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MARK DESCHEPPER
CSDA President



Building Value Beyond the Jobsite

As we move into the summer season, I want to thank everyone who attended the CSDA Annual Conference this past April. The conference once again demonstrated the strength of our association, bringing together contractors, manufacturers, suppliers, and industry professionals from across North America to learn, network, and share ideas. The energy and engagement throughout the event reinforced what makes the Concrete Sawing & Drilling Association such a valuable resource for our industry.

Now, as we enter the busiest time of year for many of our member companies, the CSDA remains focused on delivering practical benefits that help members operate more efficiently, develop their workforce, and improve profitability.

One of the most exciting additions this year is the introduction of a new Employee Communication and Training Platform available to members at a discounted rate. Labor development continues to be one of the greatest challenges facing our industry, and this platform provides companies with a powerful tool to communicate with employees, deliver training content, track progress, and strengthen workforce engagement. Whether onboarding new hires or reinforcing best practices with experienced team members, this resource offers significant value for contractors looking to build stronger teams.

We have also expanded our member savings opportunities through a new Fleet Vehicle Discount Program. With vehicle acquisition and operating costs continuing to rise, this program provides members with access to discounts that can positively impact their bottom line while helping maintain reliable fleets that keep projects moving.

Additionally, members now have access to a Profit Recovery Service at discounted rates. Many companies are unaware of funds, credits, or recoverable assets that may be available to

them. This service helps identify opportunities that can directly improve financial performance, creating another avenue for members to realize a return on their CSDA investment.

These new programs reflect our ongoing commitment to ensuring that membership provides measurable value beyond networking and education. We are actively evaluating additional member benefit programs, and we expect to announce more discounted services in the near future.

Education and workforce development remain central to our mission. I encourage members to take advantage of our upcoming training opportunities hosted by Diamond Products in Elyria, Ohio:

- **CSDA 101 Training: October 12-14, 2026**
- **CSDA 201 Training: October 14-16, 2026**

The 101 course provides foundational knowledge for newer operators and employees entering the industry, while the 201 course is designed for experienced operators seeking to expand their technical expertise and sharpen their skills. These programs continue to play a critical role in developing a safe, skilled, and professional workforce.

As summer projects ramp up across the country, I encourage every member to take advantage of the growing resources available through the association. Together, we continue to strengthen our industry, invest in our people, and demonstrate the value that professional concrete sawing and drilling contractors bring to every project.

Thank you for your continued support of the CSDA, and I wish everyone a safe, productive, and successful summer season.

Warm regards,
Mark DeSchepper

CSDA OFFICERS

President, Mark DeSchepper
Echo GPR Services
mark@echogpr.com

Vice President, David Perkins
Hilti, Inc.
david.perkins@hilti.com

Secretary-Treasurer, Kristin Waters
Greene Concrete Cutting, Inc.
kristinw@greenesinc.com

Past President, Kellie Kimball
Holes Incorporated
kellie@holesinc.com

Executive Director, Georgia Foley
Concrete Sawing & Drilling Association
georgia@frontlineco.com

CSDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Terms expiring 2026)

Scott Brown
ICS Diamond Tools
scott.brown@oregontool.com

Craig Caliva
Husqvarna Construction Products
craig.caliva@husqvarnagroup.com

Rick Glidewell
Hilti, Inc.
rick.glidewell@hilti.com

Justin Hendricks
Vacuworx
justinh@vacuworx.com

Dani Planto
General Tool/Diamond Vantage
daniellep@gtdiamond.com

Brian Wnuk
West Coast Coring & Cutting Group
brianwnuk@westcoastcutting.ca

CSDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Terms expiring 2027)

Ty Conner
Austin Enterprise
tconner@austin-enterprise.com

Brian Cox
Hard Rock Concrete Cutting
brian@hardrockconcretecutting.com

Dan Foley
Cobra Concrete Cutting Service Company
danfoley@cobraconcrete.com

Sid Kilgore
Diamond Products Limited
skilgore@diamondproducts.com

Billy Tucker
DITEQ Corporation
btucker@diteq.com

CONCRETE CASES

Preserving History One Cut at a Time: Precision Wire Sawing and Core Drilling Protect Iconic 1916 Bridge Artifacts



Precision Concrete Cutting Supports Critical Hospital Expansion



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CSDA
100 E. Washington St.
Springfield, IL 62701
info@csda.org
www.csda.org

editor@concreteopenings.com
www.csda.org/page/concrete_openings

PUBLISHER

Concrete Sawing & Drilling Association

EDITOR

Lauren Post

ADVERTISING MANAGER

Jeannine Harlow
jeannine@frontlineco.com

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Matthew Baldwin

CONCRETE CASE CONTRIBUTORS

Sierra Schneider
Erick Elliott

EDITORIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Patrick Harris
Joe Shebesta
Pat Stepanski
Kristin Waters

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PRESERVING HISTORY ONE CUT AT A TIME: PRECISION WIRE SAWING AND CORE DRILLING PROTECT ICONIC 1916 BRIDGE ARTIFACTS



When the City of Modesto, California, began plans to replace the historic Seventh Street Bridge, preserving the bridge's iconic architectural features became one of the project's highest priorities. Constructed in 1916, the 1,170-foot-long bridge is a rare surviving example of a cantilevered concrete, or "canticrete," bridge, featuring steel trusses encased within concrete and adorned with elaborate Beaux-Arts architectural details. For more than a century, the bridge served as both a transportation corridor and a community landmark.

As part of the bridge replacement project, Accelerated Engineering Management was tasked with removing and preserving dozens of historic architectural elements for future restoration and public display. The work included salvaging four massive lion statues, six obelisks, railings, benches, pilasters, wingwalls, and historic bronze plaques without damaging the fragile century-old concrete.

Unlike traditional demolition projects, success would not be measured by how quickly structures could be removed. Instead, every operation had to prioritize preservation. Many of the bridge artifacts were more than 100 years old and exhibited the effects of decades of weather exposure, thermal cycling, moisture intrusion, and natural aging. Although some appeared structurally sound, engineers understood that hidden microfractures, deteriorated reinforcement, and weakened concrete bonds could be present throughout the elements. Due to this, percussive demolition methods such as jackhammers, chipping guns, and impact breakers were immediately ruled out.

"Historic concrete behaves very differently than modern structural concrete," project representatives explained. Vibration is often the silent damage mechanism. The damage may not be visible immediately, but internal cracking,

delamination, and structural weakening can occur long before signs appear on the surface.

To eliminate vibration and shock loading, the team selected a combination of ground penetrating radar (GPR), precision core drilling, and wire sawing to separate the historic artifacts from the bridge structure. Before cutting operations began, extensive GPR scanning and investigative evaluations were performed to locate embedded steel, determine reinforcement patterns, identify internal voids, and understand the construction methods used during the original 1916 bridge construction.

One of the most significant discoveries occurred during evaluation of the bridge's hollow pilaster. Because original construction documentation was limited, the team used scanning technology and exploratory investigations to identify internal formwork shapes, locate cold joints, determine wall thicknesses, and better understand the structure's load paths before removal. The investigations also revealed extensive use of square reinforcing bars, a reinforcement system not typically seen in contemporary projects. Understanding the location of this reinforcement proved critical when planning cuts and lifting procedures.

The project presented numerous logistical and safety challenges. The bridge spans an active waterway and sits adjacent to an active railroad corridor. The structure also remained a heavily used pedestrian route throughout the project. Adding to the complexity, the bridge had been restricted to four tons gross vehicle load since 1979, creating significant limitations for equipment placement and load transfer.

Every phase of the work was carefully engineered in advance. Detailed lift plans, rigging plans, load calculations, and removal sequences were developed and reviewed prior to





field operations. Crane locations, telehandler positions, and pick zones were strategically selected to minimize loading on vulnerable portions of the bridge. Using GSSI ground penetrating radar systems, crews mapped internal conditions before core drilling and wire sawing operations began.

Core holes measuring 3.5-inch, 7-inch, and 10-inch diameters were drilled using Hilti Core Drills to create engineered lifting points and provide access for wire saw installation. Additional 3-inch cores were used to establish entry points for the wire saw system. A Custom Wire Riding Saw was then used to create full-depth separation cuts at the base of each salvage element. The low-vibration cutting process allowed crews to safely isolate the historic components while protecting adjacent structural elements and embedded steel trusses. Areas where cuts intersected the bridge's original steel truss system were intentionally left until the final phases of the project to maintain structural continuity throughout the removal process.

Once separated from the bridge, the historic elements required equally careful handling and transportation. The four lion statues measured approximately 8 feet long, 4 feet wide, and 7 feet tall, with estimated weights reaching 12,300 pounds

each. In addition to the lions, the team successfully salvaged six obelisks weighing approximately 9,450 pounds each, two benches weighing roughly 13,500 pounds each, two wingwalls weighing approximately 11,400 pounds each, eight decorative railings weighing approximately 7,500 pounds each, and a hollow pilaster weighing between 42,000 and 60,325 pounds.

Because of the size, weight, and fragile condition of these century-old artifacts, every lift required specialized engineering review and carefully controlled handling procedures. Engineered rigging systems utilized padded slings, halo cages, cold-rolled steel support rods, wooden sleepers, and custom support assemblies designed to distribute loads evenly and minimize concentrated stress. No direct fastening into the historic concrete was permitted. Instead, all loads were transferred through pedestal bases and engineered support systems specifically designed to protect the historic fabric. Hydraulic cranes and telehandlers allowed operators to perform slow, controlled lifts while minimizing acceleration, torsion, shock loading, and vibration throughout the removal process. Preservation efforts extended well beyond the cutting and lifting phases. Specialized slurry containment systems, collection gutters, vacuums, and controlled water management



systems were used throughout the core drilling and wire sawing operations. The systems prevented uncontrolled water migration that could damage historic concrete through staining, saturation, or freeze-thaw deterioration.

Following removal, the artifacts were wrapped, stabilized, crated, and transported using air-ride trailers equipped with anti-vibration isolation systems and padded support assemblies. Temporary protection systems were intentionally designed to be fully reversible, allowing the historic materials to remain unaltered throughout restoration and storage.

The salvage phase officially began on March 19, 2026, and was originally scheduled to continue through May 20, 2026. Through extensive planning and coordination, the Accelerated Engineering Management team successfully completed the removal, stabilization, and transportation of the historic elements by April 22, 2026, nearly a month ahead of schedule. Accelerated Engineering Management successfully preserved four lion statues, six obelisks, eight decorative railings, two wingwalls, two benches, one hollow pilaster, and two historic bronze plaques. Completing the work ahead of schedule while

maintaining the strict preservation requirements established for the project earned the team an early-completion bonus and demonstrated the effectiveness of the carefully planned removal strategy.

For generations, the Seventh Street Bridge has been far more than infrastructure. It has been a defining landmark for the City of Modesto and an important part of the community's identity. Through the use of precision concrete cutting, wire sawing, core drilling, advanced imaging, engineered lifting systems, and preservation-focused handling methods, Accelerated Engineering Management successfully ensured that these historic architectural treasures will continue to be appreciated by future generations. As restoration work continues, the salvaged lions, pilasters, plaques, and decorative elements will eventually be reintroduced into public spaces throughout the city, creating a lasting connection between Modesto's past and future. This project demonstrated that concrete cutting is not only a tool for demolition, it can also be one of the most effective tools for preservation.

