INDUSTRYUPDATE





PRODUCTIVITY s saw manufacturers prepare for the new

OSHA silica rules, blade manufacturers are likewise bringing to market new designs to reduce dust, vibration and noise, all while delivering cleaner cuts and greater productivity. Whatever the application, these 15 top companies are taking aim for the perfect cut.

BOSCH

Users in the demolition space are looking for powerful tools that deliver performance, yet offer greater comfort with more control," begins Jim Stevens, product manager, Robert Bosch Tool Corporation. "The Bosch

GSA18V-125 18V EC Brushless 1 1/4-inch-stroke reciprocating saw is a great example of this kind of tool."

The GSA18V-125 combines an advanced handle design for greater comfort, a powerful 18-volt Bosch EC brushless motor and orbital/non-orbital action to deliver superior cutting performance. It provides next-generation corded-like power and optimized user comfort to reduce fatigue in rough cutting and demolition work. It delivers 0-2,900 strokes per minute with a 1 1/4-inch stroke

length. The versatile soft-grip handle and easy tool-free blade change system highlight enhanced comfort and ease of use. The tool features a compact 19-inch length for easy maneuverability.

"Compact design is a key trend," Stevens continues. "In the case of the GSA18V-125 reciprocating saw, the design element is aided by an angled-motor placement that allows greater access to hard-to-reach areas. With great balance and a tool weight of only 7.7 pounds, this reciprocating saw offers greater utility so users can saw overhead and in awkward positions for longer periods of time."

The Bosch GSA18V-125 18V EC Brushless 1 1/4-

inch-stroke reciprocating

saw features an advanced

handle design, weighs just

7.7 pounds and delivers

0-2.900 spm.

The GSA18V-125 reciprocating saw is the first cordless reciprocating saw to feature three orbital settings (0-1-2), which are optimized to maximize cutting. Handy variable speed controls include a dial to set the desired maximum speed and an accelerator trigger for adjusting the operating speed, such as when starting a cut.

Professional reciprocating saw users are always on the lookout for more power and faster results. The Bosch GSA18V-125 delivers that and more in a manageable compact size. Its three orbital-action settings allow optimization for maximum cutting power and speed in general rough cutting or demolition of wood or metal.

DIABLO TOOLS

Innovation seems to be Diablo's middle name because the company continuously brings exciting products to market. One case in point is Diablo's newly-enhanced Ultimate Framing and Demolition saw blade with Tracking Point Amped tooth design for up to 10 times normal cutting performance in intense applications.

This 7 1/4-inch 24-tooth Demo Demon Amped blade includes a new industry-first tooth grind sequence that is specifically designed to provide extreme durability and effortless cuts, even when cutting abrasive materials such as shingles, bolts or nail-embedded wood.

"Through comprehensive field testing and industryleading manufacturing, we were able to design a marketBig name, big bite: Diablo's new Demo Demon Amped Ultimate Framing and Demolition saw blade with Tracking Point Amped tooth design delivers up to 10 times normal cutting performance in intense applications.



first three-tooth grind sequence, called Tracking Point Amped, which delivers unrivalled cutting life in both framing and extreme demolition applications," says Russell Kohl, president and CEO. "So whether you're removing exterior siding or subfloors,

cutting into a roof or framing new construction, you can depend on the new Demo Demon Amped blade to provide the ultimate cutting performance."

The 7 1/4-inch 24-tooth Demo Demon Amped blade, model D0724D has a retail price of \$14.97. Its leading edge features include Tracking Point Amped tooth CONTINUED ON PAGE 48





geometry, a one-of-a-kind, three-tooth grind sequence that slices through intense applications while delivering up to 10 times longer cutting life.

"The blade's Lock-Tooth Technology is the industry's strongest tip-to-blade body connection for extreme impact resistance, and the teeth feature Dura-Blend Carbide, a specialized form of TiCo Hi-Density Carbide for extreme durability," Kohl adds. "Plus, a Perma-Shield non-stick coating resists heat, gumming and corrosion and the blade's laser-cut thin kerf design produces less resistance and greater cutting efficiency."

CMT USA

Since 1962, CMT tools have been designed and manufactured in Italy to exacting standards with the latest processes, superior materials and time-honored experience.

"CMT Industrial Chrome/Xtreme circular saw blades feature a special chrome carbide that reduces tooth abrasion and a chrome-plated body that protects against corrosion and pitch buildup for long-lasting performance," explains Sal Taro, CMT national sales manager.

Their laser-cut premium-quality plates are made of 46-48 HRC German steel for tighter tolerances, precise cutting and longer life. These blades feature laser cut polyurethane-filled slots that reduce vibration and noise by 25 percent compared to standard blades. Silver-copper-silver trimetal brazed teeth withstand the severe impact caused by cutting harder woods and composite material and each tooth is precision ground on a multi-axis CNC machine for perfect edge angles, extra-clean cuts and extended life.

