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Bluegrass Fence Manufacturing



Quarry Classic Golf Outing



Eastern Region Customer Appreciation Fishing Tournament



David Coultas

**A message
from Brandeis
Machinery &
Supply Company**



Dear valued customer,

As we all know, equipment downtime can delay projects and drive up costs, so it's crucial to have skilled technicians with the expertise to diagnose and resolve issues quickly. To put a spotlight on these important members of our industry who often work behind the scenes, Komatsu held a national Advanced Technician Competition (ATC) at its Cartersville Customer Center in Georgia, where competitors were judged on technical performance, safety, professionalism and documentation. This issue offers an in-depth look of the event.

If you have been considering adding a new excavator to your fleet, Komatsu's next-generation PC220LC-12 and PC220LCi-12 models deliver comfort, control and automation. The PC220LCi-12 includes the latest intelligent machine control (IMC) 3.0 technology with two new features: swing-to-line and travel-along-line. Check out the article inside to learn more about these advancements and the benefits of both models.

We also highlight Komatsu's Smart Construction Dashboard, a cloud-based solution that offers near-real-time visibility into jobsite conditions. It helps users confirm quantities, monitor progress, and reduce the guesswork that can surround earthwork and site development.

Additionally, there are many more valuable articles I think you will enjoy, including a customer success story and recaps of our recent customer appreciation events.

As always, if there is anything we can do for you, please feel free to contact one of our branch locations covering Kentucky, Indiana and West Virginia.

Sincerely,
Brandeis Machinery & Supply Company

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David Coultas'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

David Coultas,
President

In this issue

Focused on fencing pg. 4

Delve into how Bluegrass Fence Manufacturing and its sister operations manufacture specialty fence pickets and posts through innovative processes.

Smart alignment features take center stage pg. 9

Learn about Komatsu's PC220LC-12 and PC220LCi-12 excavators.

Casting a tradition forward pg. 10

Get a glimpse of Brandeis Machinery's Eastern Region Customer Appreciation Fishing Tournament.

New compact track loader pg. 13

Check out the Takeuchi TL11R3.

2026 Quarry Classic Golf Outing pg. 16

Receive a recap of Brandeis Machinery's annual golf tournament.

Major upgrades to mini paver pg. 21

View the VÖGELE SUPER 800-5 P mini paver.

Driving career readiness pg. 22

Discover how Brandeis Machinery supported the 2026 Kentucky SkillsUSA Diesel Competition.

A clear picture of your projects pg. 24

Take a look at Komatsu's Smart Construction Dashboard, a cloud-based solution that helps contractors turn jobsite data into daily action.

Engineered for extreme durability and precision pg. 27

See Epiroc's next-generation PCD drill bits.

Skill, speed and interactions tested pg. 28

Read about Komatsu's national Advanced Technician Competition (ATC), which put customer uptime front and center as competitors performed inspections and identified issues.



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(606) 528-3700

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17000 Highway 41 North
(812) 425-4491

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1389 Cahill Drive
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(317) 872-8410

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160 County Park Rd.
(270) 444-8390

Focused on fencing

Bluegrass Fence Manufacturing and its sister operations manufacture specialty fence pickets and posts through innovative processes



David Miller,
Co-owner

At a young age, David Miller was introduced to the fencepost manufacturing business in northern Michigan, where his family built their first operation.

"We as Mennonite people graduate in eighth grade, so I started working the day after school ended for me," shared David. "At the time, my dad was a window builder. The only thing that changed from one day to the next was the size of the window, and I just hated working in that shop, so when this opportunity came up to work at a post mill, I just grabbed it. At 14, I started making fence posts with two other people, and my brother, Dewayne, came onboard a year later. At 19, I built my first sawmill. I enjoy the challenge of building machines and inventing equipment that nobody else in the industry has. Not everything works the first time, and we've got scrap piles that prove it, but that's part of creating something better. I've always liked finding a way to make a process work faster and smarter."

In 2004, David and Dewayne sold their business, moved to Sebree, Kentucky, and started a brand-new company: Bluegrass Fence Manufacturing LLC.

"When we came to Kentucky, there was nothing already established for us," David emphasized. "We started from zero and built everything from scratch."

That fresh start expanded into a 60-employee diversified manufacturing footprint. Bluegrass Fence Manufacturing focuses on residential dog-ear fence pickets, while its three sister companies — Green River Post, Logan County Post and a post manufacturing operation in Centerville, Tennessee — produce round fence posts for agricultural applications such as cattle and horse fencing.

"Having four different operations making several different products allows us to serve different fencing markets while staying focused on what we know best," David noted.

The family business continues to grow and now includes the next generation of Millers. David's sons, Kevin and Kenny, have become partners in the fence production ventures, while Dewayne's sons, Maynard and Jason, are involved in the logging side.

"That's what it's all about for me, working with the next generation," David said. "My brother has always focused on the woods, and I've always focused on the mills. Now, our sons are taking on bigger roles, and that's how you keep something like this moving forward."

Innovative processes

To maintain production levels, the family of businesses controls the entire process from trucking and harvesting yellow pine timber to debarking, sawing, pressure treating and shipping finished fencing products to customers.

"The only way to stay competitive in this business is to start right at the tree," David explained. "Controlling the process from the woods all the way through manufacturing and treating until the customer gets the finished product lets us stay efficient and protect quality."

The businesses supply large retailers and other customers throughout much of the eastern

Customer snapshot

Company: Bluegrass Fence Manufacturing LLC

Location: Sebree, Kentucky

Established: 2004

Employees: 60 across four operations

Area of expertise: Manufacturing residential fence pickets and agricultural fence posts, including pressure-treated and specialty fencing products

Komatsu equipment: WA200 wheel loaders

An operator unloads a shipment of yellow pine logs from a log truck using a Komatsu WA200 wheel loader.

▶ VIDEO





Bluegrass Fence Manufacturing relies on multiple Komatsu WA200 wheel loaders for a variety of tasks around the facility, such as transporting logs.

United States with a mix of standard and specialty fencing products.

"We cover a big area," David stated. "Across the four facilities, we're receiving 30 truckloads of logs and shipping 19 flatbed loads of finished material a day and around 15 loads of chips or waste product. That kind of pace means every part of the operation has to work together."

Innovation also remains central to the companies' success. Recently, David has been perfecting a patent-pending black fence product designed for Kentucky's horse country.

"A customer mentioned wishing somebody would make a black fence product that didn't need to be sprayed after installation, and I couldn't quit thinking about it," David recalled. "It took a year and a half to get right, but now we have a product that's pressure painted and treated, and we don't know of anybody else in North America making it this way. We also put a bitter herb in with the paint to keep the horses from chewing on it."