“Concrete cutting is not only a tool for demolition, it can also be one of the most effective tools for preservation.”



COMPANY PROFILE

Family owned and operated, Accelerated Engineering Management is based in Northern California. They offer concrete cutting, breaking, demolition, gpr, and more. Specializing in hydropower, gas pipeline, bridge, dam/tunnel, highway, lots of infrastructure. Small company, doing big things.

RESOURCES

General Contractor

MCM Construction

CSDA Contractor

Accelerated Engineering Management

Website

www.acceleratedengineering.us

Contact for Story: Sierra Schneider

Email: sierracotrone@acceleratedengineering.us

Tel: 415-569-7191

Office Shutdowns vs Jobsite Shutdowns: How to Stop the Most Disruptive of The Two

| Dr. Ryan
Rindlisbacher



Dr. Ryan Rindlisbacher has been a software developer since 1996, working in both the custom software and vertical market spaces. Ryan cofounded CenPoint in 2009 working specifically with concrete cutters and affiliated companies. His specific focus has been increasing efficiency through technology and workflow optimization. Ryan holds a doctorate degree in Computer Science, a master's degree in Business Administration, and a bachelor's degree in Information Technology. He is married to his high school sweetheart, Jenni, and they have 3 children and 7 grandchildren.
Contact information: rrh@cenpoint.com

Safety is a topic that most construction companies spend a lot of time and resources around. Teaching employees to work safely, act safely, and think safely consumes a tremendous amount of valuable time. And while this is very important, it can easily supersede and overshadow other equally important safety considerations like database and computer safety. It is not hard to imagine how a catastrophic loss to your office operations can affect your company's ability to function.

What would happen if your company was hit by a ransomware virus that held part or all of your vital data hostage? What happens if someone in your office falls victim to a phishing attack? The time to think through these scenarios is not when you wake up and realize you are down! Some planning goes a long way and the old saying, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" is never truer than with computers and data.

Employee training, following industry standards for passwords, multifactor authentication, and a commonsense approach all help, but nothing replaces the importance of good backups. Backups of your data are really the only silver bullet in the fight against ransomware. Backups of your data are really the only way to put you in control. Backups of your data are really the only way to ensure your continued viability when everything else stops working.

But the very exciting and immensely cool thing about backups are just how easy they have become. Not long ago, backups were tedious, costly, and unreliable. But modern tools have completely changed that. Thumb drives and cloud backup tools have helped in this regard.

Three key components to backups are: 1-Backup frequency, 2-Backup location, and 3-Backup type. Each of these elements deserves a brief discussion because of the importance each brings to the entire backup solution.

First, backup frequency. How often you take backups varies on your specific needs. For example, if you have a local copy of QuickBooks with multiple people working in QB daily, it may make sense to back that up every day. But if you are only entering receipts and paying bills once a

week, daily might be too often. Determining how much data you can afford to lose is an important element to figure out when deciding how frequently you need to do backups.

Second, location. Where do you put your backups? This is actually more complicated than you would think. The ideal (and by ideal, I mean really the only way to confidently count on that backup) is to have it offsite. One of our customers had their shop catch fire and burn down their office with it. All backups stored in that office were destroyed. Backups must be stored in a separate physical location from the original data. Thumb drives simplify this as you can put them on a keychain and simply take them home with you at night. Rotating through a few is even better. Label one thumb drive Monday, another Tuesday, and so on. Simply grab the correct one each day and update the backup at work. This is only one way to do offsite backups, but other approaches can be equally safe and secure.

Third, the backup type. Some backup programs only backup changes while others backup all files. Some backup paradigms only backup data while others backup supporting data. For example, at CenPoint, all the data is backed up twice a day while unstructured

data (e.g. images, videos, documents, etc. also known as blob data) is backed up once a day. Just remember that if you decide to do incremental backups, the primary backup becomes paramount in importance with each incremental backup. The simplest approach is to do full backups of mission critical data; it just may take a little longer and can create larger backups.

If you do not have complete control over your backups, you simply do not have complete control over your company. Even if you do not fully understand what to do with a backup, providing them to IT personnel or even returning them back to your solutions provider (in the event the source becomes corrupt or lost) puts you back in the driver's seat when disaster strikes. The lifeblood of your company, and one of its most valuable resources, is your data. Don't be passive about such an important component in your business.



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Beyond Awareness: Building a Mental Health Culture Toolkit for Construction



| Sally Spencer-Thomas, PysD

Construction has always been a high-stakes industry. But while the industry has made enormous strides in keeping workers physically safe, the same can't be said for mental well-being.

Behind the hard hats and steel-toe boots are people quietly battling addiction, trauma, chronic pain, depression and sometimes, despair. This article explores the transition from crisis response to culture change, presenting research-backed strategies, tools, and real-world examples of how companies are transforming their workplace cultures to foster mental health resilience.

A CRISIS IN EVERY CORNER OF CONSTRUCTION

When I first started this work in construction mental health, reactions ranged from polite skepticism to outright pushback. “Doc, we’re builders, not therapists,” one project executive said. Another cracked, “What’s next? Group hugs before drywall?”

It wasn’t cruelty. It was confusion. And to be honest, I understood it. People were worried we were going to ask them to do things they weren’t trained or prepared to do. What they didn’t know yet was that support doesn’t require a license and a bunch of letters after your name; it just requires leadership, humility and humanity.

And here’s the truth: The more honest we got, the more open people became.

After one training, a safety manager quietly told me, “I found my apprentice overdosed in the porta-potty last year. I didn’t know what to say to anyone.”

At another, a foreperson said, “I carried my friend’s casket after he died by suicide, then showed up to the jobsite two days later like nothing happened.” He paused. “There wasn’t a plan for anything else.”

That kind of silence? It’s not strong. It’s not tough. It’s dangerous.

The construction workforce is far more likely to die by suicide, overdose or the consequences of addiction than from a physical injury on the jobsite, and yet they are among the least likely to seek support for their mental health challenges. While traditional safety programs have made tremendous strides in reducing physical harm, we’re still lagging dangerously behind in addressing the invisible injuries.

One of the biggest misconceptions is that mental health issues are purely individual problems to be solved through personal counseling. But that’s not the whole story. Many of the struggles we see—substance misuse, burnout, hopelessness—are symptoms of deeper, systemic issues. Workplace-related psychosocial hazards like chronic stress, job insecurity, bullying, excessive pressure, and lack of control are often the root causes of distress. Just sending someone to therapy, without addressing the environment they’re returning to, is like treating smoke and ignoring the fire.

In fact, this overreliance on an individual approach can unintentionally become a form of deflection—a way for organizations to avoid responsibility for the conditions they’ve helped create. True care means tackling both the person and the system. That means designing jobs and workplaces that support mental health, not sabotage it.

GETTING BEYOND INDIVIDUAL LEVEL “FIXES”

Culture is often called “the air we breathe”—invisible yet shaping everything we do. Organizational culture is a collective pattern of behaviors, values and beliefs that

guide how work gets done. And changing it? That takes intention, time and strategy.

I’ve been working on mental health in the construction industry since 2013. If you were to look me up, you’d likely see my clinical credentials and assume I spend most of my time providing therapy to workers. But what you might not know is that I also spent nearly a decade leading a university-based leadership development program. In that role, I helped people explore what leadership meant to them and how they could create meaningful change.

We didn’t just talk about theory; we studied how leaders around the world drive large-scale, cultural shifts in areas like mental health and suicide prevention. While my formal training is in individual-level change, my passion lies in pulling bigger levers—transforming systems, not just treating symptoms.

It’s time we apply what we know from the science of culture change to the construction industry’s mental health movement and build a practical roadmap for real, lasting change. Because sending someone to a counselor might help temporarily, but if we send them back into a toxic environment, we’re simply applying a Band-Aid to a broken foundation.

WHAT RESEARCH REVEALS

Culture is shaped by everything we do and say. Stanford experts Aaker and Huang emphasize that culture isn’t changed through slogans or messaging; it’s shaped by leaders’ everyday decisions like hiring and rewards, rituals, storytelling, and peer interactions. They advocate small, measurable experiments followed by strategic scaling to create lasting transformation (Aaker and Huang, 2023).

Leadership behavior is the primary signal of what matters. The Nous Group’s review of Australian hospital leaders shows that senior staff don’t just define culture; they are culture. Seven interrelated levers: modeling behavior, enabling two-way communication, focusing on psychosocial wellbeing, building accountability, removing structural barriers, supporting practical grounded networks, and measuring continuously were essential for real change (Nous Group, 2023).

Culture change is a long, strategic journey—not a checkbox exercise. The Leadership Research Institute emphasizes that effective culture change requires sustained planning, clear metrics, capacity building, and deliberate pacing. It isn’t a one-off initiative, but rather a building of momentum over time (LRI, n.d.).

People matter most and resistance is part of the process. Prosci’s research shows that people-focused change management—with empathy, stakeholder engagement, transparent communication, and change champions—is six times more likely to succeed. Organizations with strong change leadership report lower burnout (down 75%) and anxiety (down 25%) (Prosci, 2023; Prosci, 2024).

Structures must reinforce new behaviors. APMG

highlights that culture change involves aligning strategy, leadership actions, and employee practices. Leaders must ‘do before they say,’ involve people in co-design, celebrate shifts in behavior, and maintain accountability, while recognizing that shortcuts rarely stick (APMG International, 2024).

These findings stress that workplace mental health culture change isn’t an “add-on” box to check; it requires embedding new behaviors into the fabric of everyday work. That means revisiting how jobs are performed, how meetings are run, how information is shared, and how leaders respond in crises.

By combining quantitative and qualitative data—mapped to behaviors we want to reinforce—leaders can make continuous improvements that stick.

According to the Oxford Review, successful culture change starts by aligning new behaviors with existing values and making those behaviors visible and consistent.

The Prosci model emphasizes that individual change is the building block of organizational transformation; leaders must support people through awareness, desire, knowledge, ability, and reinforcement.

Meanwhile, APMG International advises starting with a clear articulation of the “why,” and focusing efforts on the everyday levers that influence culture: policies, training, communication, and leadership modeling.

A recent Nous Group study commissioned by RACMA found that while most organizations say they value psychological safety, few have systems to support it. Workers need to see leaders “walking the talk”; creating environments where speaking up, asking for help and challenging unsafe norms are not just allowed but expected. The OCMSolution framework also reminds us that sustained communication, peer involvement, and resistance management are critical in high-risk environments like construction.

CONCLUSION

The construction industry is at a turning point. While hard hats and harnesses have saved countless lives, it’s time to recognize that protecting workers’ mental health is just as critical as physical safety. The stories and data make it clear: this is not a problem of weak individuals, but of systems that need to evolve.

Real change starts with leadership—leaders who are willing to listen, to act, and to challenge outdated norms. By moving beyond quick fixes and embedding mental health into

the fabric of how work gets done, the industry can build a future where every worker is safe, seen, and supported—not just on the outside, but within.



Sally Spencer-Thomas, PysD, is a keynote speaker and impact entrepreneur. She also is the co-founder and president of United Suicide Survivors International.

