



WAUKESHA-PEARCE INDUSTRIES, INC.

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UPDATE

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D. GRIMM, INC.

Old friends team up to provide a wide variety of services for developers and energy companies



The D. Grimm, Inc. team includes (front, L-R) Carol Truitt, Ashley Truitt, Dawn Mallard, Adela Zenon, Daniel Ponce, (back, L-R) Shawn Harvey, Arturo Zenon, Enrique Zenon, Mitch Baeskow and Paul Preston.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT



Bruce Truesdale

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your goals of
high production
and efficiency**



Dear Valued Customer:

High production and efficiency are your goals, and Komatsu shares those goals. That's why it continues to manufacture quality products that meet or exceed emissions standards while maintaining, or even boosting, your production and efficiency.

In this issue of your WPI Update magazine, you can read about innovative Komatsu products that raise the bar when it comes to increasing your uptime and material movement, while lowering your owning and operating costs. At its recent Demo Days, Komatsu introduced its new *intelligent* Machine Control (iMC) PC490LCi-11 excavator. It is the world's largest excavator with integrated control function and was modeled after Komatsu's iMC PC210LCi-10 excavator, which was the first of its kind. More about the PC490LCi-11 will be released soon.

Komatsu introduced the PC210LCi-10 early last year. It followed several models of iMC dozers that Komatsu began rolling out a few years ago, which feature factory-integrated GPS technology that gives operators automatic blade control from rough-cut to finish grade. You can read about the most recent iMC dozer, the D39i-24, in this issue, along with articles on the new PC30MR-5 and PC35MR-5 excavators, and the 931 harvester, the flagship machine of Komatsu's new forestry family.

All Tier 4 Final construction-sized machines are backed by Komatsu CARE, which covers scheduled maintenance for the first three years or 2,000 hours. Our trained technicians perform the work at locations and times convenient for you. We track the machines through KOMTRAX and contact you when it's time to schedule service. Our aim is to minimize or avoid disruption to your production.

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If there's anything we can do for you, please call or stop by one of our branch locations.

Sincerely,
WAUKESHA-PEARCE INDUSTRIES, INC.


Bruce Truesdale
Vice President of CMD Operations



WAUKESHA-PEARCE INDUSTRIES, INC.

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See why the Komatsu 931 harvester defines the next generation of forestry machinery with a host of productive features.



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D. GRIMM, INC.

Old friends team up to provide a wide variety of services for developers and energy companies



The D. Grimm, Inc. team rescued Lucky when the company started. The cat is the company's good luck charm and lives in the office.



Few companies provide the comprehensive list of services that D. Grimm, Inc. does. The fact that the list is so extensive is even more impressive, considering that the Conroe, Texas-based company only began offering these additional services about two years ago.

That's when Dawn (Grimm) Mallard teamed up with Shawn Harvey, Paul Preston, Carol Truitt, Mitch Baeskow and brothers Arturo and Enrique Zenon, all of whom make up the company's management team. Dawn initially started D. Grimm in 2000 as a consulting service for the telecommunications industry – the rest of the group brought the construction experience.

"I was an independent contractor helping a mobile phone company launch its networks," recalled Mallard. "I managed various aspects of the construction process and worked with contractors to build sites and get everything up and running. Eventually, things wound down; the cell company stopped looking for new

markets and moved away from using independent contractors. It was a good time for a new direction."

Dawn Mallard and Shawn Harvey went to high school together, and about the time she was considering a change, the two connected again through social media. Harvey, Preston, Truitt, Baeskow and the Zenon brothers had worked together at another company for several years. They installed underground utilities in the Houston area before heading to Amarillo to perform land development and related services for a foundation contractor in the energy services market.

"Similar to Dawn, we were looking for a change and the chance to be our own bosses," said Preston. "The timing was perfect, and the market presented a good opportunity, so we joined forces and began work under the banner of D. Grimm."

In a relatively short time, the management team developed a strong bond and each took a prominent role in D. Grimm's operations. Harvey is the Manager, Preston is Chief Operating Officer, Truitt is the Financial Controller, Baeskow is an Estimator, Arturo Zenon is the Energy Services Operations Manager and Enrique is the Land Development Operations Manager.

"About two years ago, we started with what we call the 'original seven.' Today, our employee list is close to 100," said Preston.

Two divisions

D. Grimm is a full-service civil contractor with two divisions: Energy Services and Land Development, the latter of which has a particular focus on underground utilities. Both divisions provide a comprehensive list of offerings. The Energy Services side constructs the civil scope for substations and transmission lines and provides full-site packages, foundation construction and right-of-way clearing. Its services also cover related amenities, such as fencing and gate installation, as well as environmental items that involve

The D. Grimm, Inc. team includes (front, L-R) Carol Truitt, Ashley Truitt, President Dawn Mallard, Adela Zenon, Daniel Ponce, (back, L-R) Manager Shawn Harvey, Energy Services Operations Manager Arturo Zenon, Land Development Operations Manager Enrique Zenon, Mitch Baeskow and COO Paul Preston.





Komatsu's *intelligent Machine Control D51PXi* dozers make a huge difference on grading projects for D. Grimm, Inc. "We are extremely impressed with the accuracy of the D51i dozers," said Land Development Operations Manager Enrique Zenon. "The integrated GPS is phenomenal. Once the elevations are set, they do the work seamlessly. We don't have to constantly check grade, so our time and labor costs are dramatically reduced, as is our need for additional machines."

► VIDEO

best-management practices. Those include access matting, storm water pollution prevention plans (SWPPP) and maintenance, and reporting of environmental controls as well as restoration of impacted areas.

The Land Development Division also offers SWPPP and maintenance, such as service crews for detention basins, rights-of-way and facilities; full-site packages that include clearing and grubbing; development of detention basins, drainage channels and ditches; mass and finish grading; and installation of water, sanitary and drainage utilities.

While the vast majority of D. Grimm, Inc.'s projects have been done in Texas, including a large number in Houston and its surrounding areas, the company also provides services throughout the Midwest and South, including Mississippi, Louisiana, New Mexico, Arkansas, Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri and Oklahoma.

"Currently, utility installation makes up about 70 percent of our business," said Preston. "Our land development work typically is driven by the utilities we put in on a subdivision or other sites. We do site work in general, but that's normally coordinated with our energy services side. Our market strategy is to grow the Energy Services Division. We would like a 50/50 split, or maybe even 60 percent being energy services. No matter how you slice it, though, we believe our diversity is a real asset that plays – and will play – a future role in our success."

On both the land development and energy services sides, the list of completed and ongoing projects is long and varied, as is D. Grimm's customer list. The Land Development Division has six crews and the Energy Services Division



This D. Grimm, Inc. crew uses a Komatsu PC210LC excavator to lower storm pipe on a land development project in southwestern Houston. "The 210s are used for smaller projects and support work," said Energy Services Operations Manager Arturo Zenon. "(The PC210 can) easily handle digging and putting pipe in the ground."

► VIDEO

has four. The company often does repeat business with many customers, working as either a general contractor or a subcontractor. The company generally has about 15 jobs in various stages of development at a given time.