Additionally, Bluegrass Fence Manufacturing and the other operations provide a sustainable product with virtually zero waste. The bark goes to landscaping markets, chips head to paper mills and sawdust supplies horse-related uses in Lexington.

"We use every part of the tree," David stated. "That helps profitability, but it's also the right thing to do. We're harvesting timber, replanting trees and making sure the entire tree is used throughout the process."



Swapping out forks for a bucket on the Komatsu WA200 wheel loader allows operators to easily load semi-trailers with chipped material to be shipped to the surrounding region.

Komatsu equipment and support

To keep production on schedule, the four businesses rely heavily on 16 Komatsu WA200 wheel loaders.

"We've tried several brands over the years, but we always came back to the WA200," David commented. "For us, it's the perfect fit. The 180 was a little small, the 250 was a little big, and the 200 handles the weight we need with the stability and practicality our yards require."

The machines support different tasks depending on the location. At Bluegrass Fence Manufacturing, the Komatsu WA200 wheel loader primarily unloads logs and loads mulch trailers, while at the post plants, it also handles finished fence posts and other materials.



Discover more at [BrandeisSolutions.com](https://www.brandeisolutions.com)

Continued...

'It's a one-call relationship with Brandeis Machinery'

... continued

"At least half of our loader fleet is running all day for the most part," David reported. "They get real hours on them. Once they get up around

11,000 hours, we may move them into lighter-duty work, but even then, they still have value because they've held up so well."

David credits the equipment's longevity not only to Komatsu's design, but also to the support from Brandeis Machinery & Supply Company and sales representative Matt Bryan. Brandeis Machinery has earned David's business by responding quickly, simplifying parts support and making equipment acquisition feel straightforward.

"It's a one-call relationship with Brandeis Machinery," David said. "If I need a loader quickly, Matt can get one here fast. If one of our plants needs filters or parts, it gets handled without a bunch of hoops. Anybody can talk about equipment, but support is what makes the difference. With Brandeis Machinery, there's a level of trust there. They know how we operate, and we know they'll respond."

Staying focused

Looking ahead, David said Bluegrass Fence Manufacturing remains busy and well positioned.

"We've always tried to stay in a niche market and do it well," David concluded. "As long as we keep our word, treat our workers right, keep good equipment under them, and stay close to our customers, I like our future. There's still a lot of opportunity ahead of us." ■

**The opinions expressed here are based on the customer's specific experience. Results may vary.*

By the numbers

- Across **4** facilities, **30** truckloads of logs are received, and **19** flatbed loads of finished material as well as around **15** loads of chips or waste product are shipped per day
- **11,000** hours is the point at which many Komatsu WA200 wheel loaders are reassigned to lighter-duty work, demonstrating their longevity and continued value
- **1** call to Brandeis Machinery can put a new loader, filters or needed parts in motion quickly, reducing delays and helping the company stay productive



Brandeis Machinery sales representative Matt Bryan (left) works closely with Bluegrass Fence Manufacturing co-owner David Miller to service and support his fleet of Komatsu WA200 wheel loaders.

Using a Komatsu WA200 wheel loader, an operator loads logs onto a custom-built conveyor system that debarks, sizes and preps wood for treatment and distribution.





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Explore these next-level workhorses, engineered to unlock your operators' work potential and help bring greater productivity to your jobsite.

Discover more ▶ komatsu.com/PC220LCi-12

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*compared to Komatsu's previous model PC210LC/LCi-11

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Smart alignment features take center stage

Both next-generation PC220LC-12 and PC220LCi-12 excavators deliver comfort, control and automation, while the latter features even more advanced technology

Komatsu's new PC220LCi-12 excavator, with the latest intelligent machine control update (IMC 3.0), introduces two significant technological features designed to help operators work more efficiently: swing-to-line and travel-along-line. These features build on Komatsu's growing lineup of intelligent automation, offering refined machine movement that supports accuracy, consistency and reduced operator effort on trenching-focused jobs.

Swing-to-line is selectable by tapping a polyline and marking it as a checkable option. Once activated, the machine automatically restricts unnecessary overswing when returning to the trench after dumping, ensuring the upper structure stays aligned with the intended cut. Operators benefit from smoother, more predictable cycle movements and better trench-to-dump workflow rhythm.

Travel-along-line, also enabled by selecting a polyline as a checkable option, helps the excavator maintain a square position to the center of the trench line as it advances. By minimizing the need for constant micro-repositioning, this background function helps operators stay on the line, improve trench continuity and reduce time lost to realignment.

These new capabilities build on an already-advanced technology base of the companion model without IMC 3.0, the PC220LC-12. Even without the addition of intelligent machine control, the PC220LC-12 includes some powerful integrated baseline smart tools: 2D machine control, 2D boundary control and payload monitoring.

But for operations looking to level up on cutting-edge technology that helps good operators do a great job, the PC220LCi-12 adds the IMC 3.0 platform for advanced automation. Features such as auto grade assist, bucket angle hold, compaction control, minimum distance control, auto swing, advanced payload monitoring and industry-first integrated 3D boundary control help operators work more precisely and productively across the full jobsite. Auto swing and travel stop functionality is another notable factory-installed feature — another industry first for excavators.

Added comfort and exceptional performance

Comfort and performance remain core strengths of both models. The redesigned cab provides

28% more space, 30% more legroom, significantly improved visibility, reduced noise and vibration, and a high-quality heated air-suspension seat. An 8-inch HD monitor gives operators easy access to machine data and customization settings.

A new electronically controlled hydraulic system paired with a high-output engine delivers tangible performance gains. Compared to the previous Komatsu PC210LC-11, operations can benefit from up to:

- 8% greater digging force
- 7% more lift capacity
- 20% lower fuel costs
- 18% higher workload productivity with a new P plus mode

Komatsu also prioritized safety and operator assurance. Features such as rollover avoidance, KomVision 360-degree camera coverage, object detection, automatic deceleration controls and seat belt reminders promote zero harm. Maintenance is streamlined with ground-level service points and longer replacement intervals, helping reduce costs by up to 20%.

For contractors seeking machines that enhance operator capability, reduce fatigue and deliver smarter, more consistent trenching performance, both next-generation excavators represent a major step forward. And, with the introduction of swing-to-line and travel-along-line on the PC220LCi-12 with IMC 3.0, this more advanced excavator levels up intelligent automation in practical, productivity-driven ways that support operators shift after shift. ■

**All percentage claims are based on a comparison to the previous PC210LC-11 model. Reductions in maintenance costs are due to longer replacement intervals for hydraulic oil and oil filters and longer cleaning intervals for the particulate filter.*



Komatsu's PC220LCi-12 intelligent machine control (IMC) 3.0 excavator now features swing-to-line and travel-along-line functions that help operators work more efficiently.