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A large, rectangular concrete slab is suspended in the air by a crane hook. The slab is light gray and appears to be a precast component. In the background, there is a multi-story brick building under construction. A white truck with a blue crane arm is parked nearby. A worker in a yellow safety vest is visible near the truck. The ground is a mix of dirt and concrete, with some construction equipment and materials scattered around.

Precision Concrete Cutting Supports Critical Hospital Expansion



While St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center in Green

Bay, Wisconsin, continued providing cancer treatment services, Mavo Systems Concrete Sawing Services (MCCS) performed highly specialized concrete cutting and selective demolition as part of a major expansion of the facility's Linear Accelerator (LINAC) Building. Between April 2024 and May 2025, crews used wire sawing, core drilling, and robotic demolition to remove roof sections, create openings through heavily reinforced concrete shielding walls measuring more than 6 feet thick, and prepare the facility for new equipment and structural improvements.

Linear accelerators are used to deliver targeted radiation treatments to cancer patients and require specially constructed treatment rooms with thick concrete shielding walls designed to protect patients, staff, and visitors from radiation exposure. Any modifications to these structures demand exceptional precision, careful planning, and controlled demolition methods.

Traditional demolition methods such as jackhammering and mechanical breaking were not practical for this project. The work required clean openings, controlled removal, and the ability to cut through heavily reinforced concrete sections measuring up to 6 feet 4 inches thick. Diamond cutting methods provided the precision necessary to maintain dimensional accuracy while minimizing vibration, noise, and disruption to surrounding areas. Just as importantly, the controlled nature of the cutting process allowed St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center to remain fully operational throughout construction, ensuring patient care continued uninterrupted while renovations were underway.

The work required precision at every stage. Maintaining control over the cuts and the removal sequence was critical because of the thickness of the concrete and the specialized environment that the MCCS team was working in.

The project began with selective demolition of the facility's roof structure. Crews saw cut 1,548 square feet of 6-inch-thick concrete into 62 sections, followed by another 1,548 square feet of 18-inch-thick concrete divided into 97 sections. An additional 377 square feet

of 18-inch-thick concrete was cut into 21 sections for removal.

Additional work included cutting 240 linear feet of 12-inch-thick precast joints and modifying a 30-linear-foot brick ledge to accommodate new precast bearing locations.

To complete the roof demolition, MCCS utilized a Brokk 100 demolition robot to separate concrete layers and assist with removal operations. A Husqvarna 492 wall saw was used on the thicker roof sections, while a Husqvarna 7000 walk-behind saw handled thinner concrete areas.

The most technically demanding portion of the project involved creating large openings through the facility's radiation-shielding concrete walls. To complete the first opening required crews to core drill eleven 3-inch-diameter holes through a 4-foot-thick exterior concrete wall. These access holes allowed operators to install wire saw systems and create a 9-foot-by-9-foot opening. The wall section was carefully divided into six pieces for rigging and removal. The second opening presented an even greater challenge. Crews core drilled thirty-four 3-inch-diameter holes through a partition wall measuring 6 feet 4 inches thick. The holes provided access for both wire sawing operations and rigging systems. Using two Hilti DSW 3018-E wire saws, operators cut a 21-foot-by-15-foot opening through the massive wall.

To ensure safe removal, the opening was divided into thirteen sections weighing approximately 22,000 pounds each. Every cut had to be carefully sequenced to allow for rigging access while



maintaining complete control of the concrete sections during removal. Hilti 350-series core drilling systems were used throughout the project to create the wire access and rigging holes necessary for the cutting operations.

Additional work included saw cutting and removing 413 square feet of 12-inch-thick slab-on-grade surrounding the accelerator foundation.

Because the accelerator area serves as the centerpiece of the treatment facility, demolition activities required careful coordination to protect adjacent structures while preparing the area for future construction. Diamond cutting methods allowed crews to create precise boundaries and remove concrete without causing unintended damage to surrounding components.

Several factors added complexity to the project. The extreme wall thicknesses, large section weights, roof work, rigging requirements, and work around critical hospital infrastructure all required detailed planning and coordination.

Heavy wall sections weighing approximately 22,000 pounds each demanded carefully engineered lifting and removal procedures. Core drilling locations, wire saw access points, rigging configurations, and cut sequences were planned in advance to ensure safe handling during every phase of the work.

Safety protocols addressed hazards associated with elevated work areas, suspended loads, open roof and floor openings, dust and slurry management, demolition equipment, and material removal operations. Crews utilized hard hats, eye and hearing protection, gloves, steel-toed boots, high-visibility clothing, respiratory protection when necessary, and fall protection systems around open edges and elevated work zones.

Because the hospital remained fully operational during the project, construction activities required careful coordination with hospital staff and other trades. Maintaining a safe environment for patients, visitors, and healthcare personnel was a top priority throughout the work. The precision and predictability of diamond cutting methods helped minimize disruption while allowing critical construction activities to proceed alongside ongoing medical operations.

Over the course of the project, MCCS completed 3,886 square feet of concrete saw cutting, 240 linear feet of precast joint cutting, 30 linear feet of brick ledge modification, and 45 core-drilled access holes. The team successfully created a 9-foot-by-9-foot opening through a 4-foot-thick wall and a 21-foot-by-15-foot opening through a 6-foot-4-inch-thick partition wall, removing thirteen concrete sections weighing approximately 22,000 pounds each.

The project was completed ahead of schedule and is widely regarded as a major success.

From MCCS's perspective, the project represented a unique opportunity to contribute to an important healthcare expansion while demonstrating the capabilities of modern concrete cutting technology. The company described the work as a profound honor and noted that the combination of teamwork, creativity, planning, and engineering made the project an unforgettable experience.

MCCS believes its reputation for precision wire sawing, technical expertise, and attention to detail played a significant role in being selected for the project.

In the end, the project demonstrated how advanced concrete cutting and selective demolition techniques can overcome

extraordinary structural challenges while supporting critical healthcare infrastructure improvements. By creating large openings through walls measuring up to 6 feet 4 inches thick, removing concrete sections weighing approximately 22,000 pounds, and allowing the hospital to remain fully operational throughout construction, the project showcased the precision, planning, and expertise that modern concrete cutting methods can provide. Through precise planning, specialized equipment, and experienced execution, the contractor team successfully delivered the controlled demolition required to help prepare the next generation of cancer treatment facilities.

“The project showcased the precision, planning, and expertise that modern concrete cutting methods can provide.”

COMPANY BIO

Founded in 1982, Mavo Systems, Inc. operates throughout Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and the Dakotas, emphasizing professional workmanship and individual client attention. From small scale operations to large scale multi-phase projects, our extensive experience and cost saving methods work for any size project at industrial, commercial, retail or institutional sites. Mavo Systems has offices in Edgar, Wausau and Superior, WI as well as Duluth, Rochester, New Brighton and headquartered in White Bear Lake, MN. Their services: Concrete Sawing and Coring, Mechanical Insulation, Interior/Soft Demolition, Asbestos, Mold & Lead Abatement, Floor Services (Concrete polishing and Epoxy Coatings), Specialty Services including HVAC Cleaning and Decontamination, Mechanical Systems Removal, Dry Ice Blasting, Water, Fire & Storm Restoration. Mavo Systems has been a member of CSDA for six years.

RESOURCES

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IEI General Contractors

CSDA Contractor

Mavo Systems Concrete Sawing Services

Website

www.mavoconcretesawing.com

Contact for Story: Erick Elliott, Project Manager

Email: eelliott@mavo.com

Tel: 715-352-2552

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2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

THE CUTTING EDGE  OF SUCCESS

The Cutting Edge of Success: Highlights from the 2026 CSDA Annual Conference

Set against the stunning coastal backdrop of Amelia Island, Florida, the 2026 CSDA Annual Conference was more than just a gathering—it was a place where innovation, expertise, and industry leadership came together. Embracing the theme “Cutting Edge,” this year’s event challenged attendees to explore new technologies, sharpen their skills, and discover forward-thinking solutions that are shaping the future of the concrete sawing and drilling industry.

The event began on Monday, April 6, with an Early Bird Cocktail Reception for attendees who arrived ahead of the conference schedule to enjoy additional time at the resort before committee meetings and the Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday morning. Despite rainy and windy conditions, 35 CSDA members participated in the annual golf scramble on the resort’s Oak Marsh Course, demonstrating the determination and camaraderie that are hallmarks of the association. Tuesday evening was reserved for manufacturer hospitality events, providing attendees with an opportunity to connect and strengthen relationships in a relaxed setting.

The conference officially opened on Wednesday, April 8, with welcoming remarks from CSDA President Mark DeSchepper of Echo GPR Services. He greeted attendees and set the stage for a day focused on industry trends, business growth, and innovation.

The opening keynote presentation was delivered by economist Alex Chausovsky of 3DM Consulting. Chausovsky provided attendees with a comprehensive overview of the global economy before examining key sectors that directly impact the construction and industrial markets. Throughout his presentation, he emphasized the importance of making data-driven business decisions, preparing for changing

market conditions, strengthening supply chains amid geopolitical uncertainty, and investing in both technology and relationships to remain competitive. He also discussed the growing role of artificial intelligence and productivity-enhancing technologies as businesses navigate an increasingly complex economic environment.

Following the keynote session, attendees participated in a series of educational breakouts covering critical business topics facing today’s contractors. Chris Ross of Marsh McLennan Agency led a discussion on risk management strategies, highlighting key considerations related to insurance, contracts, and liability. Craig Caliva and Shawn McNeil of Husqvarna Construction Products, along with Jeff Keeling of Brokk Inc. and Tim Rudder of ICS, explored how robotics technology is enhancing operational efficiency while improving jobsite safety. Ryan Rindlisbacher of CentralPoint Solutions, LLC addressed the growing importance of data protection and business continuity planning, emphasizing the risks companies face in an increasingly digital environment. The educational sessions concluded with Zack Eckert and James Schier of Renaissance Financial, who shared financial strategies designed to help business owners strengthen profitability, navigate economic uncertainty, and position their companies for long-term success.

The Manufacturers Lunch and Tech Fair followed, giving attendees an opportunity to engage directly with manufacturers and learn about new products, technologies, and applications in a tabletop format. The event served as a valuable forum for exploring innovations that can improve productivity, safety, and performance in the field.

Wednesday concluded with the President’s Reception, where members gathered to continue conversations from the





day's sessions and strengthen connections with colleagues from across the industry.

On Thursday morning, attendees heard from CSDA Board Member Brian Wnuk of West Coast Cutting & Coring Group, Ltd. Wnuk shared a compelling case study detailing his company's work on the historic Salt Lake City Temple, where his team was tasked with supporting a significant seismic upgrade. He explained how precision drilling techniques played a critical role in preserving the integrity of the structure while allowing the necessary improvements to be completed.

The educational program continued with a presentation from Don Smith of Real Power, who provided an update on diesel emission systems and discussed important developments affecting equipment owners and operators. Attendees then participated in roundtable discussions focused on key industry topics, creating opportunities to exchange ideas, discuss challenges, and share best practices with peers.

CSDA's Annual Business Meeting followed, featuring remarks from President Mark DeSchepper and Executive

Director Georgia Foley. Both reflected on the association's accomplishments over the past year and discussed ongoing initiatives designed to support members and advance the industry.