"In hole saws, CMT's patented FASTX4 system makes the hole saw arbor obsolete," Taro says. "These hole saws have been specifically designed to ensure maximum productivity, lifetime and performance in all materials."

Series 553 tungsten carbide-tipped multi-purpose hole saws are designed for use in a wide variety of materials such as soft and hardwoods, chipboard, plywood, MDF, plastic, drywall, tile, brick, aerated concrete block, lightweight aggregate block, breeze block and soft density lime-sandstone. Their cutting teeth are made of a special construction-grade carbide that provides longer cutting life. Secured tooth technology prevents breakage during impact with hard materials.

"CMT Starlock oscillating blades can be swapped out in less than three seconds while guaranteeing a secure fit and maximum power transfer," Taro states. "The result is up to 35 percent faster performance depending on the accessory, noticeably improved precision and reduced noise. To protect the tools from overload and damage, they are offered in three performance classes: Starlock, StarlockPlus and StarlockMax."

CS UNITEC

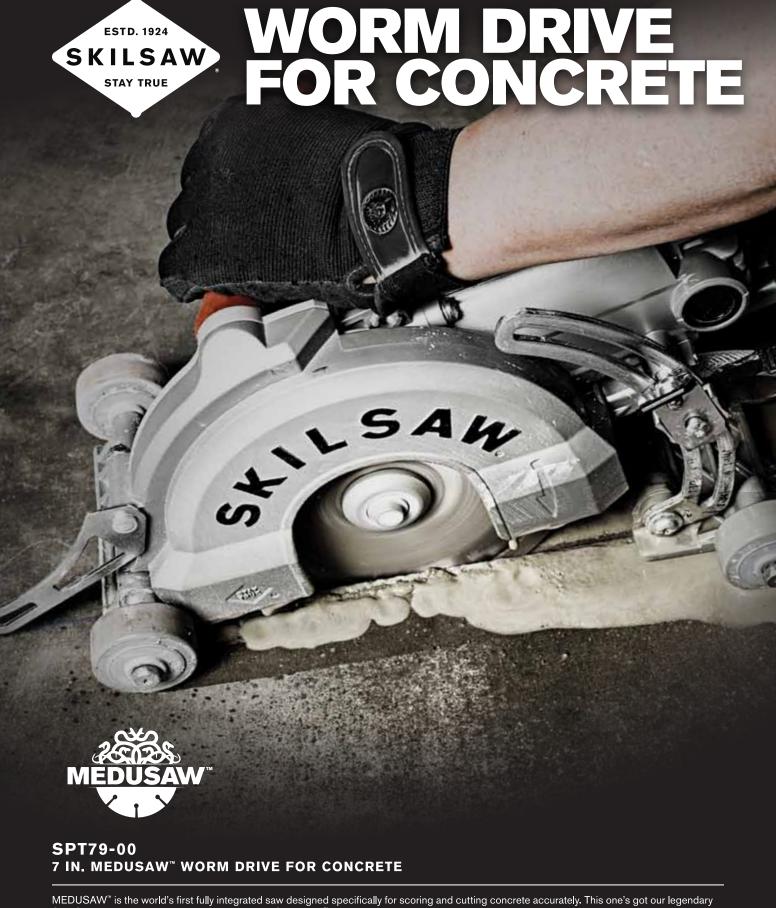
There is a recent trend in the industry to move away from gas-powered cut-off saws for cutting pipe in the ground due to safety and maintenance cost issues. Contractors who relied on "quick cut" gas-powered saws are now looking for an alternative that is more productive and safer to operate.

"To meet the safety needs of contractors, CS Unitec developed the safest, most powerful and only ATEX-certified pipe cutting saw available on the market," begins Scott Saunders, North Eastern regional sales manager. "Operating at 1,800 rpm, this air-powered 4-hp motor with two safety chains allows for a perfectly straight cut in up to 63-inch pipe or more, with a wall thickness up to two

CS Unitec's model 5 8010 is the only ATEX-certified pipe cutting saw on the market. Its 4-horsepower motor allows straight cuts in up to 63-inch pipe or more, with wall thicknesses up to two inches.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 50



MEDUSAW" is the world's first fully integrated saw designed specifically for scoring and cutting concrete accurately. This one's got our legendary SKILSAW worm drive power train, plus a unique Cut-Ready" adjustable plunge lock and a pivoting pointer for unmatched precision and convenience. Used wet or dry, the dual integrated dust management system takes dust out of your way. It's all part of the performance legend that is SKILSAW.