Casting a tradition forward

Brandeis Machinery's Eastern Region Customer Appreciation Fishing Tournament brings customers, families and employees together for its 34th year



**Rick Johnson,
PSSR,
Brandeis
Machinery &
Supply Company**

Brandeis Machinery & Supply Company continued a long-running customer tradition this spring with its 34th annual Eastern Region Customer Appreciation Fishing Tournament in Dandridge, Tennessee. The event brought employees and customers together for a weekend built around fishing, food and camaraderie on the lake.

"The tournament started out as fathers and sons bringing their kids down to spend time together," recalled Rick Johnson, a product support sales representative (PSSR) at Brandeis Machinery's Stanville, Kentucky, branch. "Over the years, those kids grew up, became the anglers and started bringing their own children. It has become a tradition for families to come down, take a few days away and enjoy the lake."

Preparation starts before the weekend. Employees from Brandeis Machinery's Stanville, Lexington and Corbin branches arrive Thursday to set up tents, organize supplies and prepare for Saturday evening's customer picnic.

"The line forms fast, and before long, there are 200 people waiting for food," described Johnson. "Once everyone is fed, we give out door prizes and get them ready for tournament morning."

At first light on Sunday, the tournament begins. This year's event launched approximately 90 boats, sending anglers onto the water to compete before returning for lunch, weigh-in and awards.

The weigh-in is handled from the dock, where Brandeis Machinery employees help anglers unload, bag their fish and move them to the scale. Results are entered into a computer, sent to the tent area and posted on a large scoreboard for everyone to follow.

"That scoreboard is a big part of the fun," Johnson commented. "There are bragging rights involved, and everybody wants to see where they stand. It gives people a reason to laugh, talk and give each other a hard time when they go back to work."

Winners are chosen based on their overall bag weight from a maximum of five fish, as well as a big fish category. Sammy Maggard of Coal Mac and Chuck Everidge of Pine Branch Mining took first place with five fish weighing 16.06 pounds total. Dalton Hunt and Cooper Akins of Akins Excavating finished second overall with a total weight of 15.26 pounds and earned big fish honors with a 4.44-pound catch.



Brandeis Machinery PSSR Rick Johnson (center) awards Sammy Maggard (left) and Chuck Everidge (right) first place for catching five fish totaling 16.06 pounds.

Participants look over rods, coolers and other door prizes during the customer picnic ahead of tournament day.



***"This has become a family tradition,
a Brandeis tradition and
a friendship tradition."***

*- Rick Johnson,
PSSR,
Brandeis Machinery & Supply Company*

As the 34th annual tournament wrapped up, Johnson said the appreciation goes both ways. Many longtime customers and retired participants continue to return, helping carry



Anglers return to Swann's Marina for the weigh-in after a morning on the lake during Brandeis Machinery's 34th annual Eastern Region Customer Appreciation Fishing Tournament in Dandridge, Tennessee.



Brandeis Machinery sales representative Jason Douglas (center) congratulates Cooper Akins (left) and Dalton Hunt (right) on earning second place as well as big fish honors for a 4.44-pound catch.

forward the tradition that began with a small group of families.

"I want to thank everybody who came down," Johnson stated. "This has become a family tradition, a Brandeis tradition and a friendship tradition. The people who started it helped us build something special, and we look forward to seeing everybody out on the lake next year." ■



▶ VIDEO

An angler sets off on the lake.



Tournament participants display their fish after weigh-in.



Landon Smith shows off his 4.05-pound bass.



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New compact track loader

Takeuchi introduces TL11R3 that delivers high torque and horsepower along with leading bucket breakout and lift-arm forces

Takeuchi has introduced the sixth model in its compact track loader product line: the TL11R3 that features new electric-over-hydraulic (EH) controls for greater precision in loader arm, bucket and travel speed operation.

"The TL11R3 delivers impressive torque and horsepower along with leading bucket breakout and lift-arm forces for maximum performance," said Dylan Freeman, Product Manager, Takeuchi-US. "And, with the addition of low-effort EH controls, this track loader helps even the most skilled operators work with more precision and control — elevating their craft while reducing fatigue."

"The TL11R3 delivers impressive torque and horsepower along with leading bucket breakout and lift-arm forces for maximum performance."

*— Dylan Freeman,
Product Manager,
Takeuchi-US*

The TL11R3's advanced EH controls also enhance jobsite productivity by making several new features possible. Operators can instantly switch between ISO and H patterns through the machine's monitor to match their preferences. The TL11R3's self-leveling up-and-down feature automatically keeps the bucket or attachment level while raising or lowering the loader arm for improved load handling. Fourteen-pin detent provides continuous power to electrically operated attachments for uninterrupted operation.

Adjustable boom, bucket and travel sensitivity

Operators can also adjust the track loader's boom, bucket and travel sensitivity to match their needs for greater control during high-precision work. In low-clearance environments, the arm height limit feature prevents the TL11R3's loader arm from exceeding a predetermined height, protecting attachments and surroundings from accidental damage.

Available in both standard- and high-flow configurations, the TL11R3 allows operators to adjust flow rates and attachment presets

from inside the cab. The high-flow configuration delivers up to 40 gallons per minute of auxiliary flow for use with more powerful attachments like mulchers, cold planers and stump grinders. Both configurations come equipped with a 14-pin connector enhancing versatility and functionality for a wide range of attachments. Swapping attachments is simple with the mechanical universal quick attach on canopy models and the hydraulic universal quick attach on cab models. A 270-degree

Continued...

Quick specs

Model	Horsepower	Bucket breakout force	Lift-arm breakout force
TL11R3	107.3 HP @2,600 rpm	7,958 lbs.	7,126 lbs.



Takeuchi's TL11R3 compact track loader features new electric-over-hydraulic (EH) controls for greater precision in loader arm, bucket and travel speed operation.

TL11R3 provides excellent floatation, traction and stability

... continued

rearview camera comes standard on the high-flow configuration and is optional on the standard-flow configuration.

Built with the robust durability that defines the Takeuchi brand, the TL11R3 has an operating weight of 11,650 pounds (canopy model), a rated operating capacity (ROC) of 2,735 pounds and a bucket breakout force of 7,958 pounds. Its radial-lift boom design is engineered to deliver superior breakout forces for exceptional lifting power with fewer moving parts, making it particularly well suited for grading and dirt work. Rugged steel construction and a one-piece, purpose-built, fully welded frame offer greater strength and rigidity while protecting the engine and hydraulics. With a 12.4-inch ground

clearance, the TL11R3 provides excellent floatation, traction and stability for navigating on challenging terrain with ease. The machine's undercarriage features heavy-duty sealed rollers with metal face seals to keep dirt and debris out, while double-reduction planetary drives and 18-inch tracks deliver powerful tractive effort.