The afternoon was left open for attendees to enjoy Amelia Island and the resort's many amenities before reconvening that evening for the Gala Reception and Dinner. During the event, CSDA recognized several outgoing Board members for their service and dedication to the association. The evening also featured the presentation of CSDA's prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award to Karl Moller, Chairman of the Board of Diamond Products in Elyria, Ohio, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to both the industry and the association throughout his career.

As the conference ended, attendees departed Amelia Island with new insights, valuable connections, and fresh ideas to bring back to their companies. Looking ahead, CSDA announced that its 2027 Annual Meeting will be held February 15-17, 2027, in Fort Worth, Texas, immediately preceding the National Demolition Association's annual meeting. Registration for the event will open in October 2026.



IACDS ANNUAL MEETING IN EDINBURGH



RODERICH BRAUN
IACDS President

The last IACDS annual meeting was more than a year ago at Bauma, and soon we will meet again for the annual meeting 2026 in Edinburgh. Thus, this time the host association will be the British Association DSA. We are looking forward to welcoming the international concrete cutting and drilling community, it will be even an intercontinental event, due to guests from the Japanese Association.

However, before I travel to Edinburgh, I will visit the Swiss Association SVBS in Andermatt, Switzerland. This year is a special year for the Swiss Association, they are celebrating their 40th anniversary. Congratulations from the International Association IACDS to the Swiss Association SVBS to this success story.

From Switzerland I will travel directly to the UK. At the IACDS annual meeting in Edinburgh, we will present our new yearbook which demonstrates and illustrates the recent achievements of our industry, from an international perspective.

The previous annual event that I have visited was that of the German Association FBS at the BeBoSa trade fair in Willingen. It was another very successful and professional event, and it was indeed a pleasure to see so many familiar faces.

Finally, I would like to emphasize that everybody is welcome at the IACDS annual event, also those who are not members of the International Association or National Associations.

See you in Edinburgh,
Roderich M. Braun

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Disinheriting the IRS: Strategies to Safeguard and Grow Your Wealth

| Zack Eckert, James Schier and Nathan B. Goertzen



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All investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal. There is no assurance that any investment strategy will be successful.

Converting from a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA is a taxable event. A Roth IRA offers tax-free withdrawals on taxable contributions. To qualify for the tax-free and penalty-free withdrawal or earnings, a Roth IRA must be in place for at least five tax years, and the distribution must take place after age 59 ½ or due to death, disability, or a first-time home purchase (up to a \$10,000 lifetime maximum). Depending on state law, Roth IRA distributions may be subject to state taxes. Tax Free - Income may be subject to local, state and/or the alternative minimum tax. Tax Deferral - 10% IRS penalty may apply to withdrawals prior to age 59 ½.

You didn't stumble into success, you built it. A business, a revenue engine, a life with options. But as income rises, tax exposure increases. Without a proactive financial plan, a meaningful portion of what you've created can quietly shift out of your control and toward the IRS.

The objective isn't to avoid taxes. It's to control them, deciding when, how, and how much you pay, while protecting the broader architecture of your wealth. Sophisticated business owners don't wait until April. They plan with intention year-round.

Here is how they're doing it.

PAYING TAXES ON YOUR OWN TERMS

One of the most effective strategies begins with a simple premise: pay some tax now to save more later. It sounds counterintuitive, but bear with me.

We're operating in a favorable tax environment historically, even as long-term fiscal pressures suggest higher taxes are coming. After all, our government is \$39T in debt. That makes proactive strategies like Roth conversions increasingly relevant.

A Roth conversion allows you to move pre-tax retirement assets into a Roth account, paying taxes today in exchange for tax-free growth and withdrawals later. Done thoughtfully, it can:

- Reduce lifetime tax liability
- Minimize or eliminate required minimum distributions (RMDs)
- Create tax-free inheritances for heirs

But this isn't a one-size-fits-all move. It requires modeling income, timing major events like a business exit, and managing thresholds that affect deductions and Medicare premiums. Executed correctly, it becomes a powerful tool for long term tax control.

THE "TRIPLE-TAX-FREE" OPPORTUNITY

One of the most underutilized tools available is the Health Savings Account (HSA). HSAs offer a rare trifecta:

- Tax-deductible contributions
- Tax-deferred growth
- Tax-free withdrawals for qualified medical expenses

Yet many treat them like short-term spending accounts. A more strategic approach is to let the account grow, paying medical expenses out-of-pocket when possible.



With thoughtful planning and coordinated strategy, you have the potential to reduce lifetime taxes, protect against risk, retain key employees, and create a legacy that lasts.



Why? Healthcare costs are heavily concentrated later in life. Allowing HSA funds to compound over decades creates a pool of tax-free capital precisely when you're most likely to need it.

SAFEGUARDING AGAINST THE UNPREDICTABLE

Tax efficiency is only part of the equation. Protection matters just as much.

A single liability event like a car accident or injury on your property can create financial exposure far beyond your base insurance coverage. Without protection, that gap becomes your responsibility.

Umbrella insurance fills that gap. For a relatively low annual cost, it provides an additional \$1M–\$5M in liability coverage above your existing policies. It covers legal costs, settlements, and judgments that could otherwise erode your net worth overnight.

Many financial losses come from the unexpected.

SAFEGUARDING AND RETAINING YOUR KEY EMPLOYEES

Your top employees are often the reason your business performs at a high level. Losing them is disruptive, it's expensive, often costing 100%–150% of their salary.

Smart business owners treat retention as a strategy.

One powerful tool is a non-qualified deferred compensation plan. These plans reward employees over time with vesting schedules tied to performance or tenure.

If they stay, they benefit. If they leave, they forfeit. The advantage? You retain control of the assets while creating strong incentives for loyalty. These plans are not subject to ERISA regulations, so you can pick and choose who you want to reward.

Additionally, tax provisions with the new "Trump" account allow employers to contribute up to \$2,500 per year per employee for their dependents under 18, it's tax-free to the employee and deductible for the business. It's a rare win-win that ties benefits to something deeply personal: family.

After all, retention isn't just about compensation, it's about intentional design.

ESTATE PLANNING: WHERE GOOD INTENTIONS FALL SHORT

Many business owners have an estate plan. The issue isn't their documents, it's execution.

A trust is created. But accounts aren't retitled. Beneficiaries aren't updated. Business interests aren't coordinated. The result? Assets pass through probate, creating delays, costs, and public exposure.

Estate planning is about alignment.

Every asset, account, real estate, business interest, must be inventoried and intentionally structured. Not every decision is simple. Even something like titling a vehicle in a trust depends on your insurance, value, and state rules.

And for business owners, buy-sell agreements are a common gap. Having one is good. Funding it is critical.

Without funding, often through life insurance, the business may be forced to buy out an owner's family over time, straining cash flow at a critical moment.

And a buy-sell agreement needs to coordinate with your estate plan. The agreement says who buys the shares. The estate plan controls who owns them when it matters.

The goal is continuity, and structure.

EQUAL VS. EFFICIENT

Many families aim to divide assets equally among heirs. But equal doesn't always mean fair after taxes.

Different assets carry different tax consequences:

- Retirement accounts are fully taxable
- Taxable accounts may receive a step-up in basis
- Life insurance is generally tax-free
- However, taxes may apply if the payout includes interest, if the policy was sold, or if the estate is large enough to be subject to federal estate taxes

Now layer in differences among beneficiaries: income levels, tax brackets, even state residency.

An equal split on paper can create unequal outcomes.

A more refined strategy allocates tax-heavy assets to lower-bracket heirs and tax-efficient assets to higher bracket beneficiaries. The result: more wealth stays in the family, and less goes to taxes.

That's the difference between equal and optimized.

FROM TAX PLANNING TO SAFEGUARDING LEGACY

Now?

It's no longer about reducing this year's tax bill, it's about defining what your wealth is meant to accomplish.

Is it security for your family? Opportunity for the next generation? Impact through charitable giving?

Every unnecessary dollar paid in taxes is a dollar that can't support those goals.

Disinheriting the IRS isn't about avoidance, it's about alignment. It's about ensuring your wealth flows as intended.

You've already done the hard part, building something valuable.

Now comes the next phase: safeguarding

With thoughtful planning and coordinated strategy, you have the potential to reduce lifetime taxes, protect against risk, retain key employees, and create a legacy that lasts.

Because in the end, wealth isn't defined by what you earn.

It's defined by what you keep, and what you pass on.

And that is what we strive to answer.



Zack Eckert, CFP®
Director, Advisor Development
& Financial Advisor
(913) 344-7734
Zack.Eckert@rfc.com



James Schier CFS®, CFP®
Financial Advisor
(314) 932-4248
James.Schier@rfc.com



Nathan B. Goertzen, CFP®, CLTC®
Financial Advisor
(913) 344-7753
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The Importance of Electrical Connections in High-Cycle Wall Saws

Maximizing Performance, Minimizing Downtime, and Reducing Cost of Ownership

| Jessica Gowdy DeMars, Director of Marketing, ICS Diamond Tools

High-cycle wall saws are essential tools in concrete cutting and demolition, prized for their precision, power, and ability to handle demanding workloads. However, one often overlooked aspect of their performance and longevity is the quality and maintenance of electrical connections. These connections are the lifeline of the saw's motor, control systems, and safety features. Poor electrical integrity can lead to performance degradation, unexpected downtime, and costly repairs.

WHY ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS MATTER

- 1. Consistent Power Delivery** - High-cycle wall saws require stable, uninterrupted power to maintain cutting speed and torque. Loose or corroded connections can cause voltage drops, overheating, or intermittent failures.
- 2. Safety and System Protection** - Faulty electrical connections increase the risk of short circuits, arcing, and electrical fires. Proper maintenance ensures that safety systems like overload protection and emergency shutoffs function reliably.
- 3. Precision Control** - Modern wall saws often include digital controls and feedback systems. Clean, secure electrical connections are critical for accurate blade positioning, speed regulation, and diagnostics.

MAINTENANCE & CLEANING BEST PRACTICES

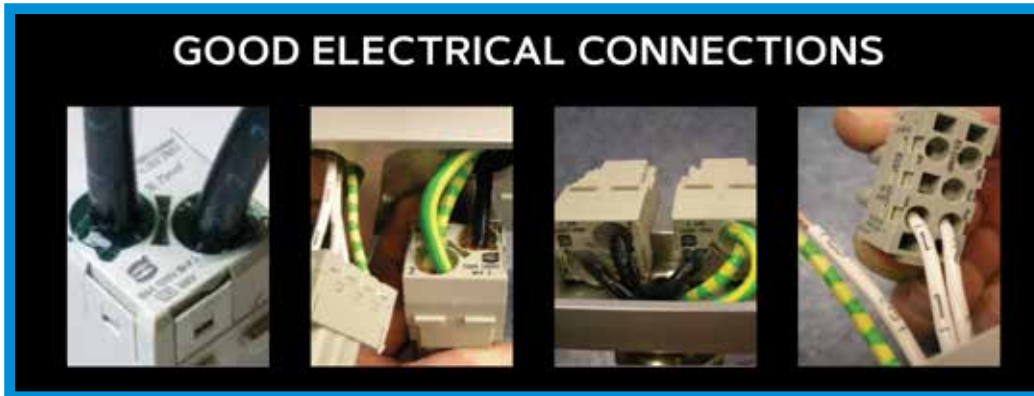
To ensure optimal performance and extend the lifecycle of your wall saw, follow these electrical maintenance guidelines:

- 1. Routine Inspection**
 - Check all connectors, terminals, and cables before and after each use.
 - Look for signs of wear, corrosion, fraying, or discoloration.
- 2. Cleaning Protocol**
 - Use non-conductive contact cleaner to remove dust, moisture, and oxidation from connectors.
 - Avoid high-pressure water or solvents that may damage seals or insulation.
 - Do not pressure wash
- 3. Environmental Protection**
 - Use weatherproof connectors and covers in wet or dusty environments.
 - Store equipment in dry, temperature-controlled areas when not in use.
- 4. Scheduled Servicing**
 - Include electrical checks in your preventive maintenance schedule.
 - Replace worn connectors and cables proactively to avoid failure during operation.

