliers must fill the gap to provide the right equipment to effectively comply with all silica dust filtration and housekeeping requirements. Meeting these requirements will create a larger upfront investment; however, complying with these standards will ensure the job is completed with the right equipment in the safest way possible.

"With more than 10 different models to choose from, Nilfisk wet/dry vacuums can be specified to meet industry requirements, while focusing on cleaning for the application at hand," states Dan Peterson, Nilfisk product manager. "The new OSHA standard demands HEPA-filtered vacuums and/or vacuums featuring filtration of 99 percent or greater for respirable particulate be used for dust collection where silica is present. Contractors should select only the features they need to do their job well and focus on proper silica dust collection and clean-up."



PETERSON

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Makita is also offering cordless options: The new 18V X2 LXT Lithium-Ion (36V) HEPA filter dry vacuum offers corded and cordless operation, and in cordless mode is powered by two 18-volt batteries for 36-volt run time. The XCV04Z delivers 127 CFM and 96 inches of water lift (cordless: 74 CFM, 36 inches of water lift). Contractors will get up to 65 minutes of continuous run time on low setting and 30 minutes on high, using two fast-charging 18V LXT 5.0Ah batteries (sold separately).

The vacuum has an efficient three-stage HEPA filtration system: stage 1 (pre-filter bag) captures larger dust particles, which helps extend the life of the main HEPA filter. Stage 2 (damper filter) captures much smaller particulates. Stage 3 (HEPA main filter) captures micro particles.

Now, Makita is bridging the gap between smaller capacity on-board systems and larger-capacity floor vacuums with a new 18V X2 LXT (36V) brushless backpack vacuum (XCV05Z). It represents the best of both worlds with more capacity than onboard vacuum systems, but with cordless mobility for greater ease of use than a job site vacuum.

**METABO USA**

“At Metabo, we see a very positive trend in the concrete business driven primarily by the industrial and maintenance operations, as well as commercial construction,” observes Antoine Derché, product manager. “Market needs are growing and we see a larger demand for high-performance tools: our customers request more and more of our made in Germany products that will provide a higher return in the long run. Accessories follow the same trend and premium carbide and diamonds come back to the forefront of the customer’s expectations.”

The hot topic this year is naturally the new OSHA ruling on occupational safety silica dust exposure. Combining its leadership in power tool safety and experience with stringent European regulations, Metabo has anticipated this evolution and is already offering its customers the most advanced dustless systems for concrete cutting, grinding and drilling.

“With the smartest HEPA filter management technology and highest suction, our vacuum and shroud combinations allow our customer to easily comply without compromising performance and



The nine-liter Metabo ASR 35 dust extractor features Auto Clean Plus, which monitors suction levels and automatically cleans the filters whenever suction drops. It also features power tool activation.

efficiency,” Derché adds. “In particular, we have developed unmatched performance in tuckpointing, cutting/scoring, drilling and grinding for the perfect integration of the vacuum, shroud, grinder or hammer and the diamond or carbide.”

Metabo is also happy to introduce a series of new tools that outperform current competitors’ standards. The new KHE D-26, one-inch SDS-Plus D-handle combi-hammer claims to be the fastest and most cost-effective anchoring hammer.

“Our SDS-Plus carbide bits have been re-engineered and now offer a 20 percent faster drilling while doubling the life in rebar. Using our latest LiHD (Lithium High Density) battery technology, our cordless SDS-Plus hammers deliver more power than ever. Finally, our safety technologies for our concrete hammers and grinders (slip clutch and anti-vibration technologies) deliver the best value proposition for our customers.”

**BOSCH TOOLS**

“Industry professionals are looking for much more than a wet/dry vacuum they can buy at a home center,” begins Jim Stevens, product manager, dust collection products, Robert Bosch Tool Corporation. “Our dust extractors feature power tool activation and are rated for high-powered suction in order to meet industry standards. When using the optional VF120H HEPA filter that captures more than 99.97 percent of particles 0.3 microns and larger, they meet the EPA’s Lead-Based Paint Removal and Repair Rule requirements for air filtering.”

The Bosch VAC090S and VAC090A nine-gallon vacuums and Bosch VAC140S and VAC140A 14-gallon vacuums not only increase dust extraction performance with best-in-class cfm rates and suction power, but also decrease the loss of suction by

means of two on-onboard filter-cleaning systems: semi-automatic and automatic. These features are especially important in applications that require extensive dust extraction and collection such as tuckpointing, concrete surfacing, concrete drilling, cutting and chipping concrete and collecting dust particles in a stationary workshop.

“An unclogged filter is critical for optimal vacuum performance and dust extraction efficiency,” Stevens adds. “Bosch integrated automatic and semi-automatic filter cleaning systems increase job site productivity by eliminating the need for filters to be frequently cleaned by hand. Outfitted with an automatic filter cleaning mechanism, the VAC090A and VAC140A provide self-cleaning of the filter through a reverse airflow every 15 seconds during operation without compromising suction or performance.”



STEVENS

The VAC090S and VAC140S use a similar airflow cleaning process and include a module on the hose that allows the user to cut off suction and activate filter cleaning with the push of a button. Plus, the vacuum hoses included

The 14-gallon Bosch VAC140A dust extractor self-cleans its filter through a reverse airflow every 15 seconds during operation without compromising suction or performance.



with all Bosch vacuum cleaners can be securely attached to dust collection guards and shrouds with either the friction-fit power tool adapter or clicked together with the quick-connect system.

Other features of Bosch VAC090 and VAC140 vacuums include integrated cord and hose storage, along with rubber wheels and locking casters that can withstand the rough terrain of the job site. The larger 14-gallon vacuum includes a metal frame and convenient push handle to make transportation even easier. **CS**



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