Six-way adjustable seat for greater comfort

Inside the TL11R3, operators will find a six-way adjustable, high-back suspension seat and an 8-inch touchscreen display for real-time machine vitals and visibility to the rearview camera, as well as access to Bluetooth radio, HVAC controls and other machine functions. The track loader can operate whether its overhead roll-up door is open or closed, regardless of the loader arm position. A lockable hood, steel rear door and integrated bumper protect vital engine components, with the rear door also providing access to a swing-out cooling module for easy cleaning and inspection. The TL11R3's 107.3-horsepower engine meets Tier 4 Final emissions standards with a DOC, DPF and SCR aftertreatment system.

Takeuchi's Fleet Management (TFM) telematics system is standard on the TL11R3 for five years. TFM reduces downtime and controls costs by providing owner/operators with machine health and condition, run time (hours) and machine location, as well as remote diagnostics, scheduled maintenance reminders and customizable alert settings. TFM also gives owners the ability to geofence their machines, helping them protect and secure their investments.

"We listened to our customers and designed the TL11R3 with features that make it one of the most capable, durable track loaders available on the market today."

*– Dylan Freeman,
Product Manager,
Takeuchi-US*

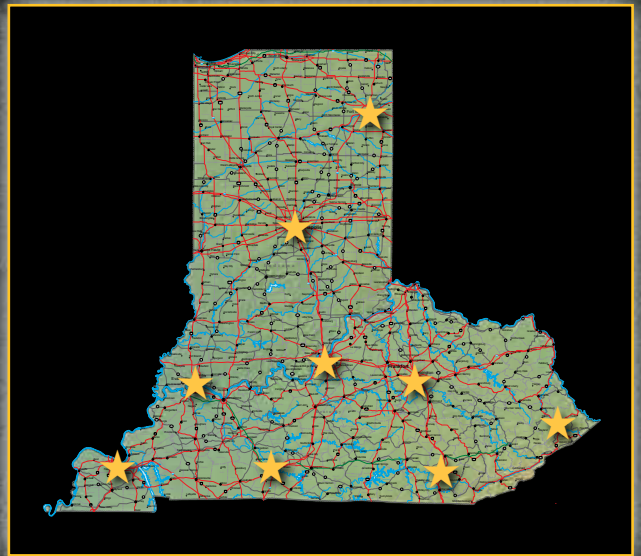
"We believe the TL11R3 offers the perfect blend of power, durability and operator comfort to tackle even the toughest projects," said Freeman. "We listened to our customers and designed the TL11R3 with features that make it one of the most capable, durable track loaders available on the market today. It's ready to work whenever you are." ■



The new Takeuchi TL11R3 compact track loader offers the perfect blend of power, durability and operator comfort to tackle even the toughest projects, according to Dylan Freeman, Product Manager, Takeuchi-US.

9 LOCATIONS 15 PSSRs

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2026 Quarry Classic Golf Outing

Aggregate producers from across Indiana competed in Brandeis Machinery & Supply Company's 7th annual golf tournament



Jacob Hopper,
Vice President and
Regional Sales
Manager - Indiana,
Brandeis Machinery

Brandeis Machinery & Supply Company brought some of Indiana's leading aggregate producers together at Woodland Country Club for the seventh annual Quarry Classic Golf Outing. The event featured nine teams of aggregate producers paired with a Brandeis Machinery employee to compete in an 18-hole scramble, with the top three teams advancing to a two-hole shootout to determine the 2026 Quarry Classic Champion.

"This tournament started in 2020, and it's quickly become one of our favorite events we

go to every year," said Jacob Hopper, Vice President and Regional Sales Manager for Brandeis Machinery in Indiana. "This is a great event for all of our guys to get to spend a little bit of time outside of the office with some of our quarry customers here in the state. It's one thing to spend time inside the quarry watching them do what they do on a daily basis, but when you get to come out and play a little golf, enjoy the time and the nice weather, that helps take the relationship to the next level. I enjoy the camaraderie."

This year, Shelby Materials' Gregg Hebbe, Matt Haehl and Aaron Haehl paired up with Brandeis Machinery's Trevor Thielbar to secure the trophy and claim back-to-back championships for their company.

"Shelby was able to repeat this year, and I know a lot of the guys are looking forward to coming back next year and claiming the title for themselves," stated Hopper. "We appreciate all of our customers and Brandeis Machinery employees who came out to spend the day on the course, and we look forward to competing again next year." ■

Continued...



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(L-R) Trevor Thielbar,
Brandeis Machinery;
Aaron Haehl, Matt Haehl
and Gregg Hebbe,
Shelby Materials

Trevor Thielbar takes a swing as his teammates and competitors watch.





▶ VIDEO

Indiana's leading aggregate producers gather at Woodland Country Club for Brandeis Machinery's Quarry Classic Golf Outing.



(L-R) Steve Conway, Ward Stone; Jacob Hopper, Brandeis Machinery; Joe Czarnecki and Brad Ward, Ward Stone



(L-R) Daniel Schmidt, Brandeis Machinery; Caleb Brown, Duane Gibbs and Corey Johnson, US Aggregates



(L-R) Kris Luce and Drake Hendricks, Martin Marietta; Mark Strader, Brandeis Machinery; Matt Schwent, Martin Marietta



(L-R) Jan-Michael Scott, Brett People and Randy Jones, Heidelberg; Mac Morris, Brandeis Machinery

'One of our favorite events'

... continued



(L-R) Sean Garzolini, Johnny Loudermilk and Jerry Manion, Buzzi Unicem USA; Chris Druckrey, Brandeis Machinery



(L-R) Derrick Allen, Brandeis Machinery; Shawn Beaver, Adam Knapp and Chris Beaver, Beaver Materials



(L-R) Brian Cook, Brandeis Machinery; Danny Powell, Austin Miller and Spencer DePoy, Rogers Group



(L-R) Doug Dalton and Chad Hayes, IMI Materials; Chip Young, Brandeis Machinery; Brad Schneider, IMI Materials

Nine teams compete in an 18-hole scramble.