"Customers know they can trust us to meet their schedules," said Preston. "Our experience and extensive list of services means we can tackle practically any job. We also appreciate the hard work and dedication of our employees. With the large number of projects we have going at any one time, and as spread out as we are, it's impossible for us to get to every job, every day. We rely on a core group of excellent superintendents who oversee a great group of operators and laborers, and they have proven that they will get jobs done without us constantly looking over their shoulders. Our staff, including those who

Continued . . .

D. Grimm, Inc. enjoys rapid growth, ready for more

... continued

work in our offices, deserve a great deal of credit for our ability to complete any job on time and on budget."

Komatsu stands out, WPI part of the family

D. Grimm, Inc. relies heavily on Komatsu equipment and has a large fleet that consists of excavators, wheel loaders and dozers, including intelligent Machine Control D51PXi-22s.

"We are extremely impressed with the accuracy of the D51i dozers," said Enrique Zenon. "The integrated GPS is phenomenal. Once the elevations are set, they do the work seamlessly. We don't have to constantly check grade, so our time and labor costs are dramatically reduced, as is our need for additional machines."

D. Grimm was looking for multiple machines from its outset. The company contacted WPI Sales Rep Mark Rickett, who helped with the purchase of Tier 4 Final PC360LC-11 excavators, as well as PC360LC-10s and PC210LC-10s, WA320-7 wheel loaders, and D39EX-23 and D39PX-23 dozers. The company now has about 40 Komatsu pieces,

in addition to BOMAG compactors and Takeuchi utility machines.

"We use the PC360s on jobs where speed, power and production are essential," said Arturo Zenon. "The 210s are used for smaller projects and support work. Both sizes easily handle digging and putting pipe in the ground. The loaders give us the versatility to carry pipe with forks and backfill with buckets. The 39s are perfect for small pad sites and finish work. I like that all of the Tier 4 machines are covered under Komatsu CARE, so WPI handles the scheduled services. KOMTRAX is a great feature, too, giving us critical, real-time information about idle time, fuel consumption and more."

"We told Mark what kind of spread we needed and what our plans were, and he and WPI came up with a package and plan that suited us – both from equipment and support standpoints," added Harvey. "Because we were a fairly new company without a lot of working capital, they easily could have dismissed us. We're grateful that they took the time to get to know us and were willing to work with us. We promote a family atmosphere; and we consider Mark, Senior Product Support Rep Les Frazier and WPI in general, part of the family."

Additional growth

Harvey expected D. Grimm to grow quickly, while Mallard was confident that the business would expand, just at a slower pace. Harvey's hunch was right, and the current, fast-paced growth the business experienced has the entire management team believing that the company will continue to flourish.

"Shawn saw it, and I thought we could do well; but I didn't think we would be this big, this fast," said Mallard. "We see the markets growing, so I think both long- and short-term prospects are good for further expansion. In fact, we are acquiring a fleet of trucks with an eye toward a Material Delivery Division."

"That's probably as far as we'll go in terms of what we offer," added Harvey. "We're comfortable with utilities, land development and energy services; and we've learned through the years to stay in our wheelhouse. We know what we're good at, and that's civil construction, so that's where we will stay." ■

(L-R) D. Grimm, Inc. Land Development Operations Manager Enrique Zenon, Operator Francisco Cervantes and Manager Shawn Harvey meet with WPI Sales Rep Mark Rickett and Senior Product Support Rep Les Frazier.



D. Grimm, Inc. uses Komatsu wheel loaders to move pipe, backfill trenches and load material.

► VIDEO





PC210LCi-10

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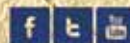
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WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE

Flint's crisis points to larger potential problems in the nation's underground infrastructure

The water crisis in Flint, Michigan, may only be the tip of the proverbial iceberg when it comes to failing systems that carry the nation's drinking water and other critical utilities. Several factors figured into the crisis, including the use of old lead pipes that brought water from the Flint River, through a water treatment plant and eventually into residences.

Failure to treat the water properly caused pipes to corrode and to leach lead and heavy metal. The harmful materials made their way into homes, causing health problems that could plague Flint for a very long time. Efforts are underway to assess and eventually fix Flint's issues, including switching the city back to its original water source, Lake Michigan, and replacing all lead service lines leading to homes. The first

lead-to-copper line replacement was recently completed, but replacing all lines could take years.

Although Flint's crisis is an isolated incident, a problem with the nation's drinking water and other utility lines isn't. Corrosion is a leading cause, but aging pipes and overtaxed systems may be to blame as well.

A break every two minutes

The American Society of Civil Engineers says that a water main breaks every two minutes in the United States. The same group has graded the country's infrastructure a D⁺. Estimates show that as much as 44 percent of the nation's water infrastructure is approaching or past its useful life, and that about 1.7 trillion gallons of water are wasted each year.

"We have a buried problem that no one sees," said Terry Leeds, Director of Kansas City Water Services and a board member of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies in a recent Kansas City Star article. "Infrastructure has a life span, and now we're seeing a lot of cities are facing the end of it."

That article, "Here's why Flint's water problem isn't likely to happen in Kansas City," highlights what the Missouri city is doing to combat an aging system that saw more than 1,850 water-main breaks in 2012. It began a program to replace 28 miles of pipe per year. Many of the old lines were made of cheap metal and installed during and after World War II. Other cities are facing the same scenario of outdated systems.

A hefty price tag

The PVC Pipe Association sponsors WaterMainBreakClock.com, a website that tracks the costs associated with aging pipes throughout the country. It shows that about 850 water-main

PVC Pipe Association's WaterMainBreakClock.com notes that corrosion of old lead and other metal pipes eventually contributes to failures. The association estimates that leaking pipes lose more than 2.6 trillion gallons of drinking water every year, or 17 percent of all water pumped in the United States.





PVC and concrete pipe is an alternative to lead and other metal service lines that are subject to corrosion. Kansas City created a program to replace 28 miles of pipe each year after suffering more than 1,850 water-main breaks in 2012. Most of Kansas City's existing infrastructure was made of cheap metal and installed during and after World War II.

breaks occur each day in the United States. Since 2000, there have been more than 5 million breaks. Corrosion costs more than \$50 billion annually; that's about \$652 billion over the past 15 years.

The website notes that corrosion of old lead and other metal pipes eventually contributes to failures, and the costs are not just associated with repairing and replacing those lines. Leaking pipes lose more than 2.6 trillion gallons of drinking water every year, or 17 percent of all water pumped in the United States. This represents \$4.1 billion in wasted electricity annually.

"Corrosion is a significant drag on the economy," the site claims. "Not only is this cost calculated in terms of water-main-break repair, but also in terms of lost water, replacement of corroded pipes and implementation of corrosion-mitigation measures, which are ineffective since they only delay an unavoidable outcome."

An Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) survey shows that \$271 billion is needed throughout the next five years to maintain and improve the nation's wastewater infrastructure. It

has also said it will cost \$385 billion in the next 15 to 20 years. Those figures include pipes that carry wastewater to treatment plants, the technology that treats water and methods of managing stormwater runoff. The EPA also calls for the investment of hundreds of millions of dollars in treatment plants, many of which are several decades old.

"The only way to have clean and reliable water is to have infrastructure that is up to the task," said Joel Beauvais, the EPA's Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Water, in a Construction Equipment article. "Our nation has made tremendous progress in modernizing our treatment plants and pipes in recent decades, but this survey tells us that a great deal of work remains."