POOR ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS



Tech Talk is a regular feature of *Concrete Openings* magazine, focusing on equipment, maintenance and technical issues of interest to concrete cutting, polishing, and imaging contractors. Readers wishing to have a particular subject addressed can send their suggestions to editor@concreteopenings.com.



LIFECYCLE, DOWNTIME, AND COST OF OWNERSHIP

Proper electrical maintenance directly impacts:

- **Longer Equipment Lifecycle** – Reduces wear on motors and control systems.
- **Reduced Downtime** – Prevents unexpected failures and job site delays.
- **Lower Cost of Ownership** – Minimizes repair costs and extends intervals between replacements.

CONCLUSION

Electrical connections are not just a technical detail—they're a critical component of your wall saw's performance and reliability. By investing in regular inspection, cleaning, and secure installation, operators can ensure safer operation, faster cutting, and longer-lasting equipment.



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Teaching Safety to a New Generation of Construction Workers Amid Labor Shift

| Randy Dombrowski from *Sentry Insurance*, April 21, 2026

Reprinted with permission from For Construction Pros, www.forconstructionpros.com

As retirements rise and new workers enter the construction industry, contractors focus on onboarding, knowledge transfer and daily reinforcement to reduce jobsite risk.

The construction workforce is changing. Experienced workers are retiring faster than their knowledge is being transferred to the next generation, altering jobsite risk in measurable ways.

Approximately 41% of the current construction workforce is projected to retire by 2031. At the same time, employees with less than one year on the job account for a disproportionate share of workplace injuries — roughly 35% across industries.

Inexperienced workers get hurt because they're still learning, not because they're careless. New hires may be unfamiliar with equipment, hesitant to question unsafe behavior, or under pressure to keep pace with seasoned coworkers. When tight schedules and labor shortages are added to the mix, shortcuts may become easier to justify.

These workforce pressures are also reshaping how companies approach worker safety. More than eight in 10 executives said they plan to increase investment in worker safety this year, citing goals such as managing rising healthcare costs and reducing workers' compensation incidents.

Most construction leaders understand what safe work looks like. The challenge is maintaining consistent safety behavior as crews change, experience levels shift, and production pressures increase. In this environment, safety outcomes depend less on written policies and more on how expectations are reinforced on active jobsites.

The following strategies can help construction leaders reinforce safety expectations early, transfer critical knowledge and maintain consistency as workforce experience levels evolve.

START SAFETY BEFORE DAY ONE

Safety conversations should begin during hiring — not orientation. Leaders who talk about safety early on — and frequently signal expectations — help build a culture of safety before an employee sets foot on a jobsite. When safety is treated as an afterthought during hiring, workers are more likely to treat it the same way once work begins.

Leaders who address safety in interviews and onboarding establish expectations early and make them easier to reinforce later — especially when schedules tighten or difficult conversations arise.

To build a strong safety culture with new employees:

- **Include safety in job postings and interviews.** Make clear that safe behavior is a condition of employment, not an optional value.



Randy Dombrowski is the Director of Safety Services for Sentry Insurance. Sentry provides insurance and risk management solutions to manufacturing businesses, helping companies maintain safer workplaces and reduce liability risks.



The challenge is maintaining consistent safety behavior as crews change, experience levels shift, and production pressures increase.

- **Vet with purpose.** Background checks, reference calls, and, when appropriate, motor vehicle record reviews can help identify patterns that matter to both workforce quality and jobsite risk.
- **Ask safety-focused interview questions.** Have candidates describe how they handled a safety concern or stopped unsafe work in the past.
- **Be explicit about stop-work authority.** Make it clear that workers — regardless of tenure — have the authority to stop unsafe work without fear of retaliation. Reinforcing this early — and often — makes it easier for new employees to speak up on the job.
- **Explain how safety decisions are enforced.** Clarify who is responsible for safety, how concerns are escalated and what happens when standards aren't met. Clear structure reduces confusion and inconsistency later.

MAKE THE FIRST 90 DAYS COUNT

Injury risk is highest during a worker's first year, making onboarding one of the most critical safety opportunities on a jobsite. Effective onboarding connects expectations to real-world work conditions.

During onboarding, focus on:

- **Hands-on training.** Demonstrate safe equipment use, required personal protection equipment (PPE), and job-specific hazards before production pressure increases.
- **Designating a mentor.** Pair new hires with experienced employees who actively reinforce safe behaviors through walkthroughs, task-level guidance and immediate feedback.
- **Paced exposure.** Avoid assigning new hires to complex or high-risk tasks before they're ready. Develop a clear progression toward more strenuous or technically demanding work.

TRANSFER KNOWLEDGE BEFORE IT'S GONE

One of the most significant safety risks in construction is the loss of site-specific experience. Veteran workers carry practical knowledge that rarely appears in written plans — how equipment behaves in real conditions, which tasks require additional setup and where problems tend to surface first.

When that knowledge isn't intentionally transferred, newer workers are left to learn through trial and error.

Try these practical methods to capture and share institutional knowledge:

- Pair experienced workers with newer hires during inspections or walkthroughs
- Ask senior employees to lead brief safety talks tied to real incidents
- Document lessons learned after near-misses and close calls
- Involve seasoned workers in updating safety procedures

This approach positions experienced employees as leaders — not just labor — to strengthen safety and teamwork.

NORMALIZE SPEAKING UP

Silence is one of the most persistent barriers to safety performance. Crews work closely together, and no one wants to be seen as slowing progress or creating friction. Younger workers, in particular, may hesitate to challenge unsafe behavior to protect relationships. Leaders can change that dynamic.

Instead of framing safety as "reporting," emphasize responsibility:

- Make stopping unsafe work an expectation, not an escalation
- Encourage peer-to-peer correction in the moment
- Respond quickly and calmly when concerns are raised
- Avoid blaming language when issues surface

When workers see that raising concerns leads to solutions — not punishment — they're more likely to speak up before incidents occur.

REINFORCE SAFETY THROUGH DAILY WORK

Annual training and written programs establish standards, but they don't determine behavior. Safety takes hold when it's reinforced during daily operations — through task planning, hazard correction and supervisory response in real time.

Effective reinforcement includes:

- Short, focused safety talks during shift changes
- Supervisors consistently modeling safe behavior
- Regular jobsite inspections that include new workers
- Immediate correction of hazards when identified

Daily reinforcement turns expectations into habits.

BALANCE ACCOUNTABILITY WITH TRUST

Younger generations often expect transparency, explanation, and involvement. That does not require lowering standards but explaining the "why."

A strong safety culture balances:

- Clear expectations: What safe work looks like
- Consistent accountability: What happens when standards aren't met
- Visible support: Leaders backing employees who stop unsafe work

Accountability and trust aren't competing priorities. Clear expectations, consistent enforcement and visible leadership support help workers understand where boundaries exist and when it's appropriate to act. When those signals remain consistent, safety behavior is more likely to hold up under pressure.

MEASURE WHAT'S WORKING

Safety programs lose momentum when outcomes aren't tracked. Monitor indicators that reflect real behavior and emerging risk:

- First-year injury rates
- Near-miss reporting trends
- Training completion and refresh cycles
- Repeat hazards or recurring incidents

Share results with your team. When employees can see where progress is being made — or where gaps remain — they're more likely to adjust behavior. Reviewing near-miss trends during toolbox talks, for example, can help crews identify recurring issues and correct them before injuries occur.

THE PAYOFF: SAFER JOBSITES AND STRONGER PERFORMANCE

Workforce turnover and retirements are reshaping how safety is learned on construction jobsites. With more new workers entering the field, the margin for inconsistent reinforcement is smaller than it once was.

Safety expectations are shaped daily — by how supervisors respond when work slows, how quickly hazards are corrected, and whether experienced employees are given time to coach newer ones.

Contractors who integrate safety into daily operations — rather than treating it as a standalone program — are better positioned to manage this transition. As experience continues to leave the workforce, the way safety is taught, modeled, and reinforced will increasingly influence jobsite performance, injury frequency and long-term risk outcomes.

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How Hydrodemolition Can Expedite Road & Bridge Work

According to the American Road & Transportation Builders Association, 35% of U.S. bridges — more than 220,000 — need repair work and nearly 75,000 bridges should be replaced. That's enough road and bridge work to keep contractors busy for years to come.

With this amount of work, it's no surprise that contractors are looking for equipment solutions that expedite road and bridge work while keeping safety and efficiency top of mind. Hydrodemolition is one such solution that has risen in popularity when it comes to road and bridge projects.

Hydrodemolition removes deteriorated and damaged concrete with robotically manipulated high-pressure water jets as powerful as 40,000 psi. When a Hydrodemolition robot's high-pressure water jet hits the concrete, it widens existing pores, causing the concrete to explode and separate.

The method offers numerous advantages, starting with an impact-free process that eliminates vibrations and the risk the microfractures. Hydrodemolition also cleans and descales rebar without damaging it and provides a rough bonding surface that is ideal for applying new concrete. These factors extend the lifespan of the structure, making the repair a cost-effective investment.

Along with the structural advantages, Hydrodemolition offers a faster way to complete work — up to 25x faster than handheld tools — and it requires less labor.