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inches. CS Unitec's Model 5 8010 series pipe cutting machine offers a safe alternative to the old, dangerous methods used by contractors in the utility, petrochemical and municipal

Three standard kits are available for cutting pipes up to 16, 32 or 63 inches in diameter. CS Unitec will also design custom kits for cutting up to 96 inches in diameter. Standard equipment includes the Model 5 8010 0050 motor, two 7-inch blades — one dry-cut carbide-tipped and one diamond-coated — with blade guard, guide carriage, guide chain and tensioner, tool kit and steel transport box.

The pipe cutting machine features an adjustable cutting depth and water connection for cooling the blade, when applicable. The machine is guided manually with the hand lever feed to make a 360-degree cut in the pipe. The guide chain can be adjusted by adding and removing chain links. To further enhance safety, the blade guard completely encloses the blade and locks down into position during the cutting process. A hydraulic-powered pipe cutting machine is also available.

DEWALT

DEWALT's growing lineup of blades includes products specifically optimized for its FLEXVOLT cordless saws as well as for traditional saws for various applications.

"DEWALT has designed FLEXVOLT saw blades (for use in circular saws, miter saws, table saws, reciprocating saws and track saws) that maximize runtime when used as part of the FLEXVOLT system," begins Amy Gifford, senior product manager. "Our engineers have studied plate thickness, tooth patterns, tooth grinds and more to design blades that help make our cordless tools run longer without sacrificing performance."

One of the most common complaints from saw blade users is that they don't know which blade to use for the application they are completing. DEWALT has recently launched blades for laminate flooring, composite decking, fiber cement and wood with nails.

Laminate flooring has a protective laver of aluminum oxide with melamine which makes laminate flooring very abrasive to carbide tooth blades. DEWALT's laminate blades (DWA31012PCD, DWA31216PCD, DWA3193PCD) feature precision ground, synthetic polycrystalline diamond teeth to extend life when cutting through the aluminum oxide layer. These blades will last 100 times longer than a typical carbide tooth blade.



DEWALT's broad range of blades now includes new FLEXVOLT models that are optimized for use with cordless saws to cut faster. smoother and reduce power loads on tools themselves.

Fiber cement is highly abrasive and creates a lot of dust when cut. DEWALT's fiber cement blades (DWA3193PCD, DWA31012PCD, DWA31216PCD) feature precision ground, synthetic polycrystaline diamond teeth to extend life when cutting through fiber cement. Lower tooth counts help break the fiber cement board into larger pieces in order to minimize fine dust.

Cutting composite decking can often result in "melty" cuts caused by a blade that is too hot. DEWALT's composite decking blade (DWA31740) features a Modified Triple Chip Grind (MTCG) that helps keep the blade cool and the cutting material melt-free.

"Cutting wood with nails is considering the torture test for a circular saw blade," Gifford notes. "Every user wants to know. 'What happens if I hit a nail?' The DEWALT 2X circular saw demolition blade (DWA31724D) is ideal for cutting wood with nails. This is done with premium carbide, a laser-cut plate, patented body slot design and a reinforced shoulder specifically designed for impact resistance. The resulting blade is durable, smooth and long lasting."

EXTREME ABRASIVES

Danish Tools is a well established company from Denmark that specializes in manufacturing carbide tipped saw blades for the construction industry and Extreme Abrasives is their master distributor for North America. The newest fruit of this partnership is a full line of reciprocating saw blades for construction.

Danish Tool saw blades are made with particular attention to the carbide teeth geometry and carbide grade. These two factors, along with a documented manufacturing process, ensure long life and efficient cutting. For even more cutting power in particular materials, Danish Tool has developed blades to fit specific applications.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 52





Extreme Abrasives' partnership with Danish Tool is yielding new products such as the color-coded Dark Green Blade, a true demolition blade for all types of wood.

Its recip blades are offered in color-coded versions for standardand fast-cutting stone, stone with metal, low vibration stone cutting, extra rigid blade variations for various stone materials, wood, plastic, wood with metal, solid metal, metal and plastic and fiber board.

"The newest addition is the Dark Green Blade, a true demolition blade for reciprocating saws," says Andre Simard, sales director for Extreme Abrasives. "This blade is designed for cutting in all types of wood, even with embedded nails and screws. This reciprocating saw blade is ideal for cutting out windows or doors that have been previously installed with frame anchor screws. Saws with carbide teeth from Danish Tool easily outlast and outperform any other blade on the market."

Danish Tool also offers hand and hack saw, circular saw and band saw blades for masonry. In many situations, a handsaw can be the better choice for cutting masonry materials, for example, for small jobs or in areas with no access to power.