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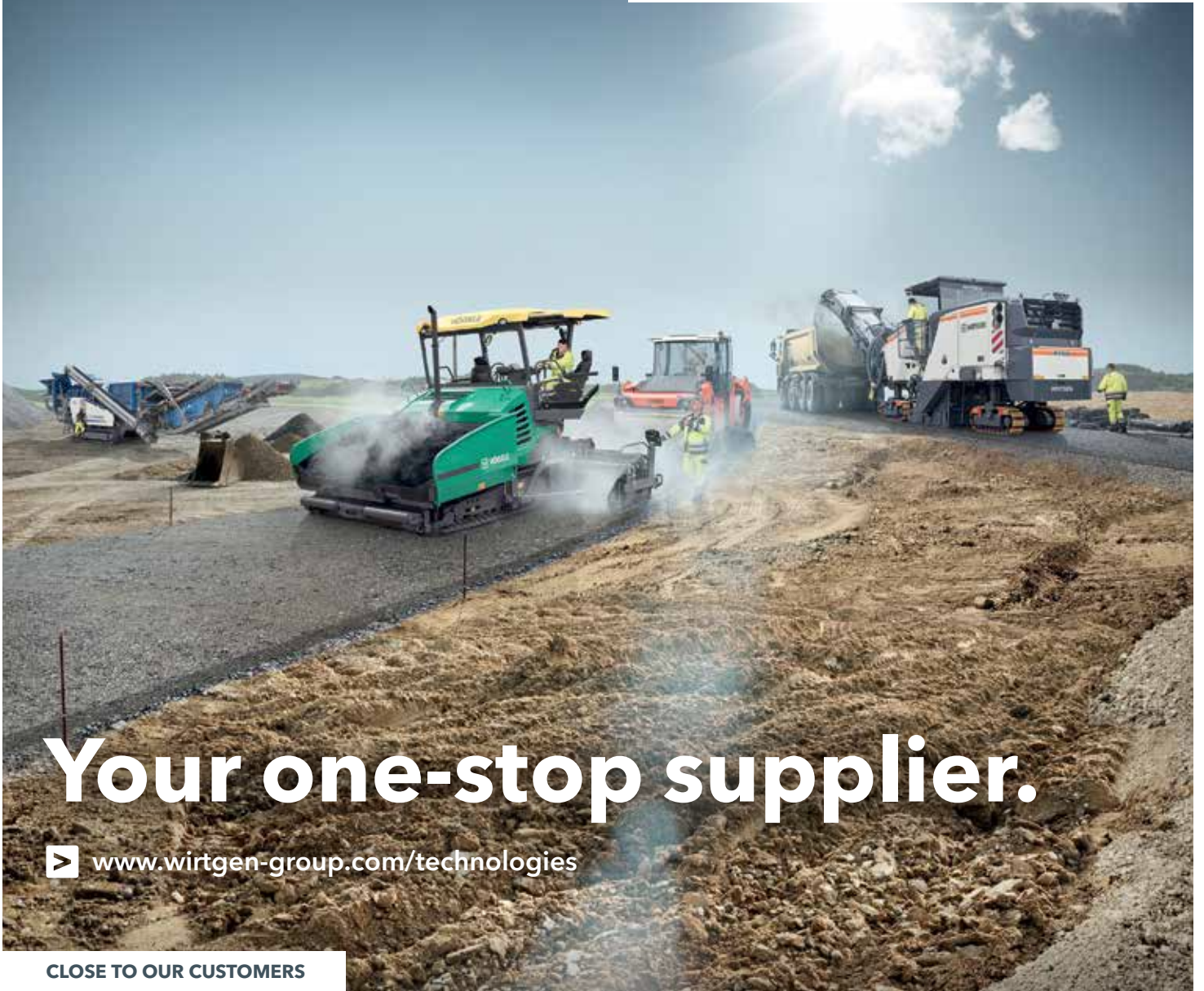
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Major upgrades to mini paver

VÖGELE introduces SUPER 800-5 P mini paver with newly engineered hopper that helps deliver up to 330-ton-per-hour laydown rate

VÖGELE has launched the SUPER 800-5 P (performance tier), the first mini paver in its Dash 5 generation, bringing a wide range of improvements aimed at boosting operator comfort, visibility and overall jobsite efficiency. Designed for tight and narrow applications, the new machine features a redesigned material hopper, an upgraded operator platform and an enhanced lighting system for safer work in low-light conditions. According to VÖGELE, the upgrades reflect the company's continued commitment to operator-friendly design and reduced setup times across the Dash 5 lineup.

The SUPER 800-5 P succeeds the SUPER 700 and SUPER 800 models, delivering higher performance with an engine output of 74 horsepower and a laydown rate of up to 330 tons per hour. Despite its increased capability, the paver remains compact, measuring approximately 4 feet, 7 inches wide and 14 feet, 5 inches long, making it suitable for confined urban or residential paving tasks. Paired with VÖGELE AB 200 V/TV and AB 220 V/TV extending screeds, the machine supports paving widths ranging from approximately 1 foot, 7 inches to 11 feet, 5 inches, offering flexibility for a wide variety of small-scale projects.

A standout feature of the SUPER 800-5 P is its newly engineered material hopper. As before, each hopper wall can be hydraulically adjusted independently or simultaneously, but the SUPER 800-5 P adds a double-folding mechanism for additional flexibility. Asymmetrical positioning — ideal for paving along a wall or barrier — can now be achieved on either side. The double-folding design, combined with a low hopper height, flat engine hood and raised operator platform, delivers a clear, unobstructed forward view, making both maneuvering and loading significantly easier.

Updated ErgoBasic 5

VÖGELE has also enhanced operator control with the updated ErgoBasic 5 system that's more ergonomic and flexible. The control console still moves horizontally but now offers four angle adjustments to better match operator height and comfort needs. Although streamlined for the mini paver, the system retains the operating logic of larger VÖGELE

machines, making transitions between models more intuitive.

For the first time on a mini paver, the operator console includes a built-in display for viewing machine operating data. VÖGELE has also integrated control of the Auto Grade Basic automated grade and slope system directly into the screed console, allowing screed operators to manage the entire machine from a single compact station — an efficiency feature previously limited to larger VÖGELE pavers. A new storage layout adds convenience items including a tool and drink holder, coat hooks and a 24-volt outlet for mobile devices.

To improve visibility, the SUPER 800-5 P offers VÖGELE Dash 5 lighting options. The standard Light Package includes LED lighting for the operator console, tow point cylinder and auger tunnel, ensuring shadow-free illumination of critical work areas. The optional Light Package Plus adds two LED floodlights that brighten the full work zone, supporting safe and precise paving after dark. ■



Quick specs

Model	Horsepower	Laydown rate	Paving widths
SUPER 800-5 P	74 HP	Up to 330 tons/hour	1 ft., 7 in. to 11 ft., 5 in.*

*With VÖGELE AB 200 V/TV and AB 220 V/TV extending screeds

The VÖGELE SUPER 800-5 P mini paver features a redesigned material hopper, an upgraded operator platform and an enhanced lighting system for safer work in low-light conditions.

Driving career readiness

Brandeis Machinery supports the 2026 Kentucky SkillsUSA Diesel Competition by providing its facility, equipment and technicians



Keith Pearson,
Chair of the 2026
Kentucky SkillsUSA
Diesel Competition
and Skilled Trades
Program Manager
for United Rentals



Will Barnett,
Director of Training,
Bramco Inc.