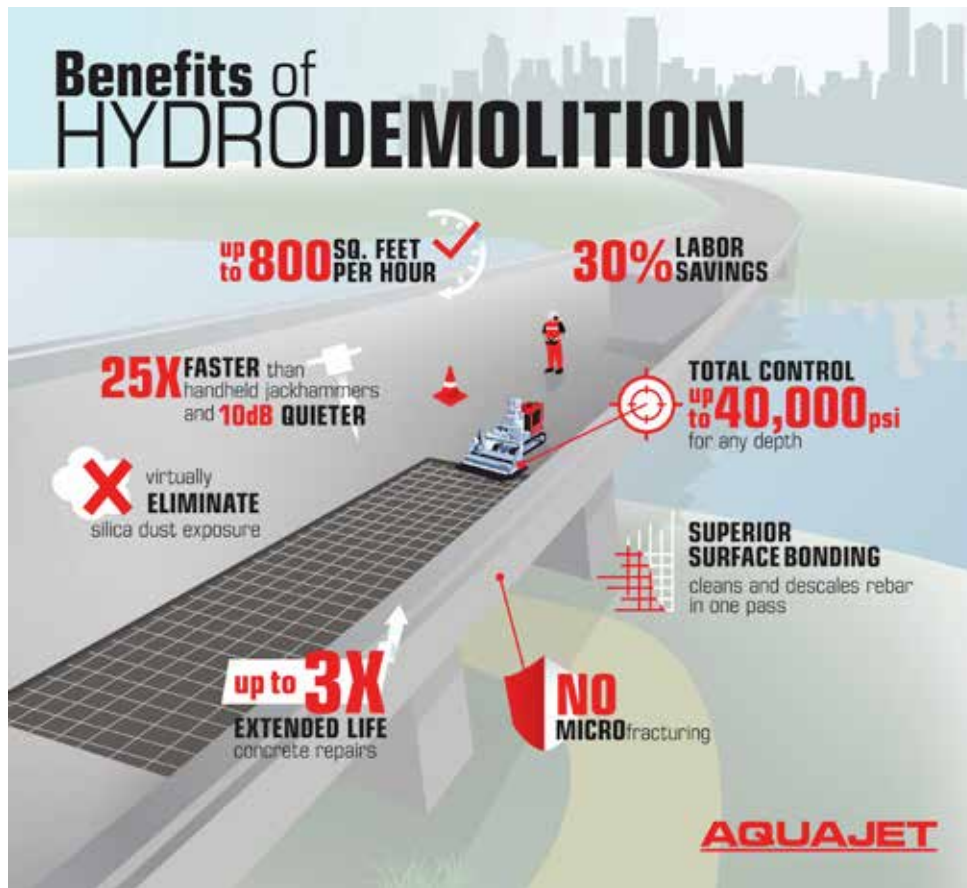
One operator generally controls the machine and

can complete concrete removal tasks as fast or faster than multiple workers. For example, some Hydrodemolition robots can remove as much as 800 square feet (74.3 square meters) of concrete bridge deck at a depth of 4 inches (10 centimeters) per shift, a fraction of the time it would take a crew with handheld breakers.

In addition, a Hydrodemolition robot can handle much more than the flatwork, helping contractors get more from a single machine.

With the right accessories, it can remove concrete on any part of the bridge, including columns, girders, parapet and the underside. An extension kit with an elbow, for example, extends the Hydrodemolition robot's reach 8.2 feet (2.5 meters) below the robot's tracks. It can also bend to access hard-to-reach areas, such as the side of the bridge, allowing the robot to stay on the deck without dismantling the bridge railing. AquaJet also offers rotating tools for surface preparation and membrane removal and a circular powerhead for columns, further increasing versatility.

Hydrodemolition robots also provide a boost in operator safety. The compactness of the equipment allows it to fit into one lane, minimizing traffic impact and lowering the risk of accidents. The remote-controlled capabilities of these machines also allow laborers to monitor their work at a safe distance from flying debris and edges that pose



a falling risk. The elimination of the need to stand next to a ledge also means contractors can minimize the need to set up fall protection systems.

This isn't the only safety benefit both contractors and operators will appreciate. Handheld water jetting and pneumatic tools put great physical strain on workers, increasing the risk of injury. A worker using a 40,000-psi hand lance, for example, must constantly fight up to 52 pounds of back thrust (at a flow of 5 gpm) for normal operation. Meanwhile, a worker using a jackhammer is exposed to vibration and runs the risk of developing hand-arm vibration syndrome, which causes debilitating, painful numbness and tingling sensations in the fingers, among other injuries. The physical exhaustion workers experience from manual labor translates to less productivity and greater cost for the business owner. Alternatively, the cutting-edge technology of Hydrodemolition robots combats worker fatigue and reduces the chance of injuries.

Hydrodemolition methods also minimize worker exposure to silica dust and its risks of causing the development of lung cancer, silicosis, kidney disease and more. Since Hydrodemolition uses water to remove concrete and keeps the operator a safe distance away with remote operation, it virtually eliminates the risk of silica dust.

With billions of dollars' worth of work needing to be completed and labor difficult to find, investing in the right technology is one of the best solutions for completing more work. With the ability to protect the safety of the workforce and create long-lasting repairs, Hydrodemolition allows contractors to work smarter, not harder.

For More Information
Tel: +46 383 508 01
Email: aquajet@aquajet.se
www.aquajet.se



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Brokk Inc. Offers the Ecovolve EL500 Electric Mini Loader to the North American Market

Monroe, Wash. (May 6, 2026) — Brokk Inc., the North American distributor for Ecovolve equipment, now offers the battery-powered EL500 mini loader to the North American market. Designed to meet the growing demand for emission-free construction and demolition jobsite solutions, the EL500 combines high-torque electric drive technology with compact maneuverability. The loader lifts up to 1,110 pounds (500 kg) with ease while a fully charged battery runs efficiently for a full shift, making it ideal for heavy daily use.

"The EL500 offers our customers a mini loader that meets today's sustainability standards without sacrificing productivity," said Jeff Keeling, vice president of sales and marketing at Brokk Inc. "This machine is built for indoor and outdoor jobsites and gives contractors the flexibility to work longer and harder with lower overall operating and maintenance costs."

The EL500's compact footprint — less than 32 inches — and increased maneuverability allows contractors to operate in areas inaccessible to larger machines. Ecovolve loaders are designed to avoid scratching or damaging finished surfaces, perfect for indoor use. Its low-noise operation gives users the ability to comply with noise restrictions and regional regulations. In addition, reduced vibration and improved operator comfort support longer operating cycles and safer working conditions. The communication system produces audible and visual warning systems via working lamps that alert the operator to the machine's condition.

Engineered for demanding applications with a heavy-duty chassis and reinforced structure, the machine can withstand the challenges posed in demolition and high-impact applications. The EL500 features a lifting capacity of up to 1,100 pounds (500 kilograms). With its low center of gravity, its unique pivot points allow for a tipping discharge of 1.9. Interchangeable attachments enhance versatility across multiple phases of a project with options including a bucket, hydraulic breaker, floor scraper, vacuum lift, loading bucket and pallet fork.

The EL500 lowers operating and maintenance costs compared to diesel-powered equivalents due to needing no fuel, no oil changes and featuring fewer moving parts to maintain. Quick access panels make service requirements simple and fast. The 9.6 kWh AGM battery delivers consistent power, reducing running costs while keeping operation smooth.

The electric machines represent Ecovolve's commitment to delivering durable, emission-free equipment that meet the evolving expectations of construction and demolition projects. For more information about Brokk and Ecovolve, visit www.brokk.com/.

For More Information
Tel: 647-615-0694
Email: aaron.wilcox@brokkinc.com
Website: www.brokk.com



Mental Health Safety Guide

Committing to a Culture of Holistic Safety

A Guidebook of Tools & Frameworks to Bridge Safety + Mental Health. The guide is designed for anyone committed to creating safer, healthier construction workplaces by bridging jobsite safety and mental health.

www.sallyspencerthomas.com/mental-health-safety-guide

OSHA issues Updated Voluntary Protection Programs Policies and Procedures Manual

We want to make you aware that the OSHA has issued an updated Voluntary Protection Programs Policies and Procedures Manual, which details policies and procedures for administering the VPP. Significant changes include:

- Requiring VPP participants' safety and health management systems to cover the seven elements described in OSHA's Recommended Practices for Safety and Health Programs (2016).
- Creating two new levels of distinction, VPP Elite and VPP Emeritus, to recognize sites who have achieved VPP Star Recognition for more than 15 or 25 consecutive years, respectively.



For More Information
Website: www.osha.gov/vpp

ICS Diamond Tools & Equipment is pleased to announce the appointments of New Regional Sales Managers



Pete Hayes

ICS Diamond Tools & Equipment is pleased to announce the appointment of Pete Hayes as Regional Sales Manager, a key role supporting continued growth across the Western United States and strengthening partnerships within dealer, rental, and utility channels.

Pete will focus on ICS and Merit customer needs throughout Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Montana, Utah, and Wyoming. In this role, he will be responsible for driving regional sales growth, supporting channel partners, and expanding market presence across core construction and utility segments.

Pete brings more than 20 years of experience in the construction industry, with a strong background in sales, customer engagement, and channel development. Most recently, he served in a leadership role at Robert Bosch Tool Corporation, where he contributed to strategic growth initiatives and built lasting customer relationships across multiple markets. His deep industry knowledge and customer-first mindset position him well to support ICS's continued success.

"Pete's extensive experience and strong understanding of the construction and tool industry make him a valuable addition to our team," said Jeff Shermo, ICS Distribution National Sales Manager "His ability to build relationships, support our partners, and identify growth opportunities aligns with our commitment to delivering best-in-class solutions to our customers."

In his new role, Pete will work closely with internal teams and regional partners to strengthen ICS's presence, support product adoption, and ensure customers receive the backing they need to succeed in the field.



Matt Flumerfelt

ICS Diamond Tools & Equipment welcomes Matt Flumerfelt as Regional Sales Manager, supporting the Ontario and Quebec markets in Canada. Matt will play a key role in building deeper connections with professional users while enhancing support across dealer, rental, and utility partners. He will work to improve product accessibility, strengthen channel alignment, and help customers achieve more efficient, reliable cutting performance in demanding applications.

Matt brings nearly 20 years of experience in outside sales and territory management, with a career built on developing strong customer partnerships and driving consistent growth across diverse industrial segments. His broad background gives him a well-rounded perspective on both distribution and end-user needs.

Most recently, Matt held a position with Thyssenkrupp, where he specialized in raw material sales and deepened his expertise in metallurgy—an area that complements ICS's focus on performance-driven

cutting solutions. Prior to that, he spent a decade at DeWalt, where he developed a strong foundation in the tools and construction industry and gained valuable experience working closely with contractors and channel partners.

"Matt's combination of technical knowledge, industry experience, and customer focus makes him a strong addition to our team," said Scott Brown, Director of Sales "His understanding of both materials and application challenges will be instrumental as we continue to support our customers and grow our presence across Canada."

In addition to his professional experience, Matt holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree and is a certified welder, bringing a practical, hands-on perspective that resonates with the customers he serves.

About ICS Diamond Tools & Equipment

ICS Diamond Tools & Equipment is a global leader in diamond tool technology, delivering innovative solutions for cutting concrete, masonry, stone, and pipe materials. Known for durability, precision, and safety, ICS products are trusted by contractors, utility professionals, and industrial users worldwide. With a continued focus on innovation and customer success, ICS helps professionals work more efficiently and confidently in the field.

For More Information
Website: www.icsdiamondtools.com

Brokk Hires First Dedicated Service Manager for Canada

Monroe, Wash. (April 1, 2026) — Brokk, the world's leading manufacturer of remote-controlled demolition machines, has hired Roy Ortega as its first dedicated service manager for Canada. Ortega, a seasoned field service professional, is responsible for new machine startups along with troubleshooting and repair for customers in the country.

Brokk continues to amp up North American operations in Canada. In 2024, the company opened a new Brokk and Aquajet distribution center in Hamilton, Ontario, to streamline ordering and shipping for Canadian customers. Ortega joins a growing team of industry veterans who are expanding in-country support and service for Brokk and Aquajet customers.