Many believe the price tag could be much higher. The American Water Works Association, for example, claims that \$1 trillion is needed to replace outdated pipes and meet growth during the next 25 years.

"The future is looking a little dark for something as basic and fundamental as water,"

Continued . . .

Infrastructure solutions necessary, but costly

... continued

said Adam Krantz of the Water Infrastructure Network (WIN) in a San Angelo (Texas) Standard Times article. WIN is a broad-based coalition of local elected officials, drinking water and wastewater providers, state environmental and health administrators, engineers, and others dedicated to preserving and protecting the health, environmental and economic gains that America's drinking water and wastewater infrastructure provides, according to the organization.

Could your rates rise?

WIN and other groups are pushing Congress to invest more. Federal funding comes from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund that offers loans to help cities and towns get needed dollars. Cities and towns also rely on taxes, but many fall short of raising enough money to pay for needed upgrades and repairs. More efficient faucets, shower heads and other plumbing systems have made revenue shortfalls worse. Population loss, which reduces taxes, also plays a role in municipalities. That's forcing some local governments to raise rates.

"That's the key that Americans have to understand: If they want this system, they are going to have to be willing to finance it," said

Greg DiLoreto, Past President of the American Society of Civil Engineers in the Times article.

Fitch Ratings, a nationally recognized statistical rating organization, said that in light of the Flint crisis, if the EPA strengthens its Lead and Copper Rule – which is used to regulate drinking-water exposure to lead – the removal of all lead service lines could be mandatory. That would be an expensive proposition.

"Reprioritizing and accelerating the lead pipe replacement would add significant capital needs to the sector and could compete with other critical infrastructure projects, including developing sufficient long-term water supplies and replacing aging infrastructure components other than lead lines," said Fitch in a March press release. "Some sources estimate more than 6 million lead service lines exist across the U.S. We believe the capital costs to replace these lines could exceed \$275 billion. The EPA's latest survey estimated the entire sector needs \$385 billion in water infrastructure improvements through 2030, and this estimate includes the costs to only partially replace lead pipes. Either level of capital cost would likely be manageable for the sector as a whole if it is spread throughout a time frame like the one in the EPA survey. However, implementation across a shorter time span may create stress for individual credits."

Representatives on both sides of the aisle in Congress have called for establishing a National Infrastructure Development Bank to help pay for the costs associated with projects such as roads, bridges and water systems that are critical to Americans, but no bill passed. A recent push came again in February from U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-Conn.), who has introduced an act in every Congress since 1994 to create an infrastructure bank.

"Emergencies like the tragedy we are seeing in Flint are a stark reminder of what is at stake when it comes to investment in water projects," said DeLauro in a commentary on TheHill.com. "We cannot continue the pattern of turning attention to critical infrastructure only when disaster strikes – we must make long-term, pro-growth investments to prevent further tragedies from ever occurring." ■

The American Society of Civil Engineers says that a water main breaks every two minutes in the United States. The same group has graded the country's infrastructure a D+.





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GUEST OPINION

TIME TO ACT

Rebuilding neglected systems would boost economy, give Americans an A⁺ water infrastructure

Our country must do better than “nearly failing” when it comes to something so vital and fundamental as water. Yet a D⁺ is our nation’s water infrastructure grade from the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). It has taken the lead-contamination scandal in Flint, Michigan, to get the attention of Congress and elected officials across the nation, but Flint is only the tip of the iceberg.

News reports now say as many as 2,000 water systems across the country may have excessive lead levels, while as many as 10 million homes receive water through lead pipes. Across the nation, many pipes are more than 100 years old, some dating back to the Civil War era, posing drinking water risks. Each year, according to ASCE, there are 240,000 water-main breaks. Faulty pipes result in the leakage of 900 billion gallons of wastewater a year, helping to make 28 percent of waterways unfit for human recreation and 18 percent unfit for consumption. According to ASCE, the cost to fix our nation’s abuse of water resources is now \$1.7 trillion – and rising.

From drinking-water contamination, to water scarcity, to ports and waterways that can no longer accommodate commerce, the water crisis is one of the most critical issues facing the U.S. As Flint shows, the crisis raises moral questions, but there are major economic costs as well. Across the country, neglect of inland waterways and the associated stunting of water transportation activity could hit the economy with the loss of 738,000 jobs by 2020, a nearly \$750 billion blow to the economy, according to ASCE.

America can do better than a D⁺. This year, Congress is likely to consider a number of water-infrastructure measures to increase funding for clean and safe drinking water, ranging from reauthorization of the Water Resources Reform

and Development Act (WRRDA) to bills aimed at alleviating the drought in the West. However, we must caution Congress against “robbing Peter to pay Paul.” For the sake of our children in every community, the drinking-water crisis must receive additional, significant and dedicated resources above and apart from WRRDA. That piece of legislation is simply not capable of addressing the crisis, and attempting to use it for that purpose will only strain other critical water resources.

There is no excuse for Congress failing to act. The challenge is enormous, but the rewards can be equally as great. The men and women of the Laborers’ International Union of North America are ready to fight to protect lives, and we’re ready to get to work doing our job to rebuild America’s neglected water infrastructure. Now it’s up to Congress and elected officials at every level to do their jobs to ensure that our country and our people have what they deserve: an A⁺ water infrastructure. ■

Laborers’ International Union of North America General President Terry O’Sullivan says it’s unacceptable for the U.S. to have a D⁺-rated water infrastructure. His organization is pushing Congress to reauthorize the Water Resources Reform and Development Act and provide additional funding to modernize the nation’s water systems.



**Terry O’Sullivan,
General President,
LIUNA**

*Terry O’Sullivan is
General President
of the Laborers’
International Union of
North America, which
represents a half-million
men and women
predominantly in the
construction industry.*



D61PXi-23



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PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT

MORE INTELLIGENT DOZING

Komatsu's new D39i-24 dozers lower fuel consumption and increase production time with no cables

Eliminating the need to install and remove blade-mounted sensors each day saves on machine and operator wear and tear, and it converts potential downtime into increased production. Komatsu's second-generation D39PXi-24 and D39EXi-24 dozers offer that and more with a new Tier 4 Final engine that increases fuel efficiency compared to its predecessor.

"With factory integration and a host of intelligent capabilities, the more that owners run their D39i-24 dozers, the more they save," said Jason Anetsberger, Komatsu Senior Product Manager. "The monthly production gains from starting sooner, finishing faster, using less fuel and saving on materials can add up quickly. Skipping the cables, climbing and connections of traditional aftermarket systems saves operators up to 30 minutes a day and is more convenient."

Rough-cut to final grade, the *intelligent* Machine Control (iMC) dozers extend production gains. Once engaged, the system automatically starts the cut and lowers the blade to grade in a typical dozing pass. If the load increases to maximum capacity, the blade automatically raises to minimize track slip, ensuring productive dozing. This allows the dozer to achieve up to 8-percent-greater efficiency in moving materials, based on start-to-finish grade testing against typical aftermarket machine-control systems.

