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Winter 2025

Industry Scoop

A publication for and about Roland Machinery Co. customers • www.RolandIndustryScoop.com

MCC Inc.

Fourth-generation family business provides a range of services in Wisconsin



Great Lakes Logging & Heavy Equipment Expo



Matthew L. Roland

**A successful
year**



Dear Valued Customer:

I sincerely hope you had a terrific year and are looking forward to success in 2025. As we head into the new year, don't forget to prepare for the frigid temperatures. We offer five essential steps for winterizing your machines, whether you are storing them for the winter or maintaining production in the cold weather.

MINExpo 2024 was a great success. I hope you were able to attend. Inside, you will find a recap that summarizes Komatsu's commitment to this critical industry that plays a strong role in so many aspects of our daily lives.

This issue is also a real testament to the breadth of Komatsu's equipment lineup as well as the support programs it offers. From an equipment standpoint, there are articles on machinery geared toward mining, demolition and construction. If you work in any of those industries, as well as others such as waste, scrap and forestry, Komatsu has you covered.

Plus, Komatsu Care handles your service needs. To learn more, read the article that highlights the various programs available and how to choose which one is right for you.

You can also gain valuable insights on the 2024 Workforce Survey, which was conducted by the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) and Arcoro. It delves into how the nation's current level of investment in construction workforce education and training programs is having a real and measurable negative impact on the country's ability to build infrastructure and other construction projects.

As always, thank you for your business. If there is anything we can do for you, please let us know.

Sincerely,
Roland Machinery Co.



Matthew L. Roland,
President



In this issue

Closing in on 100 years of dedicated service pg. 4

Read about MCC Inc., a fourth-generation family business that offers a wide range of services in Wisconsin.

Putting it all on display pg. 8

Get a recap of the 78th annual Great Lakes Logging & Heavy Equipment Expo.

Worker shortage impacts building industry pg. 10

Understand the results of the 2024 Workforce Survey, which was conducted by the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) and Arcoro, a leading HR technology company supporting the construction industry.

Are you prepared for low temperatures? pg. 12

View five essential steps for winterizing your machines.

Developed with contractor input pg. 14

Check out the Komatsu PC210LCi-11 IMC 2.0 excavator.

Extended warranty coverage options pg. 16

Figure out which Komatsu Care program is right for you.

Designed for high production pg. 19

Take a look at Komatsu's new HD465-10 and HD605-10 haul trucks.

Introducing demolition excavators pg. 20

Learn about Komatsu's new demolition excavators.

A sustainable future together pg. 22

Explore MINExpo 2024.

Getting to grade faster pg. 25

Speed up project completion with Komatsu IMC equipment.

Commitment to mining operations pg. 27

Discover what improvements are being made at Komatsu's Peoria, Illinois, location.

Industry insights pg. 28

Stay up to date on industry news.



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Closing in on 100 years of dedicated service

With nearly a century of experience and diverse offerings, MCC Inc. has played an integral part in northeast Wisconsin's growth



Neal Rabideau,
Aggregate
Production
Manager

As MCC Inc. approaches its 100th anniversary, fourth-generation family member Neal Rabideau is reflecting on the legacy his predecessors have built in the northeast Wisconsin construction market.

"It's quite humbling to see how the industry and people have evolved, while the spirit of what my great-grandparents started has stayed true," said Neal, the company's aggregate production manager. "We remain committed to the ideals of safety, service and quality in every aspect of the business."

Robert and Mary Murphy founded R.M. Murphy Construction Company in 1926 from their

home in Appleton. Their sons, Orville — Neal's grandfather — and Hunts would lead the business until passing it down to Hunts' son Joe. In addition to Neal, several members of the extended Murphy clan are involved in what became MCC Inc. — short for Murphy Concrete & Construction — in 1988 when the six separate companies founded by the Murphys were put under one name. Currently, Joe is the president, and his brother, John, is the vice president. Neal's mother, Bonnie Rabideau, is the secretary, and John Ernst is the treasurer.

"MCC has a good history of keeping employees long term, and some have been here for 40 to 50 years," Neal said proudly. "When they come to work, they actively want to participate, listen and see MCC succeed. It feels like a large extended family."

Customer snapshot

Company: MCC Inc.

Location: Appleton, Wisconsin

Employees: Nearly 400

Established: 1926

Areas of expertise: Aggregate, asphalt, concrete, excavation and grading, quality control, and trucking

Komatsu equipment: HM400 articulated trucks and WA500 wheel loaders

WIRTGEN GROUP equipment: WIRTGEN WR 250i cold recycler/soil stabilizer; WIRTGEN 2500 recycler/stabilizer; WIRTGEN W 220 Fi, WIRTGEN W 210i and WIRTGEN 35 cold milling machines; and KLEEMANN MR 130i mobile impact crusher

Operator Ryan Hoffmann carries aggregate with a Komatsu WA500 wheel loader at the Mackville Quarry. "I like the responsiveness of the hydraulic system; it's fast," said Ryan.

▶ VIDEO



Teams get the jobs done

With a staff of nearly 400, MCC offers a wide range of services within about a two-hour radius of Appleton. The company consists of six teams: aggregate, asphalt, concrete, excavation and grading, quality control, and trucking. Aggregate production is the foundation MCC was built on, and today the company has more than 30 quarries and pits throughout northeast Wisconsin that supply everything from fine screenings to large riprap. The aggregate team also performs custom crushing, drilling and blasting, and material disposal/recycling, among other services.

The aggregate team works closely with MCC's other teams to ensure they have the proper materials for their projects and mixes, including the concrete team, which supplies a variety of concrete and grout specifications and delivers them with a large fleet of trucks from about a dozen locations. As the longest-tenured redi-mix concrete company in northeast Wisconsin, MCC also makes precast septic tanks, standard and decorative blocks, and safety barriers.

While the concrete team is strictly a supplier, the asphalt side offers materials as well as services that include parking lot and highway paving, milling, and full reconstruction. On recent projects, one crew milled about 40,000 tons of old pavement over a 7-mile stretch of roadway near Wausau while another reclaimed 4.5 miles of county road near Fond du Lac.



