

## Brokk Becomes North American Distributor of Darda

Brokk Inc. has been named the North American distributor for Darda, a manufacturer of hydraulic splitters and compact attachments, including concrete crushers, shears, multi-cutters, and tank cutters. Darda, like Brokk and Aquajet, is owned by the Brokk Group. As the North American distributor, Brokk Inc. will be focused on building a Darda dealer network in North America and spreading awareness of the range of products among end users in construction, demolition, mining, and tunneling industries. Darda, located in Blumberg, Germany, got its start in 1958 by producing simple splitting machines for the natural stone industry. By the late 1990s, Darda evolved into producing carrier-operated attachments for compact machines, such as mini excavators and demolition robots. Darda became part of the Brokk Group in 2006 and has dealers around the world. Brokk Inc. is positioned to develop a distribution network for Darda products while promoting the full range of attachments and handheld tools.



Darda concrete crusher attachment

## NRMCA Announces 2025 Driver of the Year

The National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA) named Michael Welsh of Silvi Materials in Pennsylvania, USA, the 2025 Ready Mixed Concrete Delivery Professional Driver of the Year. Welsh was honored for his career achievements, exceptional safety record, professionalism, driving competency, and customer successes. His safety record includes an 18-year driving career with no at-fault rejected loads. He is ACI certified, Smith System trained, and a certified NRMCA Concrete Delivery Professional. The judges also selected two runners-up, including 6-year driver Hector Buz with Dolese Bros. Co. in Oklahoma City, OK, USA. Buz has a safety record of having no on-the-job vehicle accidents or rejected loads while delivering an average of over 6000 yd<sup>3</sup> (4587 m<sup>3</sup>) of concrete

annually over the past 3 years. He is the 2024 Dolese Driver of the Year and a driver trainer. Also honored as a runner-up is 21-year concrete truck driver Mark Nieciecki of VNCA Prairie Materials from Bridgeview, IL, USA. Nieciecki is an NRMCA Certified Concrete Delivery Professional, ACI certified, and the fourth-place finisher for NRMCA's 2024 National Mixer Driver Championship. Welsh will receive a 5000 USD check from the Truck Mixer Manufacturers Bureau. As runners-up, Buz and Nieciecki will each receive a check for 1500 USD.

## Holcim Acquires Compañía Minera Luren

Holcim acquired Compañía Minera Luren, a Peruvian producer of specialty building solutions with 377 employees. With wall systems that combine energy-efficient insulation and specialty mortars, Compañía Minera Luren offers high-value building solutions to its customers. This acquisition will expand Holcim's product portfolio while accelerating growth in Latin America. Compañía Minera Luren's wall systems will advance Holcim's ability to offer customers fully integrated end-to-end solutions from foundation and flooring to walls and roofing. The company's product portfolio is complementary to Holcim's existing business in Peru.

## Ozinga Starts Mission Critical Team to Advance Sustainable Solutions

Ozinga announced the formation of its Mission Critical team, a dedicated unit focused on low-carbon concrete solutions and rapid response for data centers and advanced technology facilities across North America. The team is led by Ryan Cialdella, Chief Mission Critical and Decarbonization Officer, and Paul Winkle, Executive Vice President of Mission Critical Business Development. Together, they lead a team of engineers, material scientists, and industry specialists dedicated to optimizing low-carbon solutions for hyperscalers, contractors, architects, and engineers. Ozinga's Mission Critical team has three core strategies:

- **Advanced Materials Science**—Using Ozinga's Research and Development Lab to design and refine low-carbon concrete mixtures. Machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI)-driven modeling optimize mixture designs for next-generation infrastructure projects;
- **On-site Concrete Innovations**—Ozinga's Mobile Concrete Plant division enables large-scale concrete production directly at jobsites, reducing emissions, minimizing waste, and ensuring rapid, precision-engineered solutions for hyperscale developments; and
- **Optimized Logistics and Supply Chains**—By streamlining delivery networks and leveraging global warming potential

(GWP)-optimized concrete, the team ensures sustainability without compromising on strength, durability, or construction speed.

## Aims and Alquist 3D Launch Hands-On Courses

Aims Community College and Alquist 3D launched in-person, hands-on three-dimensional (3-D) concrete printing courses live at the Greeley, CO, USA, campus. The classes were designed as workshops held over two weekends and featured instruction and experiential learning using 3-D concrete printing technology. The sessions were held at the Applied Technology and Trades Center on the Aims Greeley campus. The 3-D Concrete Printing Coding & Design class covered the fundamentals of 3-D concrete printing, from digital design to robotic execution. In the 3-D Concrete Printing Material Science course, students gained hands-on experience in 3-D concrete printing with a focus on equipment, material preparation, and site setup. Participants learned to assemble and operate mixing and print head systems, optimize workflows, and troubleshoot processes in a real-world construction environment. Aims 3-D concrete printing courses are a first step in jumping into the rapidly expanding field of 3-D-printed homes and infrastructure.

## Bosch Earns Great Place To Work Certification

Bosch announced that it has been Certified™ by Great Place To Work® in the United States. The award is based entirely on

what current employees say about their experience working at Bosch. Great Place To Work is an authority on workplace culture, employee experience, and the leadership behaviors proven to deliver market-leading revenue, employee retention, and increased innovation. According to Great Place To Work research, job seekers are 4.5 times more likely to find a great boss at a Certified great workplace. Additionally, employees at Certified workplaces are 93% more likely to look forward to coming to work and are twice as likely to be paid fairly, earn a fair share of the company's profits, and have a fair chance at promotion. Bosch's Certification demonstrates commitment to be a place both current and future associates are proud to work at.



The Certification was based off feedback from Bosch associates

## Stay Up-to-Date with the ACI Concrete Industry Calendar!

Whether you're interested in networking with industry leaders, learning a new technology, or wanting to let others know about your upcoming event, be sure to check out the ACI Events Calendar. With just a few clicks, you can connect with an event near you or post your own event to share with the world!



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