New features

Customer feedback led Komatsu to introduce a standard, operator-selectable, automatic Reverse Grading Mode, which enables automatic blade control while reversing, to grade the target surface. Other new features include a Triple Labyrinth final-drive design that provides additional protection for the final drive floating seals.

The more-efficient engine uses a Selective Catalytic Reduction System and Diesel Exhaust Fluid, as well as a new, water-cooled, Variable Flow Turbocharger that improves durability and engine response. The Diesel Oxidation Catalyst provides 100-percent passive regeneration that does not interfere with operation. Auto-idle shutdown helps reduce idle time and saves fuel.

"These dozers are great for everything from stripping to finish grading on a variety of small-to-medium-sized jobsites, such as commercial buildings and residential lots," said Anetsberger. "As with all Tier 4 construction machines, they are covered under the Komatsu CARE program." ■



Jason Anetsberger,
Komatsu Senior
Product Manager

Quick Specs on Komatsu's D39PXi-24 and D39EXi-24 Dozers

| Model | Net Horsepower | Operating Weight | Blade Capacity |
|-----------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| D39EXi-24 | 105 hp | 21,848 lbs | 2.89 cu yd |
| D39PXi-24 | 105 hp | 22,774 lbs | 3.14 cu yd |

Komatsu's new D39EXi-24 and D39PXi-24 dozers lower fuel consumption with a Tier 4 Final engine. They also increase production with integrated machine control that eliminates the time needed to install and remove cables.





PC240LC-11

TIER 4 FINAL HYDRAULIC EXCAVATOR

- New higher performance 177 HP engine*
- More efficient through lower fuel costs*
- Larger LCD color monitor panel*
- Wide access service doors



I AM KOMATSU

MICHAEL THOMAS / WELDER / CHATTANOOGA, TN

"Komatsu excavators come with the latest in technology. I'm proud to be part of the production team that builds them to hold up to years of daily punishment. I make sure they're as rugged as Komatsu's quality reputation, because it's not just Komatsu's reputation on the line—it's mine and all my friends' too. And that's why I AM KOMATSU."

MADE WITH PASSION AND PRIDE

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*Compared to previous Komatsu model.

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NEW PRODUCT

SMALL PACKAGE, BIG RESULTS

Komatsu's new PC30MR-5 and PC35MR-5 hydraulic excavators pack serious production into compact frame

Contractors looking for a versatile excavator with a smaller footprint are in luck. Komatsu's new PC30MR-5 and PC35MR-5 utility-sized excavators are a perfect fit for tight worksites.

The new models have a swing-boom design that enables them to easily complete jobs in confined spaces. The excavators are each equipped with a standard dozer blade to help with backfilling and enhanced work modes to help operators match engine speed and pump delivery to the application.

"The swing-boom design allows the machines to dig close to foundations or alongside buildings," said Komatsu Product Marketing Manager Des Jarvis. "The PC30 and PC35's standard dozer blade makes backfilling a breeze and eliminates the need for a second machine."

The excavators come with a Tier 4 Final, 24-horsepower engine and an Exhaust Gas Recirculation Valve to meet emissions standards. They feature a new auto decelerator, auto-idle-shutdown and economy modes to help reduce idle time and save fuel. Additionally, a dial-type knob offers finer throttle control. The excavators are available in three track options – rubber, steel or roadliner – to further their worksite versatility.

Upgraded comfort

Both the PC30 and PC35 feature an updated cab to provide a durable and secure work environment. The ROPS cab and two-post canopy come equipped with a 3.5-inch, high-resolution LCD screen and Ecology Guidance to help

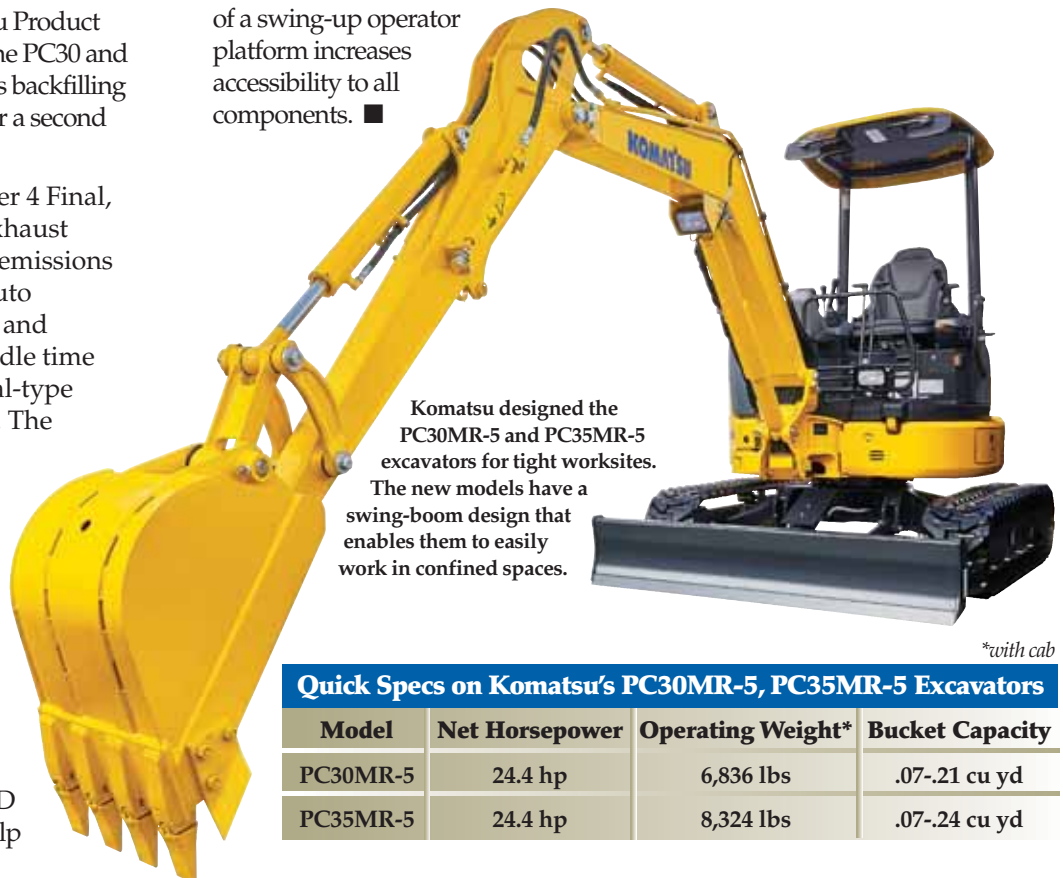
operators monitor machine-performance metrics and maximize fuel efficiency.

Komatsu improved visibility and functionality inside the cab through several enhancements, including a swing-open hinge door. The cab has a flat rear window to increase visibility and reduce replacement costs. The two-post ROPS canopy is designed with no front posts, which can distract the operator.

Daily maintenance and service is easier on the excavators, as both the PC30 and PC35 have wide service doors for access to ground-level maintenance. The addition of a swing-up operator platform increases accessibility to all components. ■



Des Jarvis,
Komatsu Product
Marketing Manager



Komatsu designed the PC30MR-5 and PC35MR-5 excavators for tight worksites.

The new models have a swing-boom design that enables them to easily work in confined spaces.