Danish Tool uses three different tooth designs for its handsaws, a coarse-cutting 1 1/5 TPI model for coarse cutting, a 2.5 TPI version for smooth cutting and a 5 TPI version for cutting brick, limestone and hollow block. All three have self-sharpening tungsten carbide teeth. Danish also offers white label traditional masonry saw blades for soft materials such as plaster and LECA (Light Expanded Clay Aggregate) blocks.

HITACHI POWER TOOLS

"Everyone wants a blade that cuts accurately and quickly, but lasts," begins Taylor Evans, Hitachi associate product manager. "Hitachi's new line of VPR blades are quickly becoming recognized by end users as *the* blade for quality and value."

Maintaining durability and cutting precision are two

factors that experienced users look for when investing in blades. Hitachi has recognized these vital features and has created this premium line of blades for everything from framing to fine finishing to meet this need.



Hitachi's VPR blades are made of high-quality Japanese steel with features such as the ATB carbide teeth that are used for fast, clean cutting action. This also increases tooth life and allows for re-sharpening. Hitachi uses computerized technology to weld the tungsten carbide tips onto each blade tooth for added durability and precision.

Hitachi's VPR blade line utilizes laser-cut expansion slots to reduce heat, noise and vibration for more accurate cuts. The Hitachi brand is on the "cutting edge" when it comes to precision and longevity of blades.

In the saw category itself, Brett Bishop, Hitachi product manager notes a distinct geographical trend in when it comes to the end user's purchase decision on a circular saw. Areas in the West and Mid-West tend to choose worm drive saws, while sidewinders seem to appeal to users in the Eastern half of the country.

"Hitachi is gearing up to launch its first 7-1/4" worm drive saw, the model C7WDM," says product manager Brett Bishop. "It is equipped with a 15-amp motor and produces a no-load speed of 5,000 rpm. A left-side



New from Hitachi, the VPR line of blades focuses on quality and value with Japanese steel, ABT carbide teeth and laser-cut expansion slots to reduce heat, noise and vibration.

blade placement on the saw makes it very easy and convenient to follow cut lines — assuming you're a righty. This new worm drive saw is backed by a five-year warranty and will absolutely appeal to our Hitachi fans in the West."

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Imperial's Americanmade STORM oscillating blades include the IBOAT360, the world's only titanium-nitride coated carbide blade, which delivers 30 times more cuts than a standard bimetal blade.

IMPERIAL BLADES

For the better part of the last ten years, the oscillating multi-tool has transformed the world of cutting tools. This extremely easy to use, safe and versatile power saw is now a "must have" for contractors of all kinds. Almost every tool brand is aggressively innovating their version of the oscillating multi-tool, turning this former-scarcely known machine into a mature power tool category.

"Since its inception, Imperial Blades has been known for their American-made, long-lasting and innovative multitool accessories," says David Zielke, Imperial's owner and president of global sales. "Once again, in 2017, Imperial



Blades is innovating far beyond its years with the world's first and only titanium-nitride (TiN) coated carbide blade. The IBOAT360 boasts 30 times more cuts than standard bimetal blades across a diverse range of applications. Its ability to cut hardened bolts,

deck screws, rebar, cement board, steel and copper pipe, drywall, wood, tile and more revolutionizes the multi-tool category once again.

"The IBOAT360 is made using a proprietary laser joining process and is the only oscillating carbide blade in the world to be titanium-nitride coated to repel heat, increase performance and extend life. This American-made saw blade handles the toughest materials and its TiN coated, robust, carbide tooth pattern allows one-of-a-kind performance cut after cut.

The IBOAT360 carbide blade joins a powerhouse lineup of titanium nitride coated blades that Imperial believes are unmatched in their performance and longevity. Historically, finish carpenters and flooring contractors alike would leave a job frustrated by their oscillating blade's inability to last through hardwood or handle the nails, staples and screws they would inevitably encounter.

Enter Imperial Blade's IBOA T330, T336, T337 and T340 STORM series. Advanced engineering and unique tooth patterns, paired with titanium nitride bimetal technology, means contractors don't have to worry about burning out a saw blade if they hit metal while cutting in any application.

LACKMOND PRODUCTS

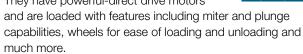
Lackmond needs no introduction to concrete, tile and stone cutters — the company has been delivering premium products for those trades for over 20 years. But their new partnership with B+BTec does warrant an introduction.

B+BTec has been manufacturing drilling and fastening products in Europe since 1969. In the new partnership, rail saws, manual tile cutters, core drills, rigs and core bits will be marketed under the Beast and B+BTec brands.

"Over the last few years, large-format tile has grown in popularity and that trend looks like it will continue," observes Lackmond president Cliff Sallis. "Lackmond's new Beast/B+BTec rail saws are ideal for larger format tiles."