“Having a dedicated service manager in Canada is a big step forward,” said Lars Lindgren, president of Brokk Inc. “It greatly enhances our ability to serve Canadian customers efficiently, especially when they need a Brokk technician on-site. Aftersales support is critical, and Roy understands that. He is a highly skilled and experienced mechanic who has been in the trenches and delivers.”

Ortega, a Red Seal Journeyman, brings more than 20 years of experience to his role. He started his career as a mechanic in the automotive, truck and rail industries before joining Cooper Equipment Rentals as a field service technician and diesel mechanic. He most recently worked as a District Service Manager for United Rentals where he was responsible for fleet operations and maintenance for six branches in the Greater Toronto Area. He has experience with all types of heavy construction equipment, including electric equipment, and has worked with OEMs to keep equipment in optimal condition.

“Brokk offers top-notch manufacturer support,” Ortega said. “They don’t just say they are committed to aftersales; they truly are. As service manager, I have all the resources at my fingertips, so I can move fast and get customers up and running.”



For More Information

Contact: Roy Ortega

Tel: 800-621-7856

Email: service@brokkinc.com

Website: www.brokk.com/us



West Coast Cutting & Coring Group Ltd. (WCC) Celebrates 50 Years in Business

Congratulations, West Coast Cutting & Coring Group Ltd. (WCC) for 50 years in business! WCC was founded in 1976 by Brian J. Wnuk with a rented skill saw, diamond blade, and a passion for the industry. Their high level of service, expertise, and equipment capabilities have earned them a reputation of being the best in the business.



SAFE & SOUND Week

August 10–16, 2026 | A Nationwide Celebration of Safer Workplaces

Get Ready for Safe + Sound Week: Show Your Commitment to Workplace Safety

Mark your calendars—Safe + Sound Week is just around the corner, taking place from August 10 to 16, 2026. This annual nationwide event celebrates the successes of workplace safety and health programs while offering an opportunity for organizations to recommit to keeping workers safe.

Whether your business is just beginning to build a safety program or has a well-established one in place, Safe + Sound Week is for everyone. The event is designed to be simple, engaging, and meaningful—making it easy for businesses of all sizes and sectors to participate.

Registration opens in July, but now is the time to start planning your activities. Visit OSHA's Safe + Sound Week website (www.osha.gov/safeandsoundweek) for planning resources and tips to get involved.



IN 30

STEP UP WITH THE “3 IN 30” CHALLENGE Lead by Example—One Action at a Time

One of the key ways to participate in Safe + Sound

Week is the “3 in 30 Challenge,” which invites managers and leaders to take three safety-related actions in 30 days. This challenge is about more than just checking boxes—it’s a visible demonstration of leadership’s commitment to creating a safe and healthy work environment.

Employees notice when safety is taken seriously, and taking the challenge is a great way to reinforce your organization’s values.

CSDA HAS YOUR BACK Tools, Tips, and an Extra Bonus Action

The Concrete Sawing & Drilling Association (CSDA) is stepping up to support the industry before, during, and after Safe + Sound Week. By the time registration opens in July, CSDA will provide materials to help you easily complete three challenge actions—plus a bonus action for those ready to go the extra mile.

But you don’t have to wait. CSDA already offers valuable safety resources available now to members, including a customizable safety manual designed to be tailored to your company’s specific operations and needs. Developed in collaboration with a professional safety firm, this manual provides a strong, adaptable foundation for your safety program and will be reviewed and updated annually to keep it current and effective.

Your participation in Safe + Sound Week—and use of CSDA’s resources—not only strengthens your safety culture, but also builds trust with your team and industry peers. Plus, it’s your chance to earn the official OSHA Virtual Challenge Coin, a symbol of your leadership and credibility in the safety space.

Visit www.csdas.org in July to download your challenge tools and let us be your go-to safety resource during Safe + Sound Week—and beyond.

SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S JOB

Every Day. Every Task. Every Team Member.



STAY ALERT:

Identify hazards before they cause harm.



SPEAK UP:

Report unsafe conditions right away.



WORK TOGETHER:

Make safety part of every conversation and every decision.

Staying safe means watching out for yourself and for each other.
Because at the end of the day, nothing matters more than
making sure everyone goes home safe.

Thank you for doing your part to keep our job sites safe and strong.



Proudly supported by CSDA.



Certification



OPERATOR CERTIFICATION

CSDA's Operator Certification is a comprehensive three-day program combining detailed classroom instruction with essential on-slab demonstrations and evaluations of advanced concrete cutting techniques. Safety, proper equipment use and efficiency are all emphasized.

CSDA certified operators are recognized industry-wide for their proficiency in the full range of sawing and drilling applications.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- Successful completion of CSDA's 201 Training or equivalent training
- Three years field experience (4,500 hours)
- Successful completion of 10-hour OSHA Construction Safety course
- No more than one lost-time injury within the last three years
- Unrestricted driver's license
- Negative drug test within 30 days of taking the course

ACCU-CUT CONCRETE SERVICES, INC.
Clearwater, FL

ACE AVANT CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.
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NEIL'S CONCRETE CUTTING, INC.
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**TRUE LINE CORING AND CUTTING
OF MARYLAND, INC.**
Baltimore, MD

WALKER CUTTING SERVICES
Hammonton, NJ

WESTCOAST CUTTING AND CORING LTD.
New Westminster, BC CANADA





ACCREDITED COMPANIES

The CSDA Accredited Company Program is the first of its kind in the industry. This program has been created for cutting contractors to provide owners, architects, engineers, general contractors and government officials with a valuable pre-qualification tool that acknowledges sound business practices. It is available to all sawing and drilling contractors.

ADVANCED CONCRETE SAWING
St. Paul, MN, USA

AMERICAN GPR
Avondale, AZ, USA

AUSTIN ENTERPRISE
Bakersfield, CA, USA

COBRA CONCRETE CUTTING
Wheeling, IL, USA

CONCRETE CUTTING SYSTEMS, INC. (PA)
Philadelphia, PA, USA

CONCRETE RENOVATION, INC.
San Antonio, TX, USA

DIACORE CONCRETE CUTTING SPECIALISTS
Frenchs Forest, New South Wales, Australia

ECHO GPR SERVICES
Olathe, KS, USA

FINE CUT CONCRETE DRILLING AND SAWING
Pleasant Hill, MO, USA

HARD ROCK CONCRETE CUTTERS
Wheeling, IL, USA

HARD ROCK CONCRETE CUTTING
Raleigh, NC, USA

HOLES INCORPORATED
Houston, TX, USA

INTERNATIONAL DRILLING & SAWING, INC. (IDS)
Montgomery, AL, USA

IN-PLACE MACHINING COMPANY, LLC
Blue Bash, OH, USA

INTERSTATE SAWING & DEMOLITION
West Bend, WI

MAVO CONCRETE SAWING SERVICES, INC.
Edgar, WI, USA

ONLINE CONCRETE CUTTING SERVICES PTY. LTD.
Seven Hills, New South Wales, Australia

RECLAIM COMPANY, LLC
Fairmont, WV, USA

WALKER CUTTING SERVICES
Hammonton, NJ, USA

A COMPANY MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA TO ACHIEVE ACCREDITATION :

- Meet the basic safety and insurance requirements of the industry
- Undertake sound operational and financial best practices
- Provide evidence it has taken part in training or certification programs to better its employees with a minimum of one CSDA Certified Operator or equivalent training
- Successfully pass a written application review



GPR CERTIFICATION

GPR Certification is for experienced GPR operators who have expanded their knowledge of the methods, theory and practical application of GPR imaging. Certified operators receive classroom and hands-on time with experienced instructors and representatives from leading GPR manufacturers.

A GPR CERTIFIED OPERATOR:

- Has shown proficiency in performing scans and reading and interpreting results
- Can select the appropriate GPR scanner for the job
- Passed a written and practical test
- Was issued a certification card upon completion of the class

ADVANCED CONCRETE CUTTING & CORING*
Charleston, SC, USA

ADVANCE CONCRETE SAWING*
St. Paul, MN, USA

AMERICAN GPR SERVICES, LLC*
Avondale, AZ, USA

ASAP CORE DRILLING & FIRE SAFETY, INC.
Lorton, VA, USA

BREAK AWAY CONCRETE CUTTING INC.*
Coyote, CA, USA

BROOKBANK CORE DRILLING & SAWING, INC.*
Waldorf, MD, USA

CANADIAN CUTTING AND CORING LTD.
Toronto, ON CANADA

CITY SCAN CORP*
Bronx, NY, USA

COBRA CONCRETE CUTTING SERVICES CO*
Arlington Heights, IL, USA

CONCRETE CORING CO. OF CINCINNATI, INC.*
Cincinnati, OH, USA

CONCRETE SCANNING AND IMAGING INC.
Mississauga, ON CANADA

CONCRETE TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION*
College Park, MD, USA

CONQUEST DEMOLITION*
Buda, TX, USA

CORBUILT LLC
Waterford, CT, USA

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DALY CONCRETE CORING LIMITED*
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West Bend, WI, USA

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Independence, IA, USA

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Granger, IN, USA

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North Charleston, NC, USA

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Santa Clara, CA, USA

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Minneapolis, MN, USA

MAVO CONCRETE SAWING SERVICES, INC.*
New Brighton, MN, USA

METRO CONCRETE CUTTING & CORING, INC.*
Toronto, ON CANADA

MOORE CONCRETE CUTTING LLC*
Brentwood, NH, USA

POWERPRO CONCRETE SPECIALTY SERVICES, LLC*
McAllen, TX, USA

PREMIER LOCATES INC.
Toronto, ON CANADA

ROCK VALLEY CONCRETE CUTTING
Machesney Park, IL, USA

SAFECORE SYSTEMS, INC.
Libertyville, IL, USA

SCAN TEK GPR*
Davie, FL, USA

TASMANIAN ASSET PROTECTION
Sandy Bay, TS AUSTRALIA

TEXAS CUTTING & CORING, LP*
Round Rock, TX, USA

VERIFY LOCATING/SAF-CUT
Raleigh, NC, USA

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Folsom, CA

Rolling Wedge LLC
Peoria, IL

MEMBER BENEFITS

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OVER 4,000 INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS HAVE PARTICIPATED IN CSDA'S HANDS-ON TRAINING COURSES, CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS, ONLINE COURSE OPPORTUNITIES, LUNCH & LEARNS, AND CONFERENCE EDUCATION SESSIONS. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IS KEY TO EMPLOYEE GROWTH AND SATISFACTION. UPSKILL YOUR STAFF ON A VARIETY OF TOPICS SUCH AS CUTTING DISCIPLINES, GPR TECHNIQUES, ESTIMATING, POLISHING, SAFETY AND MORE.

VISIT WWW.CSDA.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE IN-PERSON AND ONLINE COURSES AVAILABLE NOW.

WHAT MAKES CSDA UNIQUE COMPARED TO OTHER INDUSTRY ORGANIZATIONS?

"CSDA is the industry leader in operator training and certification. It's a member-driven organization with dedicated volunteer leaders with a deep commitment to the organization's success. To me, "**C**" stands for **caring**...both for the Association and advancement of the industry; "**S**" is for **service** to fulfill CSDA's organizational purpose; "**D**" stands for **dedication** to produce top quality programs and services; and "**A**" is for **advocacy** for being the voice of the concrete cutting and sawing industry."