**with cab*

Quick Specs on Komatsu's PC30MR-5, PC35MR-5 Excavators

| Model | Net Horsepower | Operating Weight* | Bucket Capacity |
|----------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| PC30MR-5 | 24.4 hp | 6,836 lbs | .07-.21 cu yd |
| PC35MR-5 | 24.4 hp | 8,324 lbs | .07-.24 cu yd |

NEW PRODUCT



Discover More

PRODUCTION NUMBERS IMPROVED

New WA600-8 features larger standard bucket and increased fuel efficiency



Rob McMahon,
Komatsu Product
Marketing Manager

How do you measure enhanced performance? Komatsu's new WA600-8 wheel loader provides answers with numbers that show you can move more material with lower fuel consumption.

Komatsu optimized engine power control in the Tier 4 Final WA600-8, and improved power train and hydraulic efficiency, reducing fuel consumption up to 13 percent, compared to its Tier 3 predecessor. The loader combines Komatsu's SmartLoader Logic with an enhanced lockup torque converter that activates in second, third and fourth gears. Together, the system provides optimal engine torque for improved acceleration, hill climbing, fuel savings and a higher top speed.

Komatsu's new WA600-8 features optimized engine power control and improved power train and hydraulic efficiency to help reduce fuel consumption by up to 13 percent, compared to its Tier 3 predecessor. Standard bucket capacity was increased to 9.2 cubic yards, and Komatsu designed it to fill easier, retain material better and give operators greater visibility.

Quick Specs on Komatsu's WA600-8 Wheel Loaders

| Model | Net Horsepower | Operating Weight | Bucket Capacity |
|----------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| WA600-8 | 529 hp | 122,268-124,473 lbs | 9.2 cu yds |
| WA600-8* | 529 hp | 126,678 lbs | 10.2 cu yds |

* Load-and-carry configuration with additional counterweight

Bucket capacity of the standard WA600-8 increased to 9.2 cubic yards, and Komatsu designed it to fill easier, retain material better and give operators greater visibility. A load-and-carry configuration for the WA600-8 is available with added counterweight and a 10.2-cubic-yard bucket. A new auto-dig function reduces operator effort required to fill the bucket, and Komatsu-integrated load meter data is available on the machine monitor and remotely via the Internet.

"With significant enhancements in production capacity and fuel economy, the WA600-8 is designed to maximize production efficiency in loading off-highway trucks or load-and-carry applications," said Rob McMahon, Komatsu Product Marketing Manager. "Owners and operators consistently tell us they are impressed with the machine's productivity and stability."

Increased cab comfort

The cab features a new air-suspension, high-back, heated seat that softens machine vibration. The seat's cast frame members increase strength, and seat-mounted electronic pilot-control levers add ergonomic comfort and convenience. The KOMTRAX Plus telematics system provides key machine metrics and performance information that can be accessed remotely by smart phone.

"Full rear fenders and steps with handrails at both sides of the loader add convenience for daily inspections," said McMahon. "Similar to other Tier 4 machines, the WA600-8 is covered by the Komatsu CARE program for the first 2,000 hours or three years, which further reduces owning and operating costs. Add it all up, and the savings are significant. We encourage anyone needing a production loader to check out the new WA600-8." ■

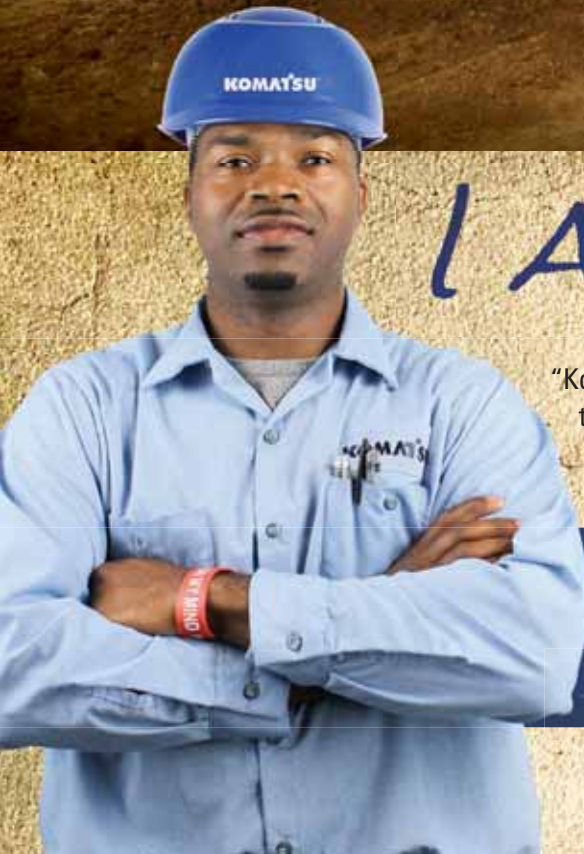
▶ VIDEO



WA470-8

INCREASE PRODUCTION WHILE LOWERING FUEL COSTS

- Komatsu SmartLoader Logic for optimal energy savings
- Large capacity torque converter with lock-up
- All-new cab for comfort and visibility
- Powerful 272 HP engine



I AM KOMATSU

OLANJUWON LUKIE / ASSEMBLER / NEWBERRY, SC

"Komatsu loaders are tough. The loaders I assemble here in South Carolina are built to high standards. I know because my team and I meet and exceed those standards every day. Our goal is to build you a product that will handle the jobs you throw at it and keep coming back for more. And that's why I AM KOMATSU."

MADE WITH PASSION AND PRIDE

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006

"The Sure Way of Breaking Rock"

Introducing the NEW "SS" Series!

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- Stronger Design
- Increased Single Blow Impact Energy
- Fewer Moving Parts
- Models available up to 150,000 foot pounds of energy
- See Our Complete Line of Hammers for Breaking YOUR Biggest, Hardest, Oversize Rock, Concrete & Slag



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Discover more

A PROVEN WINNER

Komatsu's new 931 harvester defines next generation with a host of productive new features

Demanding logging applications require machines that can withstand the rigors of daily use and consistently deliver high productivity. Komatsu's totally new, four-model harvester family – led by its flagship 931 harvester – is doing just that.

"Our new harvester family was designed from the ground up to set the industry benchmark for productivity, operator comfort and eco-friendliness," said Steve Yolitz, Manager, Marketing Forestry, Komatsu America. "The 931 harvester is our high-volume flagship model in the family."

Komatsu designed the 931 harvester for serious productivity by including the new 3-Pump Hydraulic System (3PS), featuring dual circuits with separate pressure levels. The system is power-regulated against the engine and offers a class-leading working hydraulic flow of 139 gallons per minute (528 liters per minute), which is 68-percent-greater than the prior 931.1 model.

Unique pressure and flow optimization enables operators to work considerably faster without losing hydraulic power. Operators can use multiple functions simultaneously with maximum hydraulic power, such as slewing the crane, feeding a log and maneuvering the machine – all with optimally low fuel consumption.

Performance and productivity are further enhanced with the new H-series parallel crane that has greater lift capacity, 360-degree cab/crane rotation and automatic four-way cab/crane leveling, which keeps the operator on a consistent plane and ensures an unobstructed view of the tree at all times. While a variety of harvesting heads are offered to meet specific applications, the

C144 model is a strong overall performer and serves the broadest market segment. It has a maximum cutting diameter of 28 inches, and the powerful four-wheel-drive feed system generates 6,650 pounds of feed force.

