Makita's new INOX grinding wheels are engineered to deliver improved material removal with less noise and vibration for improved efficiency and user comfort.

### FIVE TOP BETS FOR GRINDING AND CUTTING METAL AND CONCRETE

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hether they are grinding or cutting metal, stainless, aluminum, concrete or stone, users all want Ferrari performance for Ford Fiesta prices. These leading manufacturers are achieving price/ performance ratios that were simply nonexistent a few short years ago.

#### MAKITA

"Makita continues to lead the industry and meet the demands of the construction world with power tools engineered to help make professional users more productive and meet high efficiency standards," says Brandon



Stover, Makita product manager, accessories. "At the same time, ergonomics and comfort mean more today than ever, so Makita tools are engineered to be more compact with less weight and lower vibration for improved comfort. This demand for productivity and comfort is not limited to power tools, as Makita is driving to build productivity and comfort features into accessories as well."

A good example is the new line-up of INOX grinding wheels. The new Makita INOX grinding wheels are engineered to deliver improved material removal with less noise and vibration for improved efficiency and user comfort. These new grinding wheels are ideal for ferrous metals including stainless steel.

"With less noise, lower vibration and industrial performance, the new INOX grinding wheels are a welcome solution for fab shops, metal shops, welding and other high-volume metalworking applications," Stover states. "And Makita is delivering this new solution with plenty of options: they are available either hubbed or non-hubbed in single-, 5- and 25-packs."

**INDUSTRYUPDATE** 

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# **INDUSTRYUPDATE**

#### LACKMOND PRODUCTS

Lackmond's newest addition to the STS family is the first ever true multi-application diamond blade utilizing patterned diamond technology.

"Our 3rd generation patterned diamond technology is the most advanced patterned diamond process and evenly aligns the diamonds into rows within the



blade's segment," says Cliff Sallis, president of Lackmond Products. "This precise alignment ensures the maximum amount of diamonds contacting the cutting surface at any given moment. The net result is a diamond blade with consistent segment wear rate and approximately 30 percent more footage versus comparable blades."

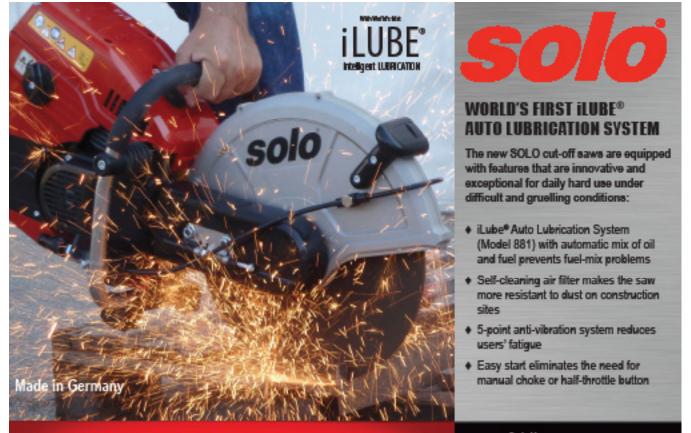
The STS-6 features a specially designed bond/matrix for effective use across multiple applications and varying aggregate hardness. It delivers exceptional performance in softer base materials. The STS-6 design features include undercut protection segments and a .400-inch usable diamond depth. Its slanted core design delivers maximum cutting speed and its pre- and post-tensioned Lackmond calls its new STS-6 the first ever true multi-application diamond blade utilizing patterned diamond technology. It is designed for use in multiple applications and varying aggregate hardness and delivers exceptional performance in softer base materials.



core eliminates loss of tension. Currently, the STS-6 is available in a 14-inch blade.

Lackmond Products, Inc., based in Marietta, Ga., is a leading manufacturer and marketer of diamond saw blades, cutting tools, tile saws, grinding and drilling equipment, CNC tooling and accessories for the tile, stone and construction markets. Lackmond has been serving professional construction and plant maintenance markets for over 20 years, with eight warehouses in the United States as well as international locations in Canada and Latin America.

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## by Tom Hammel

#### **PEARL ABRASIVE**

Two key trends Pearl Abrasive sees in the marketplace are the continual focus on productivity, striving to do more with less, along with a demand for specialized tools for specific applications. Pearl's product development team works closely with reps across the United States and Canada to find solutions that cost-effectively meet the demands for productivity improvement and specialization.