Georgia Foley,
Executive Director
CSDA

JOIN CSDA TODAY!

There is something for everyone when you become a member of the CSDA family!

Accelerate your business success through member support and networking, online and in-person training opportunities, company recognition through awards and accreditation, and business tools to create efficiencies and success. New members can take advantage of our mentorship opportunity and receive complimentary registration to our annual golf outing each Fall.

WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU WHILE PROPELLING THE SAWING AND DRILLING INDUSTRY FORWARD. BE A PART OF CSDA TODAY.

DUES SCHEDULE

Pricing: Contractors

GROSS SALES	NORTH AMERICAN CONTRACTOR	IMAGING OR POLISHING CONTRACTOR	INT'L. (NON-NA) CONTRACTOR
\$0 – 1M	\$795	\$795	\$500
\$1 – 2M	\$1,295	\$795	\$500
\$2 – 3M	\$1,995	\$1,595	\$500
\$3 – 5M	\$2,595	\$1,595	\$500
\$5 – 10M	\$3,295	\$1,595	\$500
> \$10M	\$4,150	\$1,595	\$500

ADDITIONAL BRANCH LOCATIONS

1-5 Branches	\$160 per location
6-10 Branches	\$110 per location
11-15 Branches	\$55 per location

Pricing: Manufacturers, Distributors & Affiliates

GROSS SALES	MANUFACTURER	DISTRIBUTOR	AFFILIATE*
\$0 – 1M	\$1,650	\$1,250	\$995
\$1 – 2M	\$2,050	\$1,550	\$995
\$2 – 3M	\$3,050	\$2,295	\$995
\$3 – 5M	\$4,900	\$3,625	\$995
\$5 – 10M	\$6,600	\$3,625	\$995
> \$10M	\$8,250	\$3,625	\$995

*Affiliate is a person, firm, corporation, society, government agency or other providing services to the concrete cutting, polishing and imaging industry

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.CSDA.ORG



For more information about CSDA membership, visit <https://csda.org/page/join>

Advertising and Readership

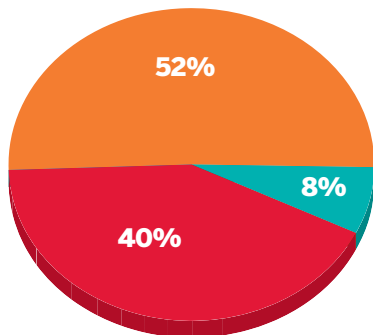
concrete openings



Who Reads the Magazine?

Concrete Openings reaches cutting, polishing and imaging contractors as well as specifiers of these services, including engineers, architects, general contractors and governmental agencies. Why waste your message on unnecessary circulation? Advertising in Concrete Openings guarantees a targeted audience of industry professionals.

READERSHIP BY PROFESSION



- Specifiers
- Contractors
- Manufacturers, Distributors

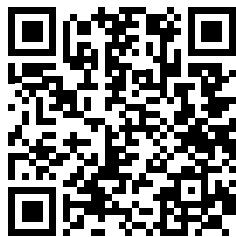
Target the Specialized Industry of Concrete Cutting, Polishing and Imaging

Advertising in Concrete Openings magazine is the only way to reach the specialty market of cutting, polishing and imaging contractors who work with concrete, asphalt or masonry because it is specifically targeted to this segment of the industry.

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF 

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Get notified of each new digital issue when you sign up today!



CSDA members automatically receive three print copies to their main location.

CSDA Social Media

CSDA's social media pages are packed with all the latest news, updates, photos and videos from the association and Concrete Openings magazine. Look for exclusive content and become "friends" with others who are looking to network and promote the sawing and drilling industry. Join our fan base and stay in touch with the association through your PC, laptop or mobile device. Find direct links to these pages at www.csda.org



Circulation

Circulation 15,000+ minimum, per issue reaching both member and prospective member companies made up of contractors, manufacturers, distributors and affiliates + general contractors, engineers, architects and government officials who specify cutting, polishing and imaging.



How Do You Reach 15,000+ Concrete Industry Professionals?

Each issue of Concrete Openings is seen by more than 10,000 operators, equipment manufacturers and suppliers in the concrete cutting, polishing and imaging industry, and more than 5,000 specifiers of these services around the world.

Readership Per Issue

A poll of Concrete Openings subscribers revealed that 66% pass on their copy of the magazine to at least one other person, with almost 25% stating that the magazine is passed on to four or more people each issue. And now with our digital versions, we can reach even more people!



Concrete Openings Website

Visitors to the Concrete Openings website can access our advertisers at the touch of a button!

As a compliment to your ad placement, we include a direct link to your website under each downloadable issue.

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10	Brokk/Aquajet	Jeff Keeling	1-800-621-7856	jeff.keeling@brokkinc.com
13	Real Power	Don Smith	317-443-0805	dsmith@contourhardening.com
22-23	ICS Diamond Tools & Equipment	Jessica Gowdy DeMars	800-321-1240	jessica.gowdy@oregontool.com
29	DITEQ Corporation	Mike Orzechowski	816-447-6161	mikeo@diteq.com
32	Cowboy Upfitters	Jordan Rodgers	385-602-4446	Jordan@cowboyupfitters.com
34	Peak Software Systems, Inc.	Jordan Walker	801-572-3570	jordan@peakinfo.com
Back Cover	Husqvarna Construction North America	Cate Stratemeier	800-288-5040	Hcpmarketing.northamerica@husqvarnagroup.com

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Here are the ABCS of CSDA! Check out what's new in 2026!



Career Center:

Looking to hire a new employee and post a job description? CSDA's website has a robust Career Center that can connect employers with potential employees! The link is on CSDA's home page: csda.org



ClickSafety:

was the first authorized OSHA 10 and 30 Outreach Training provider with 500+ courses available online. CSDA members can take advantage of their safety and compliance training with everything from accident investigation to OSHA regulations. CSDA members receive a 15% discount: katie.adams@clicksafety.com



Dodge Construction Data:

This **FREE** report offers a quick, yet detailed, overview of monthly construction statistics and dollar spend in the nonbuilding, residential, and nonconstruction channels: construction.com/news



EquipmentShare:

is a nationwide rental company of boom and scissor lifts, telehandlers, and other construction equipment. With 385 locations in 45 states, CSDA members receive a special discount on equipment rental from these top manufacturers: Genie; Manitou; Bobcat; John Deere; and Cummins: CSDA@equipmentsshare.com



J.J. Keller & Associates, Inc.:

a leading provider of regulatory, safety and compliance solutions, offers CSDA members a 10% discount on their safety and compliance products (DOT, OSHA, DOL, EPA, and 300+ other agencies): kschmidt@jjkeller.com



LLH LLC:

provides CSDA members with supplemental health insurance for their employees through an IRS section 125 plan. Coverage includes virtual doctor visits, lab tests, prescriptions, mental health support, and hospital coverage that works in tandem with existing health coverage: info@CSDA.org



MKT Fleet:

gives CSDA members vehicle savings, rebates, and enhanced warranties on fleet vehicles from General Motors, Ford, and Ram, including a \$9,000 rebate to CSDA members on Ram cargo vans: ethan.cima@mktfleet.com



TSI:

provides CSDA members with discounted rates on their profit recovery services with a low, fixed-fee price regardless of past due account balance. 100% of recovered funds are sent directly to the member: gary.belleville@transworldsystems.com



Tyfoom:

features five-minute safety videos to make safety training simple and convenient. Perfect for toolbox talks or quick refreshers making it easy to fit safety training into the busiest schedules. CSDA members receive a 10% discount: tyfoom.com



WOLFBOX:

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Not a member? Join today! [CSDA.org](https://csda.org)





September 9-10, 2026

2026 Fall Membership Meeting and Member Golf Outing

Sheraton Indianapolis City Centre
Indianapolis, Indiana
Tel: 217-528-3275
Email: info@csda.org



October 12-14, 2026

Sawing & Drilling 101 (OH)

Diamond Products, Ltd.
Elyria, Ohio
Tel: 217-528-3275
Email: info@csda.org



October 14-16, 2026

Sawing & Drilling 201 – Operator Certification (OH)

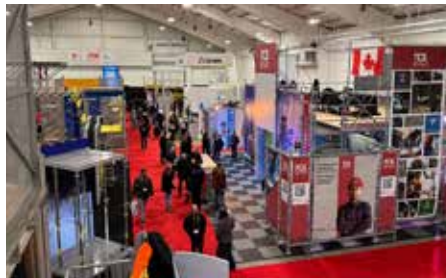
Diamond Products, Ltd.
Elyria, Ohio
Tel: 217-528-3275
Email: info@csda.org



January 18-21, 2027

World of Concrete

Las Vegas Convention Center
Las Vegas, NV
Website:
www.worldofconcrete.com



February 10-11, 2027

Canadian Concrete Expo

The International Center
Mississauga, Ontario
Website:
www.canadianconcreteexpo.com



February 15-17, 2027

2027 CSDA Annual Conference

The Worthington Renaissance Fort Worth
Fort Worth, Texas
Tel: 217-528-3275
Email: info@csda.org



March 1-3, 2027

Sawing & Drilling 101 (Vancouver)

West Coast Cutting & Coring Group Ltd.
Vancouver, British Columbia
Tel: 217-528-3275
Email: info@csda.org



March 3-5, 2027

Sawing & Drilling 201 – Operator Certification (Vancouver)

West Coast Cutting & Coring Group Ltd.
Vancouver, British Columbia
Tel: 217-528-3275
Email: info@csda.org



5 Summer Safety Tips for Construction Professionals

Summer brings longer days and increased construction activity, but it also introduces unique safety challenges. High temperatures, sun exposure, and changing weather conditions can create additional risks on the jobsite. Keeping these five safety tips in mind can help workers stay safe and productive throughout the season.



1. Stay Hydrated

Drink water regularly throughout the day, even if you do not feel thirsty. Dehydration can lead to fatigue, reduced concentration, and heat-related illnesses.



3. Protect Yourself from the Sun

Wear lightweight, long-sleeved clothing when possible, use sunscreen, and protect your eyes with safety glasses that provide UV protection. Taking steps to reduce sun exposure can help prevent both short- and long-term health issues.



2. Watch for Signs of Heat Stress

Heat exhaustion and heat stroke can develop quickly during hot weather. Be alert for symptoms such as dizziness, headaches, nausea, excessive sweating, or confusion, and seek immediate assistance if they occur.



4. Take Breaks in the Shade

Schedule regular rest breaks in shaded or air-conditioned areas, especially during the hottest part of the day. Allowing the body time to cool down helps reduce the risk of heat-related illnesses.

5. Monitor Weather Conditions

Summer weather can change quickly. Stay aware of forecasts and be prepared to stop work when thunderstorms, lightning, high winds, or other hazardous conditions develop.



Summer can be one of the busiest times of the year in construction, but safety should always come first. By staying hydrated, protecting yourself from the heat, and remaining aware of changing conditions, you can help ensure a safe and successful season for everyone on the jobsite.



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MARCH 1 - 5, 2027

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101 Training (Monday - Wednesday)	\$1,850	\$3,000
201 Training (Wednesday - Friday)	\$1,995	\$3,300

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