The larger, modern cab increases the front line-of-site visibility by 62-percent upward and 17-percent downward. Operator comfort was enhanced with an automotive-grade fit and finish interior, first-class ergonomics and adjustable hand controls.

The 931 harvester has a new 251-horsepower Tier 4 Final engine that is both powerful and more fuel efficient than prior models. A cold-weather starting system, which heats the batteries, engine coolant, diesel exhaust fluid and hydraulic oil, come standard on the harvester.

"Since the first next-gen harvesters began working in the woods last fall, every indication is that we have achieved our productivity, operator comfort and eco-friendliness goals," stated Yolitz. "The 931 harvester is proving to be an outright winner." ■



Steve Yolitz,
Manager,
Marketing Forestry,
Komatsu America

The 931 harvester features a new cab, crane, hydraulic system and a new Tier 4 Final engine, which is more fuel efficient than the prior model.





I AM KOMATSU

ABE RIDDLE / DIRECTOR of PARTS OPERATIONS / RIPLEY, TN

650,000 SQ/FT PARTS WAREHOUSE

"When you need a part, any part, you need it now – and you need it right. I understand that. Our modern 650,000 sq/ft facility centrally located in the U.S.A. is open 24/7 and ships Same Day if needed. That's why I'm proud to be part of the Komatsu team.

My team! We will do whatever it takes to keep you up and running. And that's why I AM KOMATSU."



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003

ENSURING YOUR UPTIME

Abe Riddle says the aim of Komatsu's Ripley Parts Operation is timely delivery from its vast inventory

QUESTION: What is the role of Komatsu's Ripley Parts Operation in Tennessee?

ANSWER: It is the central parts warehouse for North America and Latin America, with an emphasis on parts for Komatsu construction, forestry, forklift and industrial press products. We also carry parts for what we call "mining support," which is inventory related to non-electric-drive trucks.

Everything – O-rings, engines, transmissions and some boom-assembly parts – comes through here and is shipped to our distributors or one of our eight regional parts distribution hubs located in the United States and Canada. We serve Komatsu affiliates globally, too, but our primary customer base is in North American and Latin American countries.

Our most important role is ensuring those parts arrive in a timely manner. The Parts Operation Department runs two shifts per day, but we're really a 24/7/365 operation. We have a hotline number (731-635-6120) and staff on-call, so even if customers call during holidays or off hours, we can still process their orders and get them shipped. It's our goal to have most parts orders in customers' hands the same day or the next day.

QUESTION: Why is that important?

ANSWER: When machines are down, customers are losing money. We understand that, so our response is critical. The faster they get the parts, the faster they can be back up and running. Many customers tell me that service after the sale is a huge factor in what brand of equipment they choose, so we obviously place a heavy emphasis on timely parts support.

Continued ...



**Abe Riddle, General Manager,
Ripley Parts Operation**

This is one of a series of articles based on interviews with key people at Komatsu discussing the company's commitment to its customers in the construction and mining industries – and their visions for the future.

Abe Riddle joined Komatsu's Ripley Parts Operation (RPO) in Ripley, Tennessee, 10 years ago in an inventory-planning position. He moved into a continuous-improvement role, then into inventory management. Later, he managed the warehouse.

"Through my progression, I think I have touched every area at some point," said Riddle. "It was good preparation for my current position."

Today, Riddle oversees the Master Parts Distribution Center, helping ensure that inventory levels are appropriate and "that the right part gets to the right place at the right time," according to Riddle.

"Our availability is outstanding at more than 96 percent," said Riddle. "I believe Komatsu has built a strong parts-support network, and I'm proud to be a part of a forward-thinking company that emphasizes continuous improvement to better serve customers."

Riddle started in the manufacturing industry at 18, and earned his undergraduate degree in business from Union University in Jackson, Tennessee, by attending classes at night. After joining Komatsu, he completed an MBA through Union while working at the Master Parts Distribution Center.

Abe and his wife, Stephanie, have three children and enjoy spending time together as a family. He also likes to duck hunt.

Location is key for Ripley Parts Operation in Tennessee

... continued

QUESTION: Why is Ripley, Tennessee, a good location?

ANSWER: We are strategically located close to a major freight hub in Memphis. That allows us to take orders late in the day and still be able to get parts where they need to be early the next day, in most cases. For example, if someone in Washington state places an order at 6 p.m., they will have it around 10 a.m., depending on what they ordered.

QUESTION: How likely is it that you will have the parts on hand that customers need?

ANSWER: Highly likely as we carry about \$560 million in inventory. Our target is 95-percent availability, meaning that when an order is placed, we have what's needed on the shelf and ready to go. Currently we are at 96.4 percent.

QUESTION: How do you know what inventory to have on hand?

ANSWER: There are several factors we take into account. We consider historical demand, and we collaborate with distributors to understand their operations and machine populations. We also use KOMTRAX to monitor data that helps us anticipate future parts needs. In addition, our manufacturing plants give us recommended lists of parts for new machines. All of that information helps us get a strong hold on what we need to build inventory and keep parts stocked at appropriate levels.

QUESTION: What about older machines?

ANSWER: We maintain a good deal of inventory for machines dating back a decade or more, so we likely have the needed parts on hand. If we don't, we can source parts from trusted suppliers. We will do everything we can to make sure customers get what they need. ■



General Manager, Ripley Parts Operation (RPO), Abe Riddle says the RPO's most important role is ensuring that parts arrive in a timely manner. With nearly 97-percent availability, most orders are filled within 24 hours.



Komatsu's Ripley Parts Operation (RPO) is the central parts warehouse for North America and Latin America. Its inventory includes items for construction, forestry, industrial press and mining support. It also includes parts for Komatsu forklifts, like the one pictured here, which RPO personnel use at the warehouse.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

TURNING 60,000

Komatsu CARE program celebrates milestone service interval

Komatsu launched Komatsu CARE in 2011 with one goal in mind: demonstrate the company's commitment to delivering quality parts and reliable service in a manner that ensures a customer's machine performance is never compromised. That goal has been accomplished – 60,000 times. Columbus Equipment Company (CEC), the Komatsu distributor in Ohio, performed the 60,000th Komatsu CARE service interval on a D61EXi-23 dozer for Eramo & Sons in late March.

"We're very honored to participate in Komatsu CARE and to have completed the 60,000th service," said CEC President Josh Stivison. "We're also proud to conduct the service for Eramo & Sons, a company we have a rich history with."

CEC completed the milestone service interval during a ceremony at its Columbus, Ohio, facility and presented Eramo & Sons with a certificate to celebrate the event.

"Through Komatsu CARE, we can make sure our customers' Tier 4 machines are maintained properly," said Komatsu Director of Distributor Development Mike Hayes. "Komatsu CARE secures uptime, increases productivity and protects residual values for the machines. It also keeps service technicians familiar with the customer's equipment, which is great for future maintenance. The service is complimentary, and we contact customers to schedule the maintenance at a convenient time and jobsite location. This way, the customers save time and money and can schedule their maintenance downtime."