These saws are manufactured in Europe and made

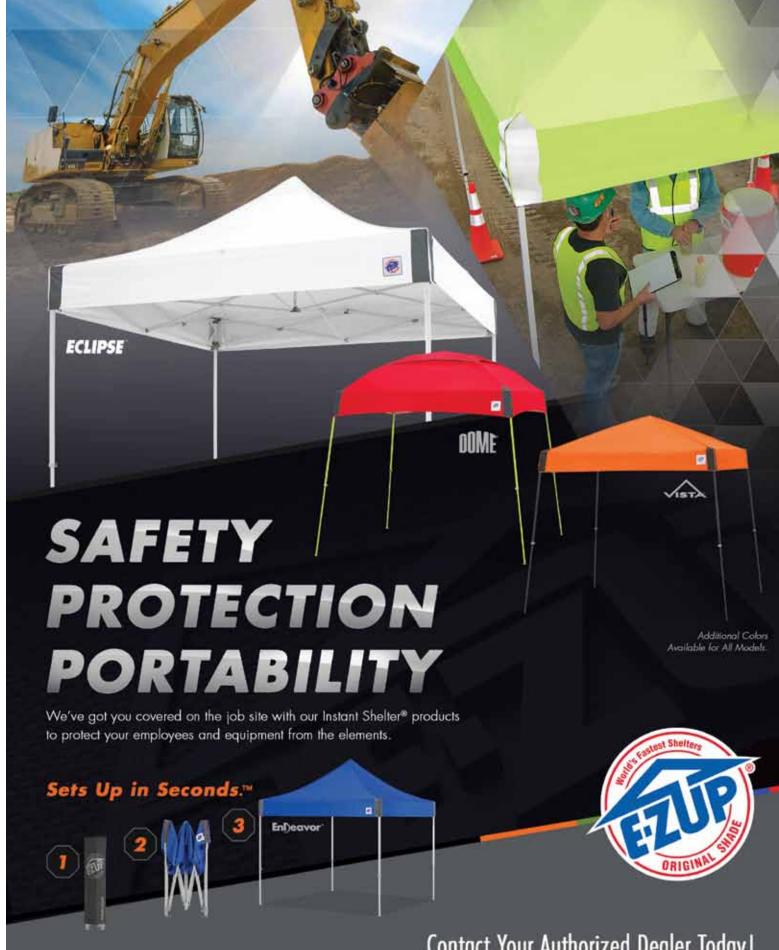
with the highest quality raw materials utilizing the most advanced manufacturing technology. These rail saws feature stainless steel to withstand the toughest applications while providing the operator ease of maintenance. They have powerful-direct drive motors



The Beast/B+BTec manual tile cutters are available in 30- and 37-inch models and are engineered with a hard-ened lightweight aluminum base plate and breaking strip. They offer the operator a direct view of the scoring wheel and cutting line. These manual tile cutters have many other features including chrome and rectified solid steel guides, wide fixed tile stop and more. Each unit comes standard with a robust carrying case.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 56





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INDUSTRYUPDATE



"We are very excited about our joint venture with B+BTec," Sallis adds. "Their history of manufacturing the highest quality products, combined with Lackmond's operations and distribution model, will allow us to provide our customers with the highest quality rail saws and manual tile cutters and the best service possible."

MILWAUKEE TOOL

When it comes to extreme cutting applications and versatility in a wide range of materials, carbide is a technology that can deliver longer life for the accessory. However, not all carbide blades are equal. Some feature a soft grade of carbide. This leads to good durability, but soft carbide will round over and fail prematurely. Others are too hard, resulting in teeth that chip and fracture early in the blade life. This has a major effect on productivity during the job.

Just having carbide teeth doesn't guarantee the best performance. The blade must also have the correct tooth design. Milwaukee optimizes the tooth design on their carbide blades to deliver longest life and best durability.

"This past fall we introduced the Ax with Carbide Teeth, a new premium recip blade that delivers 50 times the life



of standard bimetal blades," says John Rossi, director of product management. "Similar to the original BiMetal Ax Sawzall blades, the new Ax with Carbide Teeth Sawzall blades feature a Nail Guard tooth design to prevent nails from fracturing the

blade's teeth upon impact and an aggressive 5 TPI design to deliver fast cuts. The combination of these features now allow users to cut through both standard nail-embedded wood *and* hard fasteners and abrasive materials without sacrificing the life of the blade."

Milwaukee Tool has also announced the TORCH with Carbide Teeth. Engineered to deliver 50 times longer life over standard bimetal blades, these new blades deliver longer life than other carbide metal-cutting blades in a wide range of the toughest applications, from cast iron to stainless steel and high strength alloys.