► VIDEO

Operator Zack Krueger reclaims/stabilizes a county road with a WIRTGEN WR 250i cold recycler/soil stabilizer. "It has good horsepower, so it will chew up the road and turn the old asphalt into new reclaimed material fast," said Zack. "It creates a nice base for new pavement."

MCC's excavation and grading team provides everything from basement digs to comprehensive commercial and residential subdivision site prep that includes the construction of building pads, roads, ponds and more, with a mentality that no project is too big or too small.

Equipment, service from Roland Machinery

Each of MCC's teams uses equipment acquired from Roland Machinery Company, including Komatsu wheel loaders and trucks, WIRTGEN milling machines and cold recyclers/soil stabilizers, and Epiroc drills. Recent purchases were made with the help of DePere-based Territory Manager Tanner Alanko.

"Tanner and Roland are great to work with because they are very knowledgeable about the equipment."

*-Ridge Liebbeit,
Project Manager*

"Tanner and Roland are great to work with because they are very knowledgeable about the equipment and what's going to suit our operations best, and they back them with exceptional service," stated Project Manager Ridge Liebbeit. "A good example is the WIRTGEN WR 250i cold recycler/soil stabilizer

we recently purchased and the W 220 Fi milling machine we demoed. In addition to Tanner's help, Roland sent out members of its Road Solutions team to assist our operators and teach them about the new technology and how to maximize production. It's great having that expertise."

The WR 250i is an upgrade from the WIRTGEN 2500 recycler/stabilizer that MCC has been using for nearly 25 years. MCC also purchased a new WIRTGEN W 210i cold milling machine for large milling projects such as roadway surface removal and uses a WIRTGEN W 35 cold milling machine for smaller work such as cutting butt joints and working around manholes.

"WIRTGEN is a top-notch brand, so it's been in our fleet for a long time," commented Ridge, noting that the new WR 250i has doubled MCC's production rate on most projects. "We have demoed other brands, and they are not on par. It's all about production, and WIRTGEN delivers."

MCC's aggregate team recently added another piece from the WIRTGEN GROUP with the purchase of a KLEEMANN MR 130i mobile impact crusher. It joins a fleet that includes Komatsu HM400 articulated trucks with 44-ton carrying capacities, Komatsu WA500 wheel



**Ridge Liebbeit,
Project Manager**



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Continued...

'The WIRTGEN GROUP has a wide range of quality products'

... continued

loaders equipped with 7-yard buckets, and Epiroc SmartRoc T40 surface drill rigs.

"The WIRTGEN GROUP has a wide range of quality products that are well-engineered for their specific applications, so the KLEEMANN was a good addition," said Neal. "We added it at the same time as a new HM400, which are

our trucks of choice because they can be used in so many applications. Our construction teams utilize them during their season, and we bring them in to haul on the aggregate side during stripping, pond cleaning and for general hauling."

Neal added, "We like the Komatsu WA500 wheel loaders because they can manage piles and feed crushers, as well as load trucks in two passes. That speeds up production and gets the materials we need out to the job site faster. The loaders and the trucks are part of a long history we have with Komatsu. It's always been stout, well-thought-out equipment with solid uptime that does the job day in and day out."

MCC operators drill blast holes with the 225-horsepower Epiroc SmartRoc T40 surface drill rigs that have a 110-foot maximum depth and drill 2.5 inches to 5 inches in diameter.

"Our operators love them" declared Neal. "They require very little maintenance, they're comfortable and quiet, and they get the job done efficiently."

Can't wait for what the future holds

Neal emphasized that closing in on a century in business is an obvious source of pride for everyone at MCC.

"With all the work we have done and material we have supplied, there are very few projects — from driveways and basements to highways — that we haven't been a part of in some form or another in this area," Neal shared.

As he and others celebrate and reflect on the work they have accomplished, they are looking ahead to what's next.

"We are always seeking new avenues, new markets," Neal reflected. "For instance, we added road milling a couple of years ago to better control scheduling and provide added value. MCC also added a program that helps people who have had some troubles in life have a second chance. It's a great way for them to get back on their feet with an opportunity to grow and build a career. It's also a way for us to give back, which is something we strongly believe in. You must remain quick on your feet, pivot when necessary and commit to driving forward. We can't wait to see what the future holds." ■

**The opinions expressed here are from the end user as quoted. The results described herein are those of these end users under certain conditions. Individual results may vary.*

By the numbers

- 6 teams: aggregate, asphalt, concrete, excavation and grading, quality control, and trucking
- 30 quarries and pits
- 2-hour working radius around Appleton



MCC Project Manager Ridge Liebrecht (left) talks with Roland Machinery Territory Manager Tanner Alanko on a county road rehab project near Fond du Lac, Wis.

MCC uses a WIRTGEN W 220 Fi cold milling machine with a 7-foot drum to mill a roadway near Wausau, Wis.



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Putting it all on display

Roland Machinery adds indoor exhibit space to its annual equipment and service showcase at Great Lakes Logging & Heavy Equipment Expo



Jeremy Boettcher,
Division Sales
Manager and
Forestry Manager,
Roland Machinery



Del Keffer,
Vice President and
General Manager,
Wisconsin and Upper
Michigan Division,
Roland Machinery

The Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association (GLTPA) held its 78th annual Great Lakes Logging & Heavy Equipment Expo at the Resch Expo in Green Bay, Wis., giving equipment dealers and manufacturers an opportunity to showcase the latest technology and equipment solutions for the forestry industries. Roland Machinery Company had one of the largest presences with both indoor and outdoor displays that featured Komatsu and TimberPro (a Komatsu-owned company) forestry and roadbuilding machinery.

"Roland Machinery is one of the industry's premier dealers, and we have made a big commitment to our forestry customers by having the equipment, parts and service to support it, so customers stay up and running," said Jeremy Boettcher, Division Sales Manager and Forestry Manager for Roland Machinery. "Komatsu and TimberPro are very diversified and offer about everything you can imagine in the forestry industry. The Great Lakes region is cut-to-length heavy, so that's the main focus of our display areas."

Popular competition

In conjunction with Komatsu Forest and GLTPA, Roland Machinery sponsored the Great Lakes

Forwarder Operator Challenge, which ran along a portion of Oneida Street that was blocked off between the Resch Expo and Lambeau Field. Using Komatsu 855-3 forwarders equipped with Komatsu grapples, 16 competitors navigated a course that included loading logs into the machine's bunk, moving logs between poles and stacking six logs. The top eight times in the initial round moved on to head-to-head competition where they vied for the top prize of \$1,000 and a hunting trip.

Steve Anderson of Steve Anderson Forest Products earned first place with a final run time of 5:37.69 and had the fastest overall time with a preliminary time of 4:45.63. Anthony Cary of A&A Forest Products ran a 5:50.38, receiving second place and \$500. Bridge Creek Logging LLC's Wendell Risser finished third, and John Talbacka with JM Longyear was fourth.

"This event is always a highlight of the expo because it's a fun way for operators to compete and show off their skills," commented Anthony Lovero, former Industry Specialist for Roland Machinery and the competition's emcee. "It, along with our display area, really shows what we can offer to forestry customers from sales, rental and support standpoints. Roland Machinery is committed to their success."

Roland Machinery showcases equipment at the Great Lakes Logging & Heavy Equipment Expo's indoor display area.





► VIDEO

Roland Machinery helps sponsor the popular Great Lakes Forwarder Operator Challenge.

Powerful combinations

Roland Machinery and Komatsu Forest displayed multiple Komatsu and TimberPro machines equipped with Komatsu and Komatsu-owned companies' attachments. A TimberPro 830D forwarder wrapped with the Roland Machinery logo and featuring a Komatsu C144 harvesting head was a standout. Roland Machinery also displayed a TimberPro TL754D feller buncher with a LogMax 7000XTDS harvesting head.

Additional Komatsu forestry machines and attachments included an 875-1 forwarder with a G84 grapple, a 951-1 wheeled harvester with a C164 harvesting head, a 931XC-3 wheeled harvester with a C144 harvesting head, and a 901XC harvester with a C124 harvesting head. Roland Machinery also showcased a Komatsu D51PX-24 dozer with added guarding and a Komatsu WA200-8 wheel loader equipped with forks for carrying timber.

"This is a great way to thank people in our industry, which is one of the toughest I have ever been involved with," stated Del Keffer, Vice President and General Manager of Roland's Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Division. "They work hard and put a lot at risk every day, and we can't thank them enough for their trust. We continue to commit ourselves to



(L-R) Following the Great Lakes Forwarder Operator Challenge, Roland Machinery's Jeremy Boettcher presents awards to Steve Anderson (first), Anthony Cary (second), Wendell Risser (third) and John Talbacka (fourth), with Komatsu's Doug Morris and Mikael Forsberg in attendance.

this event every year and are already looking forward to the next GLTPA show."

GLTPA's 2025 Great Lakes Logging & Heavy Equipment Expo is slated for Sept. 4-6 at the Upper Peninsula State Fairgrounds in Escanaba, Mich. ■



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Worker shortage impacts building industry

Fully 94% of construction firms report having a hard time finding employees, undermining efforts to build infrastructure and other projects

According to a recent survey,¹ the nation's current level of investment in construction workforce education and training programs is having a real and measurable negative impact on the country's ability to build infrastructure and other construction projects. The Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) and Arcoro, a leading HR technology company supporting the construction industry, conducted the workforce survey. Fully 94% of contractors reported they are having a hard time filling open positions. Construction officials called on federal leaders to adopt more robust workforce policies.

"The most likely path to addressing construction workforce shortages is for the federal government to adopt better workforce policies," said Jeff Shoaf, AGC's Chief Executive Officer, when the report was released earlier this year. "Federal officials need to support, instead of undermine, our national infrastructure and economic development policies."

Firms reported having trouble filling at least some positions — particularly among the craft workforce that performs the bulk of on-site construction work. Association officials noted that 28% of contractors reported having at least 11 unfilled craft positions as of June 30, 2024.

According to AGC, the survey shows workforce shortages are impacting contractors' ability to

build projects. More than half (54%) of contractors reported experiencing project delays because of workforce shortages. Labor shortages are more likely to cause project delays than other causes, like supply chain challenges and shipping delays.

"The most likely path to addressing construction workforce shortages is for the federal government to adopt better workforce policies."

*- Jeff Shoaf,
CEO of AGC*

More training investment needed

One reason it is so difficult to find people is that there is a need for increased investment in construction workforce training and education. Shoaf noted that a report² the association recently released in partnership with the Progressive Policy Institute found that federal officials invest four times more each year in encouraging students to earn four-year degrees than in supporting workforce development programs for fields like construction.

Construction officials noted that 62% of respondents reported that available candidates were not qualified to work in the industry because they lacked the required skills or certificates. Also, 43% reported that employees lacked required documentation like a driver's license, work permit or clean background check. Half of firms reported that new hires fail to show up or quit shortly after starting.

Contractors are taking steps to overcome labor shortages. According to the survey, 91% of firms reported increasing base pay rates for hourly construction positions during the past year. In addition, 57% of firms reported adding online strategies to recruit younger workers, and 51% have engaged with career-building programs like high schools or training facilities.

Contractors are also increasing investments in internal training to address candidates' lack of hard and soft skills. Almost half (42%) of firms reported initiating or increasing spending on training and professional development programs to address workforce shortages. Also, 26% reported increased use of learning programs with strong online or video components.



Firms are having trouble filling open positions, particularly among the craft workforce that performs the bulk of on-site construction work.



According to the 2024 Workforce Survey,¹ 25% of firms are using technology to deliver worker training programs.

The survey also shows that construction firms are using human resources technology to address workforce challenges. Association officials noted that one in four firms reported using technology to deliver worker training programs. Meanwhile, 34% of respondents have partnered with a third-party firm to establish training courses and professional development.

Taking steps to help

Shoaf noted that the association is taking various steps to help the industry cope with labor shortages. AGC has partnered with its chapters to run more than a dozen targeted digital advertising campaigns to reach and recruit new workers. The association has created recruiting resources for member firms and its chapters, and it regularly hosts virtual and in-person gatherings to share workforce development success stories.

In addition, AGC chapters run a host of training and recruitment programs. They have partnered with local school districts to create new construction academies and pre-apprenticeship and registered apprenticeship programs. AGC chapters also build and support networks of career and technical education teachers and host dozens of construction career fairs each year, among many other workforce efforts.

However, association officials said more must be done to address construction workforce shortages. They called on Congress and the White House to significantly boost funding for construction-focused education and training programs. They urged Congress to allocate

more funds for workforce training as part of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and to boost funding for in-school construction programs as part of the Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act.

"Considering all that this industry and our association are doing to prepare, recruit and retain new workers, we are confident that better federal workforce policies will make a meaningful and lasting difference for the better when it comes to the construction workforce," Shoaf added.

AGC and Arcoro conducted the 2024 Workforce Survey in late July and early August. Nearly 1,500 firms completed the survey from a broad cross-section of the construction industry, including union and open shop firms of all sizes. The 2024 Workforce Survey is the association's 12th annual workforce-related survey. ■

By the numbers

According to the 2024 Workforce Survey:¹

- **94%** of firms are having a hard time filling open positions
- **54%** of firms are experiencing project delays due to workforce shortages
- **57%** of firms have added online strategies to recruit younger workers

1. chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.agc.org/sites/default/files/users/user21902/2024_Workforce_Survey_National_FINALIZED.pdf

2. https://www.agc.org/sites/default/files/Files/Communications/PPI_AGC%20Workforce%20Report_Final_EMBARGO.pdf

Are you prepared for low temperatures?

Five essential steps for winterizing your machines to keep them running strong in frigid temps

For most locations, cold weather has the potential to impact job sites. Preparation is the key to protecting your equipment investment. Whether you run your machines in frigid temperatures and want to continue reliable production or store them to protect against the elements, follow these five steps for winterizing success.

Choose the right fluids and purge

Switching to a winter-blended fuel helps protect your engine and its components as temperatures go down. Traditional diesel tends to gel and develop condensation in colder temperatures and can freeze if there is too much water in it. High water content can also cause filters to freeze, expand and burst. Fuel tank water and sediment should always be drained off.

Newer machines that use diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) need special attention, whether you're using them or storing them long term because

DEF freezes below 32 degrees Fahrenheit. Before shutting down for the day—or for months—the automatic DEF line must be purged to ensure that it is empty. This helps prevent expansion that could damage system components.

All fluid levels should be checked consistently to ensure they are at proper levels. Use a low-viscosity oil and coolant with a freeze-level protection rating to help avoid major damage to the engine or other systems at low temperatures. A block heater is another consideration when parking overnight.

Keep batteries charged

Cold weather stresses batteries, so inspect for damage before winter usage and replace, if necessary. If you plan to use your equipment, make sure the battery is fully charged. Check that the water and acid levels are properly filled if the battery is not sealed.



Preparation is important to maintain your equipment's production during the cold winter.



Inspect your machines before operating in all conditions, especially in cold weather. Pay close attention to hoses, belts, fluids, batteries and tracks.

If you park your equipment long term, check the water or acid levels. Maintenance-free batteries should be fine. The battery disconnect switch must be turned off when storing a machine for a long time. To prolong its life, consider removing the battery and putting it in a temperature-controlled climate.

Visually inspect before startup

Before operating, thoroughly inspect the machine to check for irregularities and address them before starting up to prevent potential damage. Let the machine warm up to the proper operating temperature and cycle through functions to allow fluids to move before doing any work.

Keep track of the undercarriage

If your machine has an undercarriage, pay special attention to it during cold conditions. Brush off any snow that may have accumulated overnight or during breaks before entering the machine to reduce the chance of slipping when entering the cab.

It's especially vital to keep tracks cleaned as frozen mud and debris cause problems with the undercarriage, including seals and the housings of the final drive. It prevents the

rollers from turning during travel, which causes flat spots on the carrier and the bottom rollers.

Extremely cold temperatures can cause tracks to freeze to the ground. To prevent this, park your machine on timbers, small pieces of wood in forest areas or another barrier when not operating, if possible.

Don't overlook the cab

Cabs are often an afterthought when it comes to cold temperatures, but they shouldn't be. To keep operators comfortable, ensure the heater is properly working. If your machines have heated seats, check to see if they work.

When storing the machine, thoroughly clean the cab and remove any debris, especially food-related items. Inspect it to ensure there are no holes or missing filters and the doors are sealed properly. Doing so helps keep pests such as rodents from nesting and potentially destroying the operator's cab.

If you follow these five proactive steps, you can have the confidence and peace of mind that your valuable equipment investments will perform and stay in top shape when the thermostat dips. ■

Developed with contractor input

PC210LCi-11 IMC 2.0 excavator helps control for overdigging and delivers versatility in a compact, easily transported size

Are you looking to help lessen the skill gap between new and experienced operators and quickly support your bottom line? Komatsu's Intelligent Machine Control (IMC) is designed to do just that. IMC is part of the company's suite of Smart Construction products, services and digital solutions incorporating advanced, proprietary machine technology. Developed with input from leading construction companies, IMC gives contractors sophisticated,

productivity-enhancing automation along with cutting-edge job site design.

Komatsu's IMC 2.0 lineup includes the 165-horsepower PC210LCi-11 excavator. A smart choice for contractors who need a versatile solution that still offers an excellent range, the PC210LCi-11 is Komatsu's smallest IMC excavator. It is designed for digging in exacting applications such as precise footings, retention ponds and utility work. Its factory-integrated system helps control for over-excavation and empowers operators to dig straight to grade quickly and accurately.

"It's great for a range of applications, and it especially shines in utility work where precise trenching is involved," said Nathaniel Waldschmidt, Product Manager, Excavators, Komatsu. "Our technology won't let operators dig past target elevation, so having to put material back or replace it with expensive fill can be virtually eliminated. That also helps newer operators get to grade fast and confidently."

Automated features

Operators can finish grades quick and with precision by using bucket angle hold control, which automatically holds the bucket angle to the design surface during arm operation. This enables finished grading using only arm input.

"With bucket angle hold, they can curl the bucket all the way in and use the heel to really smooth out the final pass," explained Waldschmidt. "That just helps increase the ease of operation and helps improve final grading accuracy."

The PC210LCi-11's auto tilt bucket control assists the operator in aligning the bucket parallel with the slope, so finish grading can be accomplished without having to align the machine with the target surface.

"You can run a tilt bucket and increase efficiency because the bucket will tilt automatically directly to the plane of the design surface," stated Waldschmidt. "It makes complex grading a lot faster and easier." ■



The Komatsu PC210LCi-11 Intelligent Machine Control (IMC) 2.0 excavator features bucket angle hold control and auto tilt bucket control, which help operators finish grading efficiently.

Quick Specs	
Model PC210LCi-11	Horsepower 165 HP
Operating Weight 51,397-53,882 lbs.	Bucket Capacity 0.66-1.57 yd ³



Technology to help you work smarter



Maximize productivity on your job sites with advanced automation technology. **Komatsu's Intelligent Machine Control (IMC)** can help you get the most from your machines, crew and carefully designed plans.

- Get new operators up to speed quickly
- Go from mass excavating to finished grading faster than ever
- Helps eliminate potential damage to design surface
- Empower operators to work efficiently, pass after pass

Discover more ► komatsu.com/imc

KOMATSU

Extended warranty coverage options

Komatsu Care programs help you efficiently determine total cost of ownership during your machinery's lifetime

Making variable costs associated with total cost of ownership (TCO) — repair and maintenance, fuel, hourly wages — predictable can help you budget and avoid large, unplanned expenses. It also contributes to efficiency in estimating, bidding and determining operating expenses. One way to support effective cost management is to purchase an extended warranty and extended periodic maintenance with fixed costs for maintenance and repairs.

Machinery comes with a standard warranty that covers a certain number of hours or years. Once the machine hits those marks, the owner covers any other, and often unpredictable, expenses. Extended warranties offer the advantage of, for a relatively nominal monthly charge, the peace of mind that when service or repairs are needed, they will be covered, mitigating against being hit with a potentially big bill.

Komatsu offers several options, including Komatsu Care Plus for extended maintenance for up to 10,000 hours, Komatsu Care Plus II

for extended maintenance and repair for up to 12,000 hours, and Komatsu Care Advantage for extended repair coverage. Three options are available with Komatsu Care Advantage: Powertrain, Powertrain Plus and Premier. Services are performed by Komatsu-certified technicians using Komatsu Genuine Parts and fluids.

“Most Komatsu construction machines have Komatsu Care Complimentary that covers scheduled services for the first 2,000 hours or three years, as well as two diesel particulate filter exchanges,” said Ryan Boekeloo, Manager, Aftermarket Contract Business, Komatsu. “Komatsu Care Plus extends that coverage after the complimentary period. Komatsu Care Plus II provides the same with the addition of repairs for further certainty, and it is currently our most utilized option. It’s geared toward those that want maintenance and repairs covered but will handle taking care of consumable items themselves.”

Komatsu Care Plus III is an option for larger wheel loaders, rigid frame trucks and dozers.

Komatsu Care Complimentary	Komatsu Care Plus	Komatsu Care Plus II	Komatsu Care Plus III	Komatsu Care Advantage
<i>Complimentary maintenance</i>	<i>Extended maintenance</i>	<i>Extended maintenance and repair</i>	<i>Extended maintenance, repair and consumables</i>	<i>Extended repair coverage</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Automatic scheduling• Maintenance parts and fluids• Travel and labor included• KOWA oil analysis• 50-point inspection• Service record history• Eligible for Komatsu Certified	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Automatic scheduling• Maintenance parts and fluids• Travel and labor included• KOWA oil analysis• 50-point inspection• Service record history• Major component assurance• 100% core guarantee• Special financing• Eligible for Komatsu Certified	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Automatic scheduling• Maintenance parts and fluids• Travel and labor included• Genuine parts• KOWA oil analysis• 50-point inspection• Service record history• Comprehensive repair coverage• Diagnostics included• Competitive pricing• Special financing• Eligible for Komatsu Certified	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Automatic scheduling• Maintenance parts and fluids• Travel and labor included• Genuine parts• KOWA oil analysis• 50-point inspection• Service record history• Comprehensive repair coverage• Consumables• Diagnostics included• Competitive pricing• Cost-per-hour billing• Eligible for Komatsu Certified	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Customizable repair coverage• Powertrain — powertrain components only• Powertrain Plus — powertrain and hydraulic systems• Premier — comprehensive machine coverage• Travel and labor included• Genuine parts• Diagnostics included• Service record history• Special financing

Distributor representatives can help you determine which Komatsu Care plan is right for your operation. Several options are available to cover maintenance, repairs or both.



Komatsu Care services are performed by Komatsu-certified technicians who use Komatsu Genuine Parts as well as fluids.

This program is designed for businesses such as quarries and mines that keep equipment for 30,000 hours before rebuilding or taking it out of service. Like the other Komatsu Care programs, it covers scheduled maintenance and repairs. Komatsu Care Plus III is designed to be even more comprehensive because it includes brakes, hoses, pins and bushings, and the cost is based on utilization.

Cost-per-hour billing plan

The cost-per-hour billing plan is another option that can help you take control of your ownership and operating costs as machines age. The plan provides unlimited scheduled maintenance services at a fixed rate for 60 months.

This subscription-style billing plan gives customers a cash-flow-friendly alternative and lets them extend coverage beyond a warranty period. There is a nominal upfront opt-in charge. Customers then set their cost per hour for 60 months and are billed based on the machine's monthly usage. Price protection is built in as the rate doesn't change.

Benefits of cost-per-hour billing include:

- Unlimited hours
- Up to 60 months of coverage
- Price protection

- Total periodic maintenance (oils, filters, labor, travel and oil sampling)
- Monthly payments based on machine utilization reported in Komtrax
- National coverage

Usage is tracked with Komatsu's Komtrax telematics system. Added peace of mind comes in knowing that, as with other Komatsu Care offerings, the services performed with Komatsu Care Plus under the cost-per-hour billing arrangement are done by certified technicians.

This billing arrangement is restricted to current production models such as -11 excavators. Hourly rates vary depending on the machine. Once the initial 60-month period ends, customers may opt in again at the current rate. Customers can cancel their subscriptions any time after 1,000 hours and two completed services without penalties or fees.

"Customers often add coverage with the initial machine purchase, making the transition from initial Komatsu Care to their extended program part of the purchase price and seamless," said Boekeloo. "They can add on later, too. The coverage they choose will depend on a few factors, so we recommend consulting with their distributor representatives to get the right one for them." ■



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Designed for high production

HD465-10 and HD605-10 haul trucks offer high payload capacity and improved fuel economy

If you're aiming to boost production and lower operating costs when moving materials, check out Komatsu's new HD465-10 and HD605-10 mechanical haul trucks. These trucks are designed to help increase productivity and improve fuel efficiency in quarry, mining and aggregate applications.

The HD465-10 is a 60-ton rigid frame machine with a high payload capacity and efficient hauling capabilities. The HD605-10 is a 70-ton rigid frame machine designed for reliability and durability. Both trucks offer a tight turning radius for easy navigation on narrow haul roads and ergonomically designed cabin features for operator comfort during long shifts. With increased horsepower and high-strength steel for reduced operating weight, the machines are built to provide excellent speed on grade.

Additional features include a MacPherson-type independent front suspension that allows the vehicle to smoothly traverse uneven road surfaces, the ability to regulate fuel efficiency for lighter work with "economy" and "economy light"

modes, and control downhill descent with the automatic retard speed control function.

Enhanced operator platform

New operator features include hill start assist, throttle lock, a retractable sun visor and waiting brake. Beneficial maintenance elements include plastic resin wheel chocks, maintenance-free batteries, brake performance checks, and ground level Komatsu Oil and Wear Analysis (KOWA) sampling ports. A full LED light package delivers exceptional operator visibility.

"Komatsu is committed to developing equipment that supports our customers' needs and helps them be most effective at the job site," said Madeline Pearce, Product Marketing Manager. "The fuel efficiency and productivity benefits these products provide, combined with a number of operator-focused features, demonstrate that commitment. We are excited to provide these new models of haul trucks to support our customers across North America." ■

**All comparisons are to the previous Komatsu model(s) unless otherwise stated.*



Introducing demolition excavators

Four new Komatsu excavators boost reach and are easily customizable to a variety of demolition applications

Komatsu has four new demolition excavators in the North American market with the launch of its PC490HRD-11 high-reach demolition model and its PC290LC-11, PC360LC-11 and PC490LC-11 models with straight booms. The excavators have been successfully operating in the European market for more than 20 years, providing customers the opportunity to increase job site efficiency.

The PC490HRD-11 demolition excavator features the K100 boom change system that allows operators to quickly change the configuration from within the cab and without manually disconnecting either the hydraulic or electric lines, enabling operators to begin working within minutes of arriving at the job site and minimizing time for boom changes as the job progresses. The machine can reach up to 104 feet and includes a full demolition guarding package, excellent visibility from a 45-degree tilting cab, and an informative human/machine interface panel.

The PC290LC-11, PC360LC-11 and PC490LC-11 straight boom excavators boost reach, providing 22% to 26% more reach than standard excavators, with easy customization

that allows users to program up to 15 different tools. The machines come with factory-installed plus-two hydraulic attachment piping.

Heavy-duty guarding

The demolition excavators are built to tackle tough demolition jobs with robust protection elements like heavy-duty revolving frame and under guards, bucket cylinder guard, boom light protection guards, and reinforced attachment linkage.

Komatsu's additional product line of Lehnhoff quick couplers and Montabert demolition attachments can be paired with the excavators to further increase machine versatility. All attachments are distributed by the Komatsu Attachment Group.

"Komatsu understands that the demolition industry is a fast-growing and evolving segment that demands new product innovation," said Bruce Boebel, Director of Products and Services. "We are excited to be able to now provide this family of demolition excavator solutions in support of the industry, offering the ability to quickly customize for different working environments and provide versatility and efficiency at the job site." ■



Komatsu's family of demolition excavators is now available to North American customers.



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A sustainable future together

Cutting-edge equipment and technology that balance productivity and sustainability showcased during MINExpo 2024

The theme of MINExpo 2024 was “A sustainable future together.” With one of the show’s largest and most comprehensive booths, Komatsu shared its vision for sustainable mine optimization, which has been born out of a collaboration with customers to unlock the full potential of Komatsu’s solutions and technologies.

Komatsu featured equipment, technology and service solutions that addressed sustainability and electrification, surface mining, underground hard rock mining, underground soft rock mining, blasthole drilling, quarry and aggregate mining and crushing. In addition to highlighting the electrification of mining equipment and autonomous machines, Komatsu showcased connected and interoperable solutions, teleremote operations, telematics and machine health data, digitalization, smart solutions and more.

“We’re excited to show our vision for sustainable mining and optimization of mines, and how we intend to work with customers to help them tackle key challenges in their mines,” said Peter Salditt, President and CEO, Komatsu Mining Corp. “There is a tremendous effort, will and interest in looking at sustainable mining and decreasing our carbon footprint. We feel that we are particularly well-placed to address electrification as many of our products have been electrified for a long time.”

Electrification is a critical step toward reducing emissions from mining equipment and helping mining organizations meet their sustainability goals. Komatsu is committed to helping mining organizations reduce their environmental impacts by developing a range of products and solutions designed to meet their needs wherever they are on the path to sustainability. The company’s electrification initiatives are built on its decades of experience in electrifying equipment for its electric drive trucks and loaders and fully electric underground soft rock mining machines. Komatsu is now expanding on that knowledge to develop electrification solutions for all areas of mining.

Innovative machines

Featured products during MINExpo included the PC4000-11E electric drive hydraulic mining excavator and the Power Agnostic 930E haul truck. The PC4000-11E delivers the powerful digging force operators need and expect from high-performance diesel machines while reducing emissions. The 930E is built on Komatsu’s modular power-agnostic platform that will allow for a transition from diesel to battery or even hydrogen fuel cell power sources. This innovative truck also supports dynamic charging and trolley assist options to reduce fuel consumption and emissions further.

During the show, Komatsu gave customers a firsthand look at two teleoperation advancements for its blasthole drills and mining dozers that can help drive mine safety, productivity and operational interoperability. These new features mark a significant step toward the future of remote-controlled equipment, allowing operators to manage heavy machinery from an off-site location.

Komatsu’s drill automation technology is designed to reduce operational variability, leading to improvements in blasthole quality and fragmentation through the precise execution of drill patterns. Customer benefits include more consistent production output, reduced machine wear from less experienced operators and improved downstream process efficiencies.

Teleoperation of a D375A-8 mining dozer used technology that integrates Modular ProVision





▶ VIDEO

Komatsu's new Power Agnostic 930E haul truck is built on its modular power-agnostic platform, empowering the transition from diesel to battery or even hydrogen fuel cell power sources.

machine guidance with automatic blade control. This offers precise and reliable remote operation, even in hazardous environments. The advanced system eliminates the need for operators to endure high-risk conditions, including high-vibration environments.

Standard machines geared toward high-production mining were also on display, including:

- GD955-7 motor grader with a standard 18-foot moldboard that's designed to build and maintain haul roads for truck fleets of 100 tons and up
- ZT44 blasthole drill that offers high reliability and production with purpose-built structures, an 800-horsepower engine and a large capacity dual-setting compressor that adapts to varying rock hardness conditions
- D475A-8 surface mining dozer that features a more reliable mainframe with twice the design life over previous models to help reduce maintenance costs and machine downtime

Simplified workflows

Komatsu unveiled its new Modular ecosystem, which builds on its DISPATCH fleet management system. This cutting-edge solution includes a set of interconnected platforms and products designed to simplify existing workflows while

creating a bold vision for the future of mine site optimization and data utilization.

"One of our customers' biggest challenges is being able to get the full value out of the data sets they own," said Jason Fletcher, Senior Vice President of Mining Technology Solutions at Komatsu. "The Modular ecosystem is that entry point for a mine operation to have one place to gather operational information for every activity that's going on across their mine site. It's our path forward to help optimize mining operations at the machine, mine site and enterprise levels."

To expand its artificial intelligence (AI) capabilities and help customers optimize their mining operations, Komatsu announced its intent to acquire digital solutions provider Octodots Analytics during MINExpo.

"Our ecosystem is designed to empower customers to optimize decision-making at the machine, mine site and enterprise levels," said Fletcher. "Octodots' expertise and solutions map perfectly to what we've created, and we are excited about the opportunities to incorporate their products and capabilities into our offering."

With a focus on long-term partnerships, Komatsu remains a trusted name in mining and is dedicated to advancing the industry through products, services and technological innovation. ■



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Getting to grade faster

Komatsu Intelligent Machine Control equipment has helped speed up project completion for Hook Construction LLC

When Kyle Kopp decided to start his own business six years ago, he wasn't sure what to call it.

"My wife and I were trying to come up with a name, and we wanted something short and sweet," recalled Kopp, Director of Operations. "I love to fish, so my wife suggested Hook. It just stuck."

Hook Construction LLC has been reeling in business ever since by providing turnkey civil construction services. Most of Hook Construction's projects involve complete site preparation, including clearing and stripping, mass earthwork, underground utility installation, fine grading, subbase placement and maintaining erosion control. The company also performs structural concrete work such as drainage flumes, meter boxes and retaining walls.

Adding IMC equipment

Kopp's business partner Bill Estell, Director of Estimating, has a long history with Komatsu equipment, including Intelligent Machine Control (IMC) dozers and excavators equipped with factory-integrated GPS grade control. He knew Hook Construction would benefit from using Komatsu IMC equipment, so he and Kopp added D51EXi-24 and D51PXi-24 dozers. Kopp said they paid off right away and continue to provide savings, as does the Komatsu PC210LCi-11 IMC excavator the company has since acquired.

"The ability to sit in the machine and have little to no reliance on staking and surveying or someone constantly monitoring grade saves so much time and expense," stated Kopp. "The machines always know where they are in relation to the final elevation. Once you hit the target elevation, the IMC excavator won't let you dig any further, so there is no overcutting. It eliminates unnecessary cutting and filling, so you save on fuel by not having to redo anything. There are no masts or cable to replace, so that expense is eliminated."

Estell builds models that are uploaded to the machines.

"Once they are uploaded, it's a matter of letting the machines do the work," commented Estell. "They have definitely sped up our projects. I would say, on

average, we are 25% to 35% faster than using traditional methods."

Kopp concluded, "We haven't had any issues at all with the machines. For us, they perform perfectly." ■

**The opinions expressed here are from the end user as quoted. The results described herein are those of these end users under certain conditions. Individual results may vary.*

Customer snapshot

Company: Hook Construction LLC

Employees: 30

Established: 2018

Area of expertise: Turnkey civil construction

Komatsu equipment: D51EXi-24 and D51PXi-24 IMC dozers, PC210LCi-11 IMC excavator



Komatsu Intelligent Machine Control (IMC) equipment helps Hook Construction complete jobs faster.

On the light side



"SO FAR SO GOOD. UNTIL WE'RE RESCUED, WE'RE GETTING BY ON PIZZA RESTAURANT TAKEOUTS."



"No ... actually, we made them out of really huge Legos."

Did you know?

The O&H Danish Bakery in Racine, Wisconsin, makes 7,000 Kringles a day during the holiday season. A Kringle is Wisconsin's state pastry, and it originally hails from Northern Europe.

One World Trade Center in Manhattan is the tallest building in the Western Hemisphere at 1,776 feet.

Wonder Bread was created in Indianapolis in 1921 at the Taggart Baking Company.

Encompassing 38 miles along the Atlantic Ocean and Chesapeake Bay coastlines, Virginia Beach claims the Guinness World Record as the "world's largest pleasure beach."

In 2023, Louisiana broke ground on a restoration project that will reconnect the Mississippi River with its wetlands, the single-largest ecosystem restoration project in U.S. history to date, per a National Audubon Society press release.

National Puzzle Day, which takes place on January 29, was started by puzzle enthusiast Jodi Jill over 25 years ago.

Vanilla is a member of the orchid family.

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.RolandIndustryScoop.com

1. KATCR _____
2. RLEDI _____
3. RLORLE _____
4. RKOSCPTE _____
5. HESO _____



See the answers

Commitment to mining operations

Komatsu announces improvements to its Peoria location and unveils 980E-5SE display truck

Komatsu is enhancing its operations in Peoria, Illinois, by constructing a new office building that will provide a collaborative space for engineering, sales, manufacturing, management and other functions. The project has already broken ground on this new building, which will include many operational efficiency and sustainability-focused technologies. For instance, the new office will incorporate innovative features such as solar panels, stormwater reclamation systems and energy-efficient LED lighting.

This project marks a significant investment in Peoria. It will replace the office built in the 1970s and enhance Komatsu's presence in the region. The plans are to complete the office building by the end of 2025, further cementing its role as a leader in mining technology and a key player in Peoria's economic landscape.

"Komatsu's commitment to Peoria is a partnership we greatly value."

*-Rita Ali,
Mayor of Peoria*

"Komatsu's commitment to Peoria is a partnership we greatly value," said Peoria Mayor Rita Ali. "The new facility represents a step forward in manufacturing and strengthening Peoria's economy and community. We're excited to see

Komatsu's continued investment in our city, creating opportunities for the next generation of workers."

Mining truck installation

In addition to the office upgrades, Komatsu announced the installation of a 980E-5SE mining truck as a showcase for the community at the entrance to its Peoria operations.

The truck was built in Peoria in January 2020 as an early prototype of the 980E-5SE model, which was commercialized in 2023. The machine was recently crowned the winner of the prestigious 2024 "Makers Madness" contest, earning the title of "Coolest Thing Made in Illinois." This accolade, presented by the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, capped off an eight-week, bracket-style competition that gathered nearly 315,000 votes from the public. The 980E-5SE features a hauling capacity of 400 tons and cutting-edge electric drive technology.

"This display truck represents more than just a remarkable engineering achievement," said Dan Funcannon, Senior Vice President of Surface Haulage for Komatsu. "It symbolizes our Peoria team's hard work and innovation and reinforces our manufacturing capabilities. We're excited for employees, visitors and Peoria residents to see firsthand the scale and ingenuity behind our products." ■



Overexertion most prominent workers' compensation claim category

According to a report by The Travelers Companies, a workers' compensation insurer, overexertion topped the list of most reviewed workers' compensation claims. The company examined more than 1.2 million claims from 2017 to 2021 and outlined the findings in its 2024 Injury Impact Report.

Slips, trips and falls came in second and accounted for the most severe claims costing \$250,000 or more. Being struck by an object, motor vehicle accidents and caught-in or caught-between hazards rounded out the top five most prevalent types of workplace injuries.

Workers in their first year on the job were the most susceptible to injury.

"Factors such as inexperience, workforce shortages and maintenance issues are all contributing to these unfortunate and often avoidable accidents," said Rick Ives, Senior Vice President of Business Insurance Claim at Travelers. ■

To learn more, visit <https://www.insurancebusinessmag.com/us/news/workers-comp/what-are-the-costliest-workers-compensation-claims-500215.aspx>.

EPA implementing Label Program Approach

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is implementing a new label program to help federal purchasers and other buyers find and buy cleaner, more climate-friendly construction materials and products. The Label Program Approach will define what constitutes "clean" construction materials. Products that earn the label will be listed in a central, publicly accessible registry, making identifying and purchasing them easier.

The program will prioritize steel, glass, asphalt and concrete as there are significant opportunities to reduce carbon emissions from these materials, and they represent the vast majority of construction materials and products purchased with federal funds, according to EPA, which will implement the program using a phased approach. ■

To learn more, visit <https://www.epa.gov/greenerproducts/label-program-low-embodied-carbon-construction-materials>.



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2015 DEERE 460E **\$150,000**
STK# JD2024006, 9,859 HRS, Portage, IN



2016 HAMM HD+80IVV **\$62,715**
STK# HM16016, 1014 HRS, Eau Claire, WI



2022 KOMATSU WA320-8 **\$195,000**
STK# KM2022647, 920 HRS, Springfield, IL



2020 KOMATSU PC210LC-11 **\$149,500**
STK# KM2023069, 5422 HRS, Bolingbrook, IL



2014 KOMATSU D37PX-23 **\$99,500**
STK# KM2023250, 2204 HRS, Palmyra, MO



2017 KOMATSU 931.2 **\$249,000**
STK#VT2023001, 10,292 HRS, Escanaba, MI



2018 HAMM HD+140IVV **\$70,990**
STK# HM18003, 1910 HRS, Carterville, IL



2014 KOMATSU PC210LC-10 **\$154,500**
STK# KM2023319, 3628 HRS, Eau Claire, WI



2020 KOMATSU PC210LC-11 **\$205,000**
STK# KM2022040, 964 HRS, Eau Claire, WI



2018 KOMATSU D155AX-8 **\$235,000**
STK# GBCons 5,882 HRS, St Louis, IL



2008 VALMET 840.3 **\$95,000**
STK# VT2022063, 25,466 HRS, Escanaba, MI



2018 HAMM HD10VO **\$25,555**
STK# HM17083, 302 HRS, Slinger, WI



2015 KOMATSU PC228USLC-10 **\$135,000**
STK# KM2021516, 4371 HRS, DePere, WI



2021 VOLVO EC750EL **\$359,500**
STK# VO2024002, 6329 HRS, Escanaba, MI

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