The Komatsu CARE complimentary maintenance program provides service on Tier 4, construction-sized machines – whether rented, leased or purchased – for the first three years or 2,000 hours of operation. The program includes scheduled factory maintenance, a 50-point inspection at each service interval and two Komatsu

Diesel Particulate Filter exchanges within the first five years. Komatsu distributors monitor the machines and contact owners when a service is due. Then, a Komatsu CARE-certified service technician performs the maintenance.

Today, Komatsu CARE programs are standard on all Tier 4 and Tier 4 Final machines in the United States and Canada. The program has been a huge success with customers, including Eramo & Sons.

"Komatsu CARE saves us a lot of labor," said Eramo & Sons Chief Mechanic Dave Penwell. "It also keeps me more involved with the service department at the distributorship. Overall, it makes my job easier. They take care of everything."

"We began using Komatsu equipment in the 1970s; it was a decision that has served us well," added Chairman Rocky Eramo. "Komatsu makes an excellent product, and our distributor has always been there to help us. Today, we have about 45 Komatsu machines in our fleet. It's been a great partnership." ■

Officials from Komatsu and Columbus Equipment Company (CEC) present Eramo & Sons' representatives with a certificate to celebrate the 60,000th Komatsu CARE service interval. CEC completed the milestone service on Eramo & Sons' D61EXi-23 dozer in late March.



Mike Hayes,
Komatsu Director
of Distributor
Development



DEMO DAYS

TAKING A RIDE INTO THE FUTURE

Customers test Komatsu equipment, including the new PC490LCi-11 excavator, at spring Demo Days



Bob Post,
Komatsu Director
of Marketing
Communications

Nearly 230 current and prospective customers attended Komatsu's spring Demo Days at its Training and Demonstration Center in Cartersville, Georgia, in February. The three-day event opened with a single-day

record number of attendees. Those in attendance got an early look at the latest additions to the Komatsu *intelligent* Machine Control (iMC) line – the PC490LCi-11 excavator and the D155AXi-8 remote-control dozer.

"Demo Days is a great opportunity for customers to come and operate our machines and get a first-hand feel for them," said Komatsu Director of Marketing Communications Bob Post. "While the event served as a debut for the PC490LCi and the D155AXi with remote control, our other Tier 4 machines that were featured were also a big hit."

Komatsu had 31 machines available for operation at Demo Days. In addition to the highly anticipated PC490LCi-11 – the world's largest excavator with integrated GPS technology – several iMC products were also on display, including three PC210LCi-10 excavators and D51PXi-23, D61PXi-23 and D65PXi-18 dozers.

The line up also featured six wheel loaders (sizes WA200-7 to WA600-8), four dozers (sizes D39PX-24 to D85EX-18), multiple excavators (sizes PC88MR-10 to PC490LC-11), an HM400-5 articulated truck, an HD605-7 mechanical truck and a GD655-6 motor grader.

During the event, attendees had the option of touring Komatsu's Chattanooga Manufacturing Operations Center in Tennessee or attending morning information sessions at the Training and Demonstration Center in Cartersville. The sessions included "Bottom Line Tactics" and a tire-management class. Presentations covering Komatsu's iMC products and Komatsu Financial followed a catered lunch. After a short safety video and product demonstration, guests had the opportunity to operate machines. ■

Attendees tour
Komatsu's Chattanooga
Manufacturing
Operations Center in
Chattanooga, Tennessee.



Komatsu had 31
machines available
for demonstration
at its Demo Days in
Cartersville, Georgia,
February 23-25.



Komatsu's latest *intelligent* Machine Control excavator, the PC490LCi-11, was the main attraction at Demo Days. It is the world's largest GPS-integrated excavator on the market.



INDUSTRY EVENTS

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Komatsu displays WA500-7 Yard Loader arrangement at record-setting asphalt, aggregate events

The co-located 2016 World of Asphalt Show & Conference and AGG1 Academy & Expo set new attendance records with more than 9,000 people checking out the exhibits inside the Music City Center in Nashville. Komatsu was among the exhibitors, displaying a 353-horsepower WA500-7 Yard Loader arrangement that is designed to load 24-ton on-highway trucks in two passes.

“Loading trucks in fewer passes increases production, and that’s just one advantage the WA500-7 Yard Loader arrangement presents,” said Rob Warden, Komatsu National Account Manager. “It’s great for moving and stockpiling already-processed materials.”

The 79,000-pound-plus loader that Komatsu displayed features a 9.8-cubic-yard, flat-floor bucket, which increases capacity and productivity for applications involving re-handled or loose materials. Komatsu added a larger-diameter bucket cylinder to the WA500-7 Yard Loader arrangement for increased bucket forces and additional counterweight for better stability and tipping loads. The counterweight’s unique shape provides more ground clearance for stockpiling materials.

The machine has 29-inch rims and low-profile tires for increased stability; front and rear brake-cooling systems, which maximize brake life in extended-carry and high-speed applications; and full rear fenders for enhanced protection from debris and thrown material.

“The WA500-7 Yard Loader arrangement handles loose stone, sand, gravel and other materials very well downstream from a crusher,” said Joe Sollitt, Komatsu Product Marketing Manager. “It fits perfectly into the asphalt and aggregate industries.”

All 50 states represented

Attendees from every state, nine Canadian provinces and more than 60 other countries made their way to the events, which covered a record 157,000 net square feet of exhibit space. The shows featured more than 500 exhibitors, including 150 new ones.

World of Asphalt and AGG1 will be held again March 6-8, 2018, in Houston. The annual shows will skip next year due to CONEXPO-CON/AGG. ■



Attendees of the 2016 Asphalt Show & Conference and AGG1 Academy & Expo check out the Komatsu WA500-7 Yard Loader arrangement. The 79,000-pound-plus loader that Komatsu displayed features a 9.8-cubic-yard, flat-floor bucket, which increases capacity and productivity for applications involving re-handled or loose materials.



NEW PARTNERSHIP

PLAYING IN THE SAND

Komatsu, Extreme Sandbox enter partnership aimed at increasing national exposure to construction industry



Rich Smith,
Vice President,
Product Services
Division for
Komatsu America

Komatsu has teamed up with Extreme Sandbox, LLC, a top-rated, heavy-equipment-adventure company, to become its exclusive equipment sponsor. The partnership enables both companies to expose more Americans to the experience of operating heavy equipment.

Extreme Sandbox provides guests with a truly unique opportunity to operate real construction equipment inside a 10-acre "sandbox." Expert instructors help guests learn and operate the machines in a proper operating environment, while creating a fun and memorable experience.

Together, the two companies plan to expand the public's exposure to heavy machinery. By combining Extreme Sandbox's national expansion plans and proven track record of

creating memorable experiences, with Komatsu's world-class machines, national reach and global resources, the partnership will introduce a new generation to heavy machinery and an under-explored area for rewarding careers.

"This alliance is an opportunity to transform these impressive marvels of engineering technology from a roadside and work-zone curiosity, to an informative, exciting, hands-on experience," said Rich Smith, Vice President, Product Services Division for Komatsu America. "Long term, we hope climbing inside and feeling the comfort, speed and power of these machines inspires a new generation of men and women who are good with their hands to consider construction careers. The construction industry provides great employment opportunities for future operators, technicians and engineers. The degree to which cutting-edge technology will shape the jobsites and careers in the construction industry of the future is a well-kept secret. We want to change that."