These two new recip blades with Carbide Teeth are

Milwaukee's new Ax recip blade with Carbide Teeth delivers 50 times more cuts than a standard bimetal blade through virtually any wood or hard fastener.

expanding the versatility and performance of reciprocating saws. Milwaukee's investment in carbide technology and the focus on design attributes are making users more productive and efficient on the job site.

MAKITA

A cutting application requires the right tool and the right blade working together for peak efficiency. For concrete cutting, Makita has an expanding system of optimum diamond blades that are the ideal accessory for cordless and corded grinders, angle cutters, and power cutters.

"For best-in-class performance when using a 14-inch power cutter, Makita created the 14-inch Ultra-Premium Diamond Blade that is engineered to cut faster but with reduced vibration and lower noise," says Steve Relaz, Makita product manager, Accessories. "The blade features 3-D diamond grid technology that places each diamond in an even three-dimensional pattern for faster cutting and longer service life."

The tensioned laminated plates and reinforced core are engineered for improved balance, increased stability and reduced resonance to dampen vibration and noise.

For increased efficiency, the M-shaped segments have enhanced surface contact for improved cooling, reduced friction and faster acceleration into cuts. There is increased awareness of the need to reduce noise and vibration on job sites, and the Makita Ultra-Premium Diamond Blade is new

Makita diamond blades offer a range of solutions for use with angle grinders and power cutters. The 14-inch Ultra-Premium Diamond Blade shown here is engineered for faster cutting with less noise and vibration.



technology that gives contractors a better solution with no compromise in cutting performance.

Makita also offers large-diameter segmented-rim diamond blades from 10 to 16 inches for use with power cutters in a full range of applications, from cured concrete and brick to asphalt, granite, asphalt, sandstone and more. Makita also offers small diameter diamond blades in segmented rim, turbo rim, and continuous rim ranging in size from 3 3/8 to 7 inches. For mortar removal, Makita dual-sandwich tuck point blades are engineered for faster mortar removal and less dust when used with a guard and vacuum.

NORSKE TOOLS

In today's competitive environment, businesses are looking to improve on efficiencies and increase productivity. Expanding its line of professional-grade specialty saw blades, Norske Tools introduces the new Reversa Cut framing blade.

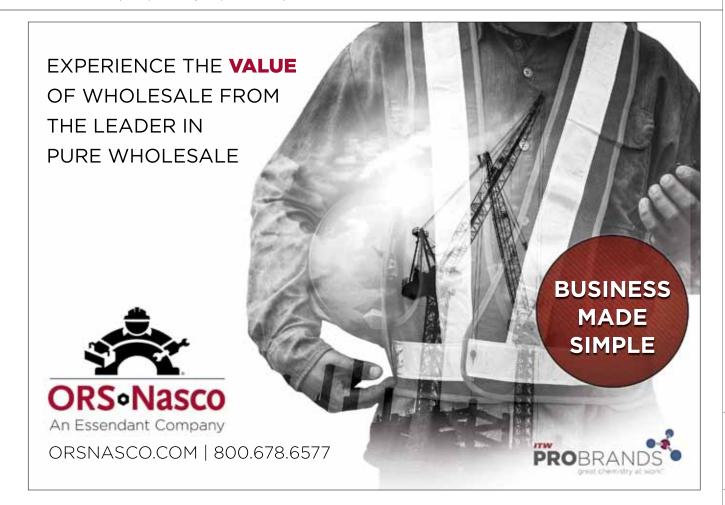
"What makes this blade so dynamic is that it features an innovative two-in-one design that doubles blade-life and reduces price per cut by 35 percent," explains Octav Norske Tools' novel
Reversa Cut circular
saw blade is two
blades in one.
When the C3
carbide teeth on
one side eventually
dull, just flip the
blade over for a
fresh set of teeth.



Dumitru, new product development and quality control assurance manager of Norske Tools, who has been in the home improvement industry for over 25 years.

Reversa Cut blades are laser cut from high-quality
Japanese tool steel which keeps the blades running
"TRUE" for the lifetime of the blade. Precision ground C3
micro-grain carbide ensures maximum performance in ripping and cross-cutting dimensional lumber. Coated plates
keep the blades from rusting and minimizes friction while
high precision grinding maximizes performance.

Norske Tools is capitalizing on radical Twin Tooth
Technology which provides bidirectional cutting: When the
CONTINUED ON PAGE 58



The OX PU10 diamond blade has a continuous rim and serrated edge design for smooth, fast cutting in a variety of materials from granite and stone to brick, concrete and metal.

carbide dulls in one direction, flip the blade 180 degrees over for a second set of teeth. But what's really exciting about this blade is its unique tooth geometry.