Watch the video

Brandeis Machinery & Supply Company opened its Louisville, Kentucky, facility to a different kind of jobsite this spring as high school students from across the state gathered for the 2026 Kentucky SkillsUSA Diesel Competition. SkillsUSA is a national workforce development organization that helps students build technical, leadership and career-readiness skills through classroom programs and hands-on competitions in industries that include, but are not limited to, agriculture, nursing, architecture and graphic design.

The event brought together students enrolled in diesel, automotive and shop programs, along with industry partners who helped build and judge the contest. The 26 competitors rotated through 14 timed stations designed to test the technical knowledge and practical skills that matter in today's diesel technician industry, such as hydraulics, electronics, brake systems, chassis systems, diagnostics, DOT (Department of Transportation) inspections and job interviews. Each station carried 100 possible points, with scores based on a mix of written and hands-on tasks.

Keith Pearson, Chair of the 2026 Kentucky SkillsUSA Diesel Competition and Skilled Trades Program Manager for United Rentals, said the contest was built to show students just how broad the field can be.

"Since the SkillsUSA program has been in place, we've started turning a corner to see more

of the tech and trades come back versus a traditional four-year degree," stated Pearson. "This competition allows the kids to not only test their knowledge but also learn about the industry and different career paths available to them."

Providing the facility

For Brandeis Machinery, hosting the event was a practical way to support the competitors.

"When we found out SkillsUSA didn't have a good location for the diesel competition, we immediately offered up our shop in Louisville," recalled Will Barnett, Director of Training for Bramco Inc., the parent company of Brandeis Machinery. "There's a lot of equipment and a lot of people involved with a diesel competition, and this facility was an ideal setup for industry partners to bring in their trucks and machines in a safe and controlled environment."

Having the competition at Brandeis Machinery's shop also allowed students to work around real equipment instead of simulated examples.

"One station was designed to make students think like technicians by identifying hydraulic and machine components with the help of service and shop manuals," Barnett explained. "We provided a Komatsu PC238USLC-11 excavator and ran two exercises on the machine. One was basic component location on the hydraulic control valve, and the second had them locate simple components on the machine, such as the pump, the control valve, or a pressure or temperature sensor. It gets them used to connecting what they see in a manual with an actual machine."

Sparking curiosity

Many of the competitors were sophomores or juniors in high school, and both Pearson and Barnett emphasized that the bigger goal was to spark curiosity and help students picture a future in the trades.

"What I want them to take away is that they ran into things they didn't know today, and that it interests them in learning more," Barnett commented. "Or maybe they found something that was a lot of fun, and they want to go back and learn more about that. For me, getting them interested is the first step. Then, providing them with real examples of the equipment that

During a hands-on station, a competitor identifies machine components on a Komatsu PC238USLC-11 excavator at Brandeis Machinery's Louisville, Kentucky, facility.





A 2026 Kentucky SkillsUSA Diesel Competition participant evaluates engine components during a truck diagnostic station at Brandeis Machinery's shop in Louisville, Kentucky.



A competitor reviews inspection materials from the cab during a commercial vehicle-related station.

sparks questions and intrigue will keep them interested and pursue a career as a technician."

The competition also carried real stakes. The top high school finisher in Kentucky will advance to the national SkillsUSA competition in Atlanta in June, where that student will face other state winners from across the country. For Brandeis Machinery and its partners, the SkillsUSA competitions give students a serious test, introduce them to employers and help them see that diesel technology can lead to a long-term career, not just a class assignment. ■



▶ VIDEO

At the 2026 Kentucky SkillsUSA Diesel Competition, a student works through an electrical diagnostics station that tests troubleshooting skills.



Two competitors complete a precision measurement challenge as part of the 2026 Kentucky SkillsUSA Diesel Competition.

A clear picture of your projects

Komatsu's cloud-based 3D Smart Construction Dashboard helps contractors turn jobsite data into daily action

Komatsu's Smart Construction Dashboard is giving contractors a clear picture of their projects by merging 3D design files, aerial mapping and intelligent machine control data into a single, easy-to-use solution. Designed for daily use by operations teams, Smart Construction Dashboard offers near-real-time visibility into jobsite conditions, supporting efficient decision-making and accurate project control.

At its core, Smart Construction Dashboard helps contractors understand where they are today, so they can make informed decisions about where they want to be tomorrow. By combining multiple 3D data streams, users can confirm quantities, monitor progress, and reduce the guesswork that can surround earthwork and site development.

Features and benefits include:

- **Real-time, integrated 3D jobsite view**
The dashboard combines 3D design data, drone mapping and machine as-built

information, allowing users to spin, rotate and manipulate a model of the entire site. No specialized hardware or software is required, and collaborators can log in from anywhere.

- **Fast and accurate quantity calculations**
Whether verifying a pre-bid topo map or evaluating daily production, the system is designed to make volumetric measurements simple. Users can outline a stockpile with a few clicks to quickly calculate volume, density/mass or assigned value. Cut/fill calculations are equally fast, with options to compare the initial survey versus the design, today versus the design or any day in between.
- **Color-coded cut/fill visualizations**
Smart Construction Dashboard automatically generates industry-standard color maps to highlight material movement. These grids can be downloaded, emailed or printed, helping teams communicate progress and provide documentation for reporting or change orders.
- **Timeline-based project progress tracking**
A playback feature lets teams review jobsite development through time, using whole-site views, cross-sections and measurement snapshots. With drone data layered in, progress becomes visually obvious and simple to confirm.
- **Enhanced documentation and accountability**
High-resolution aerial data captured throughout the project helps contractors document site conditions, support change order requests and maintain complete records for clients and stakeholders.
- **Advanced site management**
The 3D viewer, fed by drone and machine data, gives project managers a complete view of the jobsite. This helps teams identify issues early, coordinate effectively and maintain tight control over daily operations.

The platform is backed by Komatsu-trained Smart Construction and Technology Solution Experts who offer coaching before, during and after deployment. Support includes operator training and guidance to help project managers navigate digital transformation. ■



Komatsu's Smart Construction Dashboard helps users confirm quantities, monitor progress, and reduce the guesswork that can surround earthwork and site development.



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Engineered for extreme durability and precision

Epiroc launches next-generation PCD drill bits that set a new standard in productivity and tool life with exceptional wear resistance

Epiroc has unveiled its next-generation PCD (polycrystalline diamond) drill bits that are designed to deliver exceptional wear resistance and longer service life. The new bits are optimized for high-precision drilling in abrasive ground conditions.

The new Epiroc PCD drill bits are the result of extensive research and development (R&D) and testing in collaboration with key customers across multiple continents. With a unique diamond-protected cutting structure and reinforced body design, the bits offer a step-change in service life compared to conventional carbide bits — significantly reducing bit changes, downtime and total drilling cost.