"Distributors and end-users were asking us for a longer lasting abrasive disc for metal cutting applications," says Oscar Checa, Pearl product development manager. "We recognized that a diamond blade could be



developed for this application, but it would need to have an extremely high concentration of diamonds in an extremely strong bond. The result is our Pearl Xtreme blade."

The Pearl Xtreme PX-4000 cuts metal, stainless steel and a variety of ferrous metals with less odor and debris compared to conventional abrasives. It can cut as much as 50 to 100 conventional disks, significantly increasing productivity. Pearl's latest entry into the super-performance bracket, the Xtreme PX-4000 diamond blade, delivers the metalcutting productivity of 50 to 100 conventional discs.



Checa and the Pearl team also focus on specialized products for unique applications. Their most recent innovation is a line of abrasives specifically for working with aluminum.

"With recent headlines such as Ford's new all-aluminum-body F-150, we recognized the increased challenges for our customers to serve metal workers handling aluminum," says Checa. "We tested many options before introducing our new tools for cutting and grinding aluminum."

Pearl's SlimCut Aluminum wheel is specifically engineered for cutting soft metals without loading. The SlimCut Aluminum joins Pearl's other aluminum-specific



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products such as carbide burs, aluminum oxide MaxiDisc flap disc and a titanium carbide blade that cuts clean and cool through aluminum, copper, brass, bronze and other soft non-ferrous metals.

#### WALTER SURFACE TECHNOLOGIES

Heavy-duty metal grinding or blending traditionally uses grinders and grinding wheels to remove welds and a sanding disc to finish the surface if needed. With flap disc technology, which can grind and sand with the same product, it has become important to understand the benefits and drawbacks of each technology, as well as the specific applications for which they are each best suited.

"Walter Surface Technologies understands the importance of each of these abrasives solutions and offers a wide breadth of solutions depending on the customers' needs," says Dan Pirro, vice president, international marketing. "The XCAVATOR, the newest and most powerful member of Walter's innovative family of high-performance grinding wheels, delivers heavy-duty performance, the highest level of removal rate in steel and stainless steel and can confront some of the industry's toughest metals,

Walter's XCAVA-TOR grinding wheel delivers the highest level of removal rate in steel and stainless steel and tackles tungsten carbide, quenched- and tempered-steel.



from tungsten carbide to guenched- and tempered-steel."

Fe-S-CI <0.1%

For sanding after grinding, Walter's COOLCUT XX sanding disc with Cyclone

Technology provides a consistent surface finish and lasts six times longer than a regular sanding disc. Designed with an exclusive high-tech blend of abrasive grains, bond and cooling agents, these discs allow users to blend and finish more pieces and improve productivity.

"For one-step grinding and sanding, the ENDURO-FLEX is the longest life flap disc on the market," Pirro

CONTINUED ON PAGE 74



8-P 700

7" x 1/4" x 7/8 80 x 7 x 22,23m

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says. "The Enduro-Flex is designed with an Eco-Trim backing, so that when the overhang is worn down, you can easily trim the backing and extend the life of your flap disc."

#### **ABRASIVES INTERNATIONAL**

Abrasives International, LLC is the exclusive importer of ZEC Litex abrasive discs for the United States. ZEC Litex abrasive discs feature a patented design which includes a spiral face, air-cooled holes, multiple layers of grain and a built-in plastic backing.



"The ZEC Litex is considered one of the most aggressive grinding products available in the market today," says Carrie Carretta, operations manager. "The

CARRETTA ZEC Litex disc is a light weight disc with a built-in plastic backup pad. It cuts faster, lasts longer, stays cooler and leaves an even finish when compared to conventional discs."

The ZEC Litex disc is available in 4.5-,

Abrasives International's patented-design ZEC Litex silicon carbide and aluminum oxide discs are engineered for aggressive grinding and are offered in grits from 12 to 320.

5- and 7-inch sizes in silicon carbide or aluminum oxide in a full range of grits from 12- to 320-grit. Its aggressive cutting action saves time and labor costs on jobs, making it a great choice for many applications including poured

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