

PORTABLE MITER & TILE SAWS

MASSIVE CUTTING CAPACITIES — AND CORDLESS OPTIONS NOW TOO!

Not many years ago, the idea of a cordless miter saw would go over with pro-users like a lead balloon. But as corded saws continue to pack

in more power, capacity and accuracy, cordless miter saws are gaining respect on the job site. Who knew — lead floats after all, and these manufacturers are rewriting the rules.

LACKMOND

“Lackmond’s 7- and 10-inch BEAST tile saws, designed jointly with Delta, deliver the largest rip and diagonal cutting capacities in their classes,” states Ted Skaff, Lackmond vice president of marketing. “The BEAST7 can make diagonal cuts on 18x18-inch tile and 24-inch rip cuts. The BEAST10 can make a diagonal cut on a 24x24-inch tile, and rip cut 34 inches — and 39 inches with plunge.”



SKAFF

Powered by tilting 13- and 15-amp motors respectively, the 7- and

10-inch BEAST tile saws produce precise 22.5- and 45-degree bevel cuts. Each saw is designed with a heavy-duty rail system engineered for exceptionally straight, accurate and smooth cuts.

The BEAST7 weighs only 48 pounds and comes with an innovative snake pipe water nozzle which allows for precise water control and placement. The durable steel pipe saw frame is constructed to withstand the toughest conditions.

The BEAST10 comes with a removable table extension, and an optional water tray extension provides additional water containment when cutting large format tiles. An innovative snake pipe water nozzle allows for precise water control and placement. The durable steel pipe saw frame is constructed to withstand the toughest conditions.

“We listened to the tile contractors and designed a powerful 7-inch saw that offers the same cutting capacity as most 10-inch

saws at a much better price,” Skaff says. “And our BEAST10 tile saw is bound to revolutionize the tile saw market. Lackmond backs the BEAST7 and BEAST10 saws with three-year warranties.”

For smaller jobs, Lackmond’s BEAST5 handheld circular tile and stone saw packs a 12-amp motor and can accept both standard and concave blades. It can execute bevel cuts up to 45 degrees and can cut 1 1/4 inches deep at 90 degrees and 15/16 inches deep at 45 degrees. The BEAST5 also offers an integrated plunge and comes with a one-year warranty.

The Lackmond BEAST10 tile saw has category-leading capacity with the ability to make diagonal cuts on 24x24-inch tiles and rip cuts of 34 inches and 39 inches with plunge.



BOSCH

While the industry awaits the arrival of the Bosch REAXX job site table saw with flesh-detection technology, (reports say it is coming yet this year), Bosch has kept busy improving other products in the benchtop category, including miter saws. The Bosch CM12SD 12-inch compound miter saw delivers with easy adjustment, increased capacity and better material support.

“We built the Bosch CM12SD compound miter saw to the specifications of users,” says Jim Stevens, product manager, Robert Bosch Tool Corp. “They told us what they wanted in a next-generation, best-in-class sliding compound miter. We’re a customer-focused company and this is a customer-focused tool.”

The Bosch CM12SD 12-inch compound miter saw offers the greatest cutting capacity of any Bosch saw — 14-inch crosscuts, 6 3/4-inch base against the fence and 6 1/2-inch crown molding at 45 degrees.

Requested features include all-metal bevel locks that are convenient and easy to reach and a side-lever that eliminates the need to reach behind the saw to make adjustments. The Bosch-exclusive quick-select turret bevel detent system offers common detents at 22.5, 33.9, 45 and 47 degrees and bevel and miter scales are scribed on all-metal faces for easy legibility.

“By increasing cutting capacity, the Bosch CM12SD offers the greatest cutting capacity of any Bosch saw with ranges from 3 1/2 x 14 inch (4x14) crosscut to 6 3/4 inch base against fence, plus 6 1/2-inch crown



molding at 45 degrees,” Stevens adds. The Bosch CM12SD is 24 inches wide when retracted and expands up to 39 inches.

The up-front miter lock requires a simple 1/3 turn to lock or unlock. The miter detent overrides with thumb action for easy and precise settings. The saw miters 52 degrees left and 60 degrees right. An easily adjustable and removable 4 3/4-inch fence supports material for accurate

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Hitachi's C12RSH 12-inch, sliding dual compound miter saw with laser features a compact slide system that allows the saw head to slide along fixed rails, eliminating the need for rear clearance.

position. This in turn, has pushed manufacturers to develop taller fences that can slide out of the way when making bevel cuts.

New generation woodworkers

CONTINUED ON PAGE 72

around heavy miter saws and table saws, but now they are looking for more convenience.”

Table saws are being developed with roll cage designs that not only help make the saw lighter and more durable, but also increase the life of the motor by increasing air flow. Customers are also looking for saws with accessory or built-in stands, especially with heavy-duty wheels.

Miter saws are also becoming more versatile as more millennials enter the work force. While the “old school” contractor was satisfied with an 8 1/2-inch single-bevel miter saw that gave him the ability to cut crown molding in the flat position, current generation woodworkers are looking for features like the ability to cut large crown molding in the standing

“Whether the DCS361 is used for flooring, small crown work, toe molding, back splashes, base, chair rail, door or window casting or any other woodworking application, it’s a convenient option for the professional,” Beck advises. “The DCS361 is available as a bare unit (DCS361B) or as a kit (DCS361M1) and both units come equipped with a dust bag, hold-down clamp and a 40-tooth blade.”