"When we first started experimenting with this blade we had a few disbelievers, but once we demonstrated it for customers, they were very impressed by its fast and clean cutting ability; the results are remarkable," states Dumitru.

Two blades in one, this exclusive design creates an efficient cut, reducing trips to the lumber yard. Norske Reversa Cut blades are available in six sizes ranging from 5 3/8 to 12 inches. They are also available under Norske's Trade-A-Blade brand, which has been offering the original trade system since 1972.

OX TOOLS

During the typical lifespan of a saw, users will far outspend the purchase price of the tool in the cost of blades. By purchasing solely on the lowest cost option, professionals can actually end up spending far more than investing in quality blades in the first place. Higher-cost blades result from continuous innovations, investment in better quality materials and precision engineering.

Diamond blades are extremely versatile but when used in the wrong application, users are not getting the full benefit from the blade. OX Tools is developing more application-specific blades that will increase the life of the blade and deliver better performance. As part of this effort OX will make it easier for end-users to select the appropriate blade.

"The OX PU10 cuts the most common materials found on a construction site," says Martin Lyons, vice president of operations and R&D, North America, for OX Tools USA. "Its continuous rim and serrated edge design gives the blade faster cutting speeds while maintaining a smooth cut. The reinforced center plate offers increased safety while the vibration dampening means quieter cuts. Available from 4 to 14 inches, these blades can cut granite, natural stone, clay products, engineering bricks, metal and concrete products.'

By using the most appropriate accessories for their jobs, users achieve better results and increase accessory life, which leads to additional savings. OX will be working more closely with end-users to help them in determining the best product based on their application.

When using the wrong accessory for the material, the user places an undue burden on the cutting edge that wears out the blade more quickly and forces the tool to work harder than it should.

"For example, at OX Tools, we are developing new diamond blades designed specifically for natural stone, green concrete and glass and tile that will deliver longer life while enhancing performance," Lyons says. "Ultimately, choosing the right accessory for the job will save time, money and deliver better results."

PFERD USA

Improved performance, safety and cost reduction continue to be drivers influencing the metalworking market. The same holds true for saws and blades. When looking at cost reduction, the focus is on application-based



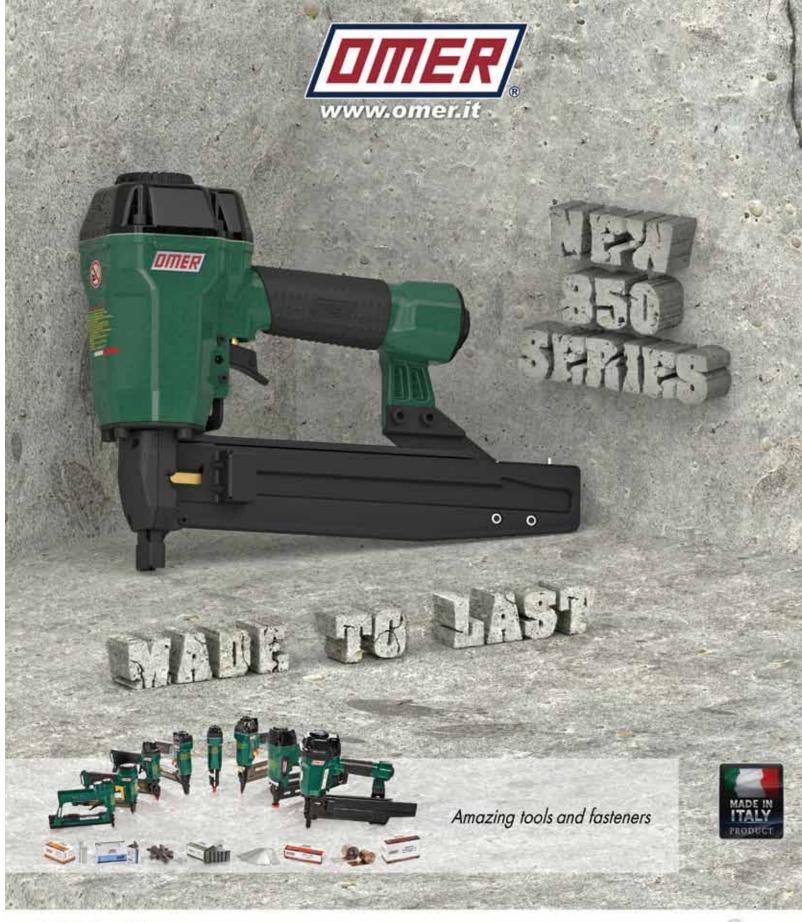
cost rather than per-piece price of the consumable — this is where true cost savings can be achieved. PFERD's approach is based on a consultative, collaborative approach with the end user whereby the whole process is evaluated and an overall process improvement is the focus.