Extreme Sandbox currently has two locations: its Trip-Advisor-No. 1-rated suburban Minneapolis site and its new one about an hour north of Dallas. More sites are planned for several U.S. cities in the next few years. Permanent locations will offer the opportunity to schedule machine and operator training at the high school and community college levels, as well as demonstration and customer appreciation events for local Komatsu distributors.

It will also allow Extreme Sandbox to collaborate with local distributors and embark on periodic road tours that spread the message of a thrilling experience and rewarding careers to local communities across the country, via tailgating events, state fairs, festivals, parades and other avenues. ■

Komatsu teamed up with Extreme Sandbox to become its exclusive equipment sponsor. The partnership enables both companies to expose more Americans to the experience of operating heavy equipment. Extreme Sandbox provides guests with a truly unique opportunity to operate real construction equipment inside a 10-acre "sandbox."



INDUSTRY NEWS

GOOD NEWS, NEW CHALLENGES

Construction unemployment lowest in six years, but shrinking pool of workers could cause future headaches

Construction employment reached its highest level in six years, while the number of unemployed workers with construction experience shrank to a 14-year low, according to an Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) analysis. The organization tempered the good news, cautioning that the diminishing pool of available, qualified labor may have an impact on the industry's ability to meet growing demand.

"It is encouraging to see construction employment rising again, but the industry could hire many more workers if they were available," said Ken Simonson, AGC's Chief Economist. "The lack of experienced construction workers may be impeding the industry's ability to start or complete projects. The recent acceleration in construction spending may soon level off unless the sector can draw in more workers with the right skills."

Construction employment totaled more than 6.3 million in July 2015, the most since February 2009, but the total rose by only 6,000 in July and by an average of only 7,200 per month during the previous five months, Simonson noted. The number of unemployed workers who reported last working in construction totaled 474,000, the fewest since 2001.

"The sector's job gains in the past five months have been intermittent and relatively sluggish despite signs of accelerating demand for construction," Simonson said. "The latest Census Bureau data show the amount of construction spending is rising at the fastest rate since 2006. There are several indicators – such as the steady increase in hiring of architects and engineers – that suggest demand for construction will remain strong, but contractors may have difficulty finding enough workers to take on all those projects."

AGC officials said that a number of factors are contributing to the shrinking pool of available labor, including the fact that many aging workers are retiring, while other workers who lost their jobs during the downturn left the industry for other sectors. Officials added that the lack of high school-level programs that expose students to construction as a potential career path means fewer graduates are pursuing careers in the construction industry.

"We are doing many students a real disservice by not telling them how they can make a good living working in construction," said Stephen E. Sandherr, AGC's CEO, noting that its Workforce Development Plan calls for increasing the number of career and technical education programs nationwide. "The more options we give students, the more likely they are to succeed." ■

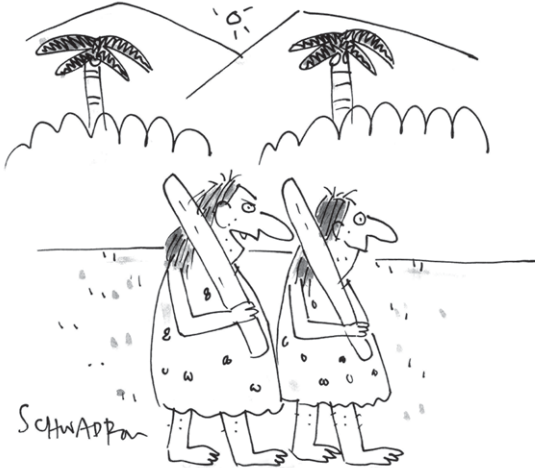
This article is based on a press release from the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) regarding its analysis of construction employment.

An Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) analysis showed construction employment totaled 6.3 million in July 2015, the most since February 2009, according to AGC Chief Economist Ken Simonson. The organization cautioned that a diminishing pool of available qualified labor may have an impact on the industry's ability to meet growing demand.



SIDE TRACKS

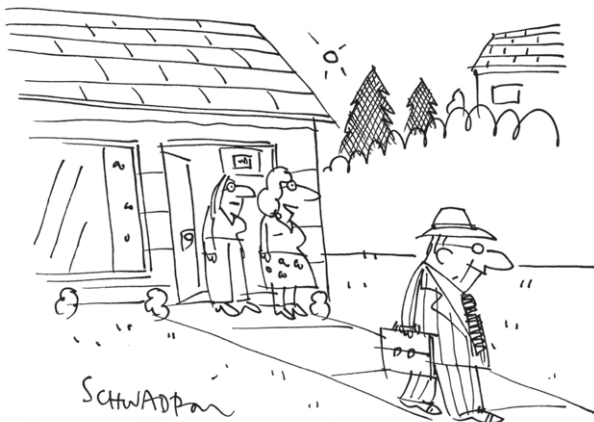
On the light side



"I'm tired of hunting and gathering. Let's invent taxes and government."



"Don't I get credit for all the red lights I've stopped for?"



"Reggie is retired, but he still goes to work to play the office sports pool."

Did you know...

- Banging your head against a wall burns 150 calories an hour.
- When hippos are upset, their sweat turns red.
- The Hoover Dam is made of more than 3,125,000 cubic yards of concrete.
- There are enough roadways in the United States to stretch to the moon and back eight times.
- The first blue-colored rose was genetically created in 2009.
- Olympic gold medals are actually 93-percent silver and 6-percent copper – gold makes up only 1 percent of the medal.
- There is a one in 9.2 quintillion chance of filling out a perfect NCAA March Madness bracket.
- Americans buy more than 700 million marshmallow Peeps and consume more than 16 million jellybeans during the Easter season.
- Nomophobia is the fear of being without a mobile phone or losing a signal.

Brain Teasers

Unscramble the letters to reveal some common construction-related words. Answers can be found in the online edition of the magazine at www.WPIUpdate.com

1. S N I P _ _ _ _ S
2. L M E D O _ _ _ D _ _
3. D O R E L A _ _ _ A _ _ _
4. T O R E C P J _ _ R _ _ _ E _ _
5. N A T R R Y W A _ _ _ R _ _ _ _ T _

MORE INDUSTRY NEWS

IEA expects oil prices to stay low throughout 2016

The International Energy Agency (IEA) expects oil prices to stay low throughout 2016 as oversupply continues. In its Medium-Term Oil Market Report, the IEA said supply will outpace demand by up to 1.1 million barrels per day.

"Only in 2017 will we finally see oil supply and demand align, but the enormous stocks being accumulated will act as a dampener on the pace of recovery in oil prices when the market, having balanced, starts to draw down those stocks," according to the report. ■

Pipeline groups pursue inspector certification

Pipeline industry groups announced support for certification of all pipeline inspectors during the next two years. The groups note that standardized certification would improve the quality of new construction.

"Safe pipeline construction and quality materials help ensure safe operation," said Donald Santa, President and CEO of the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America. "Having certified inspectors helps everyone raise the bar." ■



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