

~ New Products ~

New tools for the construction industry

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Ryobi

There is a new Ryobi Tool company in both Canada and the U.S. The power tool division of Ryobi has been bought by Tech Tronic Industries Ltd. based in Hong Kong. The result is a new name and a new image. The new name is Ryobi Technologies Inc and the new image is going to be aimed at the do-it-yourself market. However, a number of the tools in Ryobi's new lineup should be considered by the contractor.

The new Ryobi has just signed an exclusive agreement with Home Depot and their products will be sold only at their retail outlets.

For example, Ryobi has just released a new 14.4 volt cordless drill kit with 24 torque settings, dual range variable speeds, keyless chuck, two batteries and a diagnostic one hour charger. The 1442 MK2 cordless sells for \$125 and this is less than the cost of replacement NiCads for some of the 'heavy duty' cordless tools.



DeWalt

DeWalt has recently announced their new line of air tools. The first of these to come off the line are an 18 gauge 1 1/4" - 2 1/2" finish nailer, an 18 gauge 2" brad nailer and a 15 gauge angled finish nailer. To power these

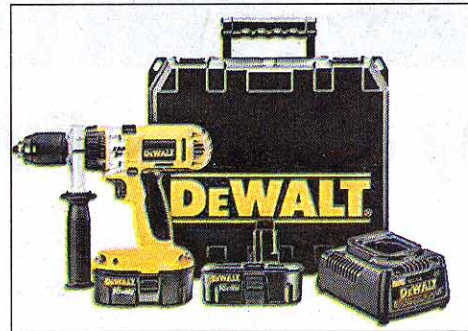
new air nailers DeWalt has a 2 HP, 4 Gal. Hand carry compressor and a 2 HP twin stack compressor.

With DeWalt's aggressive advertising you can expect these new power tools to make a big impact on the air tool business.



XRP

DeWalt has developed a new battery pack that eliminates any trace of 'memory'. These new battery packs are called the XRP packs and DeWalt claims that these offer more running time between charges and a longer battery life. New tools have been developed for these new packs such as their new hammer drill/driver.



Vermont American

Speaking of Cordless tools, Vermont American has developed a new line of circular saw blades and drill bits that will extend the life of your cordless batteries. The new

XTEND saw blades have surgically sharp teeth and ultra thin kerfs that reduce resistance and make your cordless circular saw battery last longer between charges. The new XTEND drill bits are sharper and designed to eject sawdust faster thus making the task easier on your cordless drill.

XTEND blades are available in several tooth configurations and in sizes to fit most corded and cordless circular saws. The XTEND bits are available in sets of varying sizes.



Rotary Laser

An innovation in the industry has just been announced by DeWalt. The DW073 is a cordless heavy duty rotary laser. DeWalt claims that their patented side-by-side laser diodes produce an extremely bright laser beam. The rotary laser can be tripod mounted or with a separate kit can be mounted on a wall.

Wizard

Wizard Distribution in the U.S. introduced four new metal detectors that could save woodworkers and saw mills hundreds of dollars. All of the detectors are powered by 9v batteries and signal the presence of nails or screws by either LED or an audible tone. One unit actually vibrates which is a help in noisy situations.

The Little Wizard is a small hand-held unit

that sells for \$20 US. This will detect metal in wood to a 2" depth with both audible and LED signals.

The Woodshop Wizard will also detect to a depth of 2" in wood but will also locate wall studs to the same depth. In addition the point of this hand-held unit will check electrical polarity in batteries and indicate power in electrical outlets.

The Lumber Wizard looks like an airport security detector that will penetrate to a depth of 6" through wood and will sound or vibrate to alert the user.

The Wood Scan Wizard is a rectangular open frame that can scan all four sides of a 6" x 12" board. The scanner can be hand held or sit in its stand. The five LED array pinpoints any metal item such as nails, screws, bullets, shot etc.

Wizard product information can be found on the Web at www.wizarddistribution.com.