“By extending tool life and improving drilling accuracy, our new Epiroc PCD bits help customers drill smarter, safer and more efficiently.”

*-Bahadır Ergener,
Global Business Manager,
Epiroc Tools Division*

By building in-house capability through extensive R&D, Epiroc ensures full control over cost, quality and innovation. This approach allows Epiroc to deliver truly differentiated products, lead the market with exclusive solutions and support customers with technology that is future-proof and aligned with Epiroc’s long-term vision. It’s not just about performance today; it’s about securing productivity and sustainability for tomorrow, according to Epiroc.

“This launch is a major step forward in our mission to drive the productivity and sustainability transformation in our industry,” said Bahadır Ergener, Global Business Manager, Epiroc Tools division. “By extending tool life and improving drilling accuracy, our new Epiroc PCD bits help customers drill smarter, safer and more efficiently.”

The new bits are compatible with a wide range of Epiroc drilling rigs and are available in multiple sizes and configurations to suit various applications in surface mining, underground development and construction drilling.

Longer drilling intervals

As the mining and construction industries face increasing pressure to improve efficiency and reduce environmental impact, the new PCD technology from Epiroc supports this shift by enabling longer drilling intervals, fewer tool replacements and reduced waste.

Fewer bit changes not only reduce waste and downtime — they also contribute to Live Work Elimination, helping operators avoid unnecessary exposure to high-risk environments and reinforcing Epiroc’s commitment to safety and sustainable productivity.

“This is not just a product upgrade — it’s a performance leap and, in my view, the beginning of a technology shift in the percussive rock drilling industry,” said Fredrik Ternström, Marketing Communication Manager, Epiroc Tools division. “Our customers can expect more meters drilled per bit, better hole quality and lower total cost of ownership.” ■



Epiroc’s next-generation PCD (polycrystalline diamond) drill bits are compatible with a wide range of Epiroc drilling rigs and are available in multiple sizes and configurations to suit various applications in surface mining, underground development and construction drilling.

Skill, speed and interactions tested

Komatsu's national Advanced Technician Competition put customer uptime front and center as competitors performed inspections and identified issues



Watch the video

In an industry where equipment downtime can halt productivity and drive up costs, technicians play a critical role in keeping operations moving. That reality was on full display at Komatsu's national Advanced Technician Competition (ATC), where top distributor technicians from across North America competed in a rigorous, real-world test of skill.

Held at Komatsu's Cartersville Customer Center in Georgia, the event highlighted the expertise required to maintain and repair machinery. Ten technicians from Komatsu's dealer network took part. More than just a competition, the event underscored Komatsu's commitment to customer service and minimizing downtime, according to Griffin Reome, Director of Technical Workforce Development for Komatsu.

"This competition is an awesome way to showcase the faces behind the iron," said Reome. "Our customers can't live without our field techs, and ATC is one of the best opportunities to highlight their skillset and abilities to diagnose issues and identify fixes. In addition, they were tasked with doing a machine inspection, identifying issues and giving customers recommendations for addressing those."

Built on real-world challenges

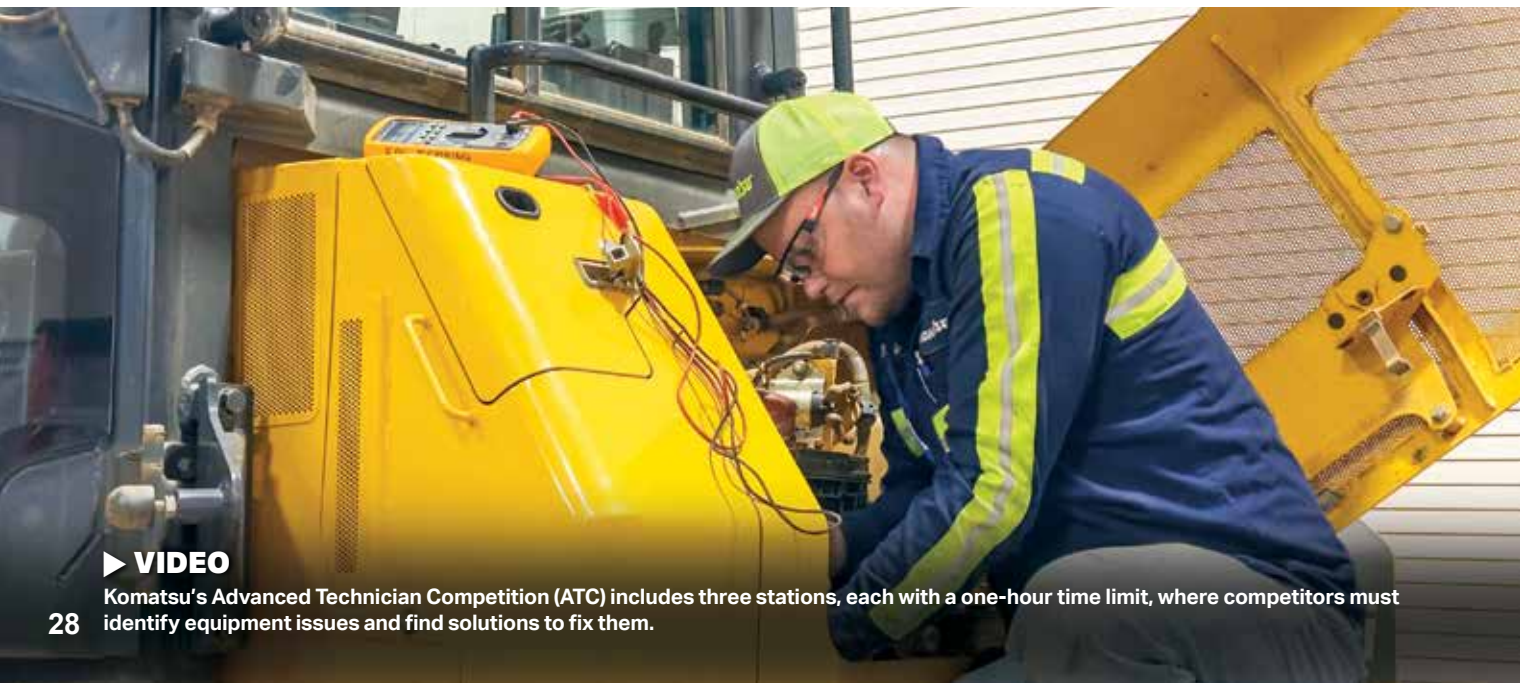
ATC was designed to mirror the realities technicians face in the field. It involved three

stations, each featuring different machines and problem scenarios, all requiring a methodical approach to troubleshooting and repair. Communication also played a central role in the evaluation process, reflecting its importance in the field.