HITACHI

“As the number of housing starts increase year over year, so is the demand for lighter and more portable table and miter saws,” begins Lucio Morales, Hitachi associate product manager. “In the past, most contractors did not mind toting



MORALES

and averages 183 cuts of 2x4 pine or 275 cuts of 3 1/4-inch pine base molding on a single battery charge with a model DCB204 4.0-Ah battery. The DCS361, with battery, weighs just 31.6 pounds and has integrated cast-in side handles for easy job site transport.

Key ease-of-use features of the DCS361 include an integrated XPS blade light which casts a shadow showing where the blade will cut. A stainless steel miter detent plate makes it easy to adjust the saw. Other features include 10 positive miter stops, a fast and easy cam lock and rubber feet for no-slip and no-scratch grip. A high-visibility bevel scale, adjustable bevel overrides and a miter pointer on the left side of the table provides maximum visibility and versatility.

Dewalt's model DCS361 20V MAX Lithium-ion 7 1/4-inch sliding miter saw has a 3 1/2-inch maximum vertical cut and can slice an average of 183 2x4s on a single charge.

the 20V MAX Lithium-ion 7 1/4 inch model DCS361 sliding miter saw,” states Jeff Beck, DEWALT group product manager, Professional Power Tools. “The DCS361 is optimized for general contractors and remodelers who do trim installation, flooring work and cutting 2x material.”

The 7 1/4-inch DCS361 features a single left bevel which ranges from -3 to 48 degrees left. With a 3 1/2-inch maximum vertical, 3 5/8-inch crown nested, and 2x8-inch horizontal cut capacity, the DCS361 will handle most of the common cuts needed. The DCS361 spins at 3,750 rpm



cuts and easy bevels.

Transport across the job site is key for the Bosch CM12SD, so carry handles offer a rounded grip and are located on the underside of extensions for easy movement. The CM12SD offers a combination dust chute and vacuum adapter for 1 1/4-inch and 35mm hoses.

DEWALT

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Contractors are unplugging the cord with the Makita 18V X2 LXT (36V) Brushless 7 1/2-inch miter saw, which is powered by two 18V batteries and claims the fastest blade speed in its category.

saws feature a direct-drive motor that delivers consistent power to the blade for improved cutting performance.”

The Makita model LS1016L 10-inch dual slide compound miter saw combines a direct-drive gearbox with a triple gear system and a patented retractable guard system that delivers a full 6 5/8-inches of vertically nested crown molding cutting capacity.

For improved sliding motion and lasting accuracy, the LS1016L has linear ball bearings (not bushings), another key point of difference for lasting accuracy and durability.

The 12-inch model LS1216L offers similar features for “dead-on” accurate cuts but with the added capacity of a 12-inch blade. For a more compact solution, the 10-inch dual slide compound miter saw (LS1018) weighs only 43 pounds for increased job site portability.

For maximum portability, especially for room-to-room applications, contractors are unplugging the cord with the Makita 18V X2 LXT Lithium-ion brushless, 7 1/2-inch miter saw. The XSL02Z is powered by two 18V Lithium-ion batteries for 36-volt performance, yet still fits in the 18V LXT platform. The efficient BL brushless direct-drive motor delivers 5,700 rpm, the fastest in the category, and exclusive Automatic Speed Change technology adjusts cutting speed and torque for optimum performance under load.

SAWGEAR

SawGear, the highly portable, automatic lineal cutting system made by TigerStop, includes job site tables in its product line. The tables are available in 8-, 12- and 16-foot working lengths, and users can add in-feed tables made to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 74

manager for Hitachi. “While premium saw blades are typically produced in Europe and Japan, we are looking to the Pacific Rim to manufacture cost-effective, superior products.



HARE

Traditional saw blades are cold stamped from sheet metal, but most of our blades are laser-cut from imported Japanese steel for durability and accuracy.”

Hitachi uses computerized technology to weld the tungsten carbide tips onto each blade tooth to meticulously control the exactness of its saw blades. Automated grinding processes yield accurate tip geometry to increase the blade’s life and performance. Some of Hitachi’s newest blades include silicone, molded into the expansion slots to reduce noise. Hare believes that research and implementation of new tooth geometry will be the largest influencers in the saw blade industry.

“We are striving to provide end-users with best-in-class accessories to correlate with our professional-quality tools and we are excited about our premium circular, miter and diamond blade programs launching in 2016,” Hare adds.

MAKITA

Makita has a miter saw in every category — from 7 1/2-inch cordless to 8 1/2-inch compact, 10-inch mid-size and 12-inch full-size models, and each has the power and features contractors demand for quality cutting, job after job.

“A key point of difference in miter saws is the transfer of energy from the motor to the blade,” explains



CAMP

Andrew Camp, product manager, Residential Construction & Pneumatics. “Unlike commonly-used belt-drive models, Makita miter

have also influenced manufacturers to add features like lasers and lights. But as the cutting capacity of miter saws has increased, so has the weight, so manufacturers are being challenged to make saws bigger while keeping weight low without sacrificing durability and accuracy