Cordless tool technology is advancing with significant development in battery performance. To improve market share, PFERD continues to design products specifically for these tool types and the user's application needs, such as small-diameter thin (.040" and .045")

> cut-off wheels, and the innovative DUODISC wheel, designed CONTINUED ON PAGE 60



PFERD's innovative DUODISC wheel is designed for both cutting and light grinding in steel and stainless steel, which saves the operator time and increases productivity.







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Steelmax Ceramic Metallic (Cermet) tipped blades have a proprietary hardened tip that has tremendous wear resistance to deliver more cuts per blade in stainless steel and other nonferrous materials.

for both cutting and light grinding of steel and stainless steel.

"The market has recently seen a large variety of cut-off wheels with diamond abrasive electroplated onto a heavy metal blank," says John Thompson, PFERD national technical sales manager. "Diamond wheels have proven to be cost

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effective in some high-volume cutting applications, such as automated processes. While diamond wheels have their place in the industry, abrasive cutting wheels provide cleaner cuts with less noise and vibration, and are the most cost-effective solution for the majority of metal-cutting applications in the construction world."

At PFERD, improvements and innovations always focus on value, on the operator and the "human factor," rather than on a specific price point. There is a parallel focus on efficiency, aiming to reduce labor time and other factors that contribute to process costs.

World-class products are based on global parameters demanded by ISO, EU, OSA, and ANSI requirements. An example is the PFERD 3-inch cordless cut-off

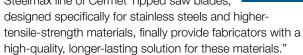
blade designed for maximum performance (80 m/s) to meet international standards. It also offers better safety/performance for North American ANSI specs (100 m/s). The design of the portable gas saw product for wet or dry cutting on various materials from asphalt, concrete and stone to ductile iron is a big leap forward.

STEELMAX

Dry metal cutting technologies are a staple in steel fabrication, in the shop and in the field. They are used extensively to cut angle, channel, tube and pipe of ferrous and non-ferrous materials. For years, the industry standard dry metal cutting blade has been the Tungsten Carbide Tipped (TCT) metal-cutting saw blade which works quite well on mild steels and aluminum.

However, on stainless steels and higher tensile strength materials, TCT blades do not perform as well, exhibiting substantially shorter life spans.

"Tungsten Carbide Tipped circular saw blades struggle to meet the needs of the fabricator when it comes to cutting stainless steels," says Mark Allen, director of sales and marketing, Steelmax Tools. "The new Steelmax line of Cermet Tipped saw blades,



Steelmax Ceramic Metallic (Cermet) tipped blades utilize a proprietary hardened tip offering tremendous wear resistance, delivering more cuts per blade in stainless steel and other non-ferrous materials. These blades also feature three Steelmax exclusive attributes aimed at reducing vibration, noise and friction, all adding up to longer blade life for the user.

First, A two-step blade body minimizes vibration by reducing the volume of space left between the material and the blade body during the cutting process.

Second, laser slits are cut into the blade to reduce dissonant noise produced by the blade during cutting. The slits are filled with a proprietary resin that further reduces blade vibration.

Third, the blade bodies are coated with fluorine which reduces friction as the blade moves through the material. As with any coated blade, special attention should be paid to cleaning the cut material prior to welding as the coating can leave behind

dust that can affect weld quality.

Available in 7 1/4-, 9- and 14-inch diameters, these blades provide long life and smooth, burr-free cuts in stainless steels and other non-ferrous materials.

NORSKE TOOLS

THIS YOUNG COMPANY THRIVES ON INNOVATION AND SPEED TO MARKET

ounded in January 2016,
Norske Tools was launched by
an experienced team with
over 75 years of combined
experience in the Power Tool
Accessory (PTA) industry. With
the help of an accomplished PTA
manufacturer backing their enterprise,
Norske Tools sells a wide range of
innovative accessories built for
professionals.

"We saw a chance to reignite a stagnant industry with a model that could combine quality and innovation of a manufacturer with the service of a distributor," explains Paul Johnston, Norske Tools' project manager.

For instance, the company's new Reversa Cut framing blade features an innovative two-in-one design that doubles blade-life. Radical Twin Tooth Technology provides bidirectional cutting: When the carbide dulls in one direction, flip the blade 180 degrees over for a second set of teeth.

By leveraging technical and manufacturing expertise to shorten lead times, Norske guarantees quality and

DORSKE

develops first-to-market products.

Norske Tools takes customer service seriously, and provides its retail customers with attractive, easy-to-install merchandising displays. Since Day one, relationships have been the core of their business; both in terms of sales and supply. Product performance retains these sales, keeping retailers' customers coming back for more. cs

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