Competitors were given an hour per station to diagnose and resolve issues, with a brief period to familiarize themselves with the equipment before being timed. Komatsu personnel "bugged" a PC220LCi-12 intelligent machine control (IMC) excavator and a D71PXi-24 IMC dozer for the diagnosis stations. An older WA320PZ wheel loader was used for the machine inspection.

Unlike traditional skills competitions, ATC evaluated more than just whether a technician could diagnose and fix a problem. Judges assessed each competitor on a range of criteria designed to reflect a full customer experience. Judges played the role of the customer who had called to have a technician assess the machines' issues and perform the inspection.

"We had very detailed bugs in these machines that the technicians had to strategically, methodically troubleshoot, based on information from the customer, as well as their skills," explained Andrew Earing, Director of Operator and Technical Training, Komatsu. "Communication was extremely important because it was the first line of contact with



▶ VIDEO

Komatsu's Advanced Technician Competition (ATC) includes three stations, each with a one-hour time limit, where competitors must identify equipment issues and find solutions to fix them.



Competitors are judged on technical performance, safety, professionalism and documentation.

the customer, who provided background and information that the technician could use to diagnose and fix the issues.”

After the initial discussion with the customer, technicians were tasked with using their expertise, training, service manuals, tools, and other information to resolve the issue. During the inspection, they had to identify any potential issues that could affect the equipment’s performance, and provide recommendations for fixes.

Scoring included:

- Technical performance, for accurate diagnosis and repair
- Safety, confirming proper procedures were followed
- Professionalism, including demeanor and approach
- Documentation, such as correct part numbers and service records

Each winner of the Komatsu ATC received a selection of Komatsu-branded prizes and merchandise. In addition, the top two finishers earned an exclusive “Day in the Life” experience with the opportunity to see how a pit crew operates up close at the upcoming Miami Grand Prix, United States, made possible through Komatsu’s ongoing partnership with the Atlassian Williams F1 Team.

Reinforcing a commitment to uptime

At its core, the competition highlighted the direct connection between skilled

technicians and customer uptime. Effective maintenance, especially when proactive, helps avoid costly breakdowns and keeps equipment operating efficiently. By simulating real-world service scenarios, ATC reinforced the importance of quick, accurate troubleshooting and clear communication under pressure. It also demonstrated how technicians served as a critical link between Komatsu and its customers, according to Reome.

The return of ATC came at a time when the industry faces an ongoing shortage of skilled labor. Dealers across North America are actively working to recruit and retain qualified technicians, making workforce development a top priority. By reviving the competition, Komatsu aimed to elevate the profession, recognize top talent, and inspire the next generation of technicians.

For participants, ATC was as much about recognition as it was competition. Simply earning a spot among the finalists reflected a high level of skill and dedication.

“ATC aligns with Komatsu’s broader efforts to grow the technician workforce through education partnerships, training programs and career development opportunities,” said Reome. “The number one thing we want them to know is that we’re not successful without them. We hope to continue ATC for a long time to come.” ■

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Year/Make/Model	S/N	Equipment Number	Location	Hours
Compaction				
2021 HAMM H 10i P	H284.0086	E011461	Louisville, KY	2,235
2021 HAMM H 10i P	H235.2277	E00462	Louisville, KY	2,598
2019 HAMM H 10i P	H235.1525	E011675	Louisville, KY	1,970
2023 HAMM HC 100i P	H252.0066	E010242	Louisville, KY	404
Dozers				
2023 Komatsu D39PXi-24	100965	E009159	Louisville, KY	1,914
2023 Komatsu D39PXi-24	101019	E007921	Louisville, KY	3,142
2023 Komatsu D51EXi-24	B25374	E005369	Louisville, KY	1,013
2024 Komatsu D51PXi-24	B25546	E007903	Louisville, KY	475
2024 Komatsu D51PX-24	16376	E007286	Louisville, KY	982
2023 Komatsu D61PXi-24	45925	E012200	Louisville, KY	2,416
2024 Komatsu D51PX-24	B25665	E007537	Little Rock, AR	2,019
2023 Komatsu D51PX-24	15896	E008685	Nashville, TN	1,163
2022 Komatsu D51PXi-24	15433	E009433	Tupelo, MS	3,984
2018 Komatsu D61EX-24	B60510	PTC1174	Knoxville, TN	5,717
2024 Komatsu D61PX-24	B66800	E005438	Evansville, IN	4,490
Excavators				
2025 Komatsu PC170LC-11	C10110	E010187	Tupelo, MS	132
2024 Komatsu PC360LC-11	A39988	E012211	Louisville, KY	1,426
2018 Komatsu PC210LC-11	A12552	E011792	Bowling Green, KY	5,011
2026 Komatsu PC360LCi-11	A38861	E011791	Bowling Green, KY	2,685
2024 Komatsu PC900LC-11	10020	E010986	Stanville, KY	5,035
2024 Takeuchi TB370CL	170002787	E011795	Little Rock, AR	107
2023 Takeuchi TB290CR	185109693	E009024	Nashville, TN	2,230
2023 Takeuchi TB235-2R	123604816	E011790	Kingsport, TN	394
2025 Komatsu PC290LC-11	C60202	E012374	Little Rock, AR	2,802
2025 Komatsu PC360LC-11	A40652	E012373	Little Rock, AR	1,852
2020 Komatsu PC88MR-10	9163	E009288	Memphis, TN	3,004
2024 Komatsu PC88MR-11	C40611	E008071	Little Rock, AR	1,426
2024 Komatsu PC290LC-11	C60056	E005053	Little Rock, AR	2,600
2025 Komatsu PC490LC-11	A44090	E011532	Louisville, KY	700
Pavers				
2019 VÖGELE 2003-3i	975.0163	E008041	Nashville, TN	4,204
2021 LeeBoy 8520	8520-304105	E004844	Indianapolis, IN	2,995
2020 LeeBoy 8520B	8520-280538	E010101	Chattanooga, TN	2,815
Track Skid Steers				
2023 Takeuchi TL10V2-CRHR	410006825	E008938	Stanville, KY	50
2022 Takeuchi TL10V2-CRH	410005575	E009023	Kingsport, TN	2,227
Wheel Loaders				
2022 Komatsu WA380-8	A75915	E006582	Louisville, KY	7,000
2023 Komatsu WA200-8	88100	E004269	Evansville, IN	5,121
2019 Komatsu WA270-8	A28511	E011793	Bowling Green, KY	3,872
2023 Komatsu WA320-8	A51693	E007435	Nashville, TN	4,570
2023 Komatsu WA475-10	A40370	E012023	Louisville, KY	2,499
2023 Komatsu WA475-10	A40271	E012024	Louisville, KY	5,349





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