



Multi-Tool solves challenges of two demolition projects

Attachment helps finish jobs more than a month ahead of schedule

When Rod Rodriguez, owner of Coldfoot Environmental in Anchorage, Alaska was awarded two large, concurrent demolition projects in Valdez, he knew his company would need the most advanced attachment technology available to complete both jobs on time.

Coldfoot's project manager, Ron Tharaldson, began researching different attachments and manufacturers in order to overcome the demands of the projects. They ended up choosing an Allied-Gator

MT Series Multi-Tool for its high level of power and proven effectiveness in heavy industrial applications.

Both projects provided unique challenges. They consisted of structures built with ultra heavy-duty construction, used to withstand the kind of extreme environmental factors that buildings must endure in Alaska.

The first project involved the complete demolition of an industrial waterfront facility formerly used as a fish processing plant. This building was located within a few feet of the water's edge and was comprised mainly of structural steel columns and beams with heavy channel reinforcements, specifically designed to resist heavy snow loads.

At the same time, on the other side of town, Coldfoot was completing required environmental remediation and was ready to begin the demolition of a former Valdez Hospital facility in close proximity to the city's new hospital. The new hospital required further expansion into the space obstructed by the old facility.

Built shortly after the devastating 1964 Alaskan earthquake, the old Valdez hospital facility was 78,000 square feet, and constructed entirely of heavily reinforced concrete designed to withstand earthquakes of the same magnitude. The structure consisted of 24-inch-thick slabs, columns and beams with 1.25-inch rebar reinforcements throughout. Even the eight-inch thick concrete walls were filled with rebar, and the ceilings were reinforced with metal trusses.

In addition to the challenges associated with the hospital structure's heavy material, Coldfoot's demolition contract stipulated that all rebar had to be removed from the concrete before it could leave the site.

In order to successfully remove and recycle two structures with such different demands using one small machine, Coldfoot utilized the Allied-Gator MT Series Multi-Tool model MTR 20, mounted third-member on their 25-ton excavator.

The MTR 20 weighs 4,000 pounds and features Allied-Gator's patented Quick-Change Shear and Cracker/Crusher Jaw

Sets. This configuration proved instrumental to Coldfoot's early completion of both projects.

Staying ahead of schedule

Utilizing the MT Shear Jaw Set, Coldfoot was able to bring down the waterfront fish processing plant quickly and efficiently. During this project, the company relied on the speed and accuracy of the MT to bring down the building without any problem.

According to Tharaldson, the MT saved the company hundreds of man-hours that would have been spent torch-cutting the heavy steel structure. This enabled Coldfoot to finish the project more than a month ahead of schedule.

During the demolition and processing of the hospital structure, Coldfoot began to fully appreciate the versatility of the MT's patented Quick-Change Jaw Sets. Although the structure contained massive amounts of reinforced concrete, there were still some structural steel components to be removed, requiring the use of both the Shear Jaw Set and the Cracker/Crusher Jaw Set.

Tharaldson was especially enthusiastic about this unique feature of the MT.

"We can go from concrete to steel beams with a simple Jaw Set change," said



The MTR 20 is used to demolish an old hospital structure standing very close to the new hospital wing.

Tharaldson. "And we can switch back and forth very quickly. Even when we bought the MT, we didn't realize how pivotal this feature would be on our projects."

The MTR 20 with the Cracker/Crusher Jaw Set features a jaw opening of 31 inches, which enabled Coldfoot to completely demolish and de-rod all the concrete on site, producing an astounding 11,500 cubic yards (over 638 roll-off containers) of processed concrete from the hospital site alone.

More impressive still, Tharaldson explained that Coldfoot was able to demolish the entire concrete structure without the need to replace the MT's interchangeable tooth segments. With this newfound level of productivity and durability, Coldfoot estimates that the Allied-Gator MT saved their company over two months on site, and eliminated over 200 projected machine hours.

With the Allied-Gator MT Series Multi-Tool, Coldfoot Environmental has increased its ability to perform and effectively compete in heavy industrial demolition projects where time, safety and versatility are paramount.

Additionally, since MTR 20's arrival in Alaska, the company has not experienced a single breakdown or failure. This gives them a clear advantage — especially considering the remoteness of Alaskan project locations.

Allied-Gator Inc.

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Top: An MT 20 Cracker/Crusher Jaw Set processes and de-roads over 11,500 cubic yards of concrete.

Lower left: An MT 20 Shear Jaw Set is designed for speed and accuracy and features Quick-Change Shear and Cracker/Crusher Jaw Sets.

Lower right: An Allied-Gator MTR 20 with a Shear Jaw Set enabled Coldfoot Environmental to finish the demolition of this former fish processing plant substantially ahead of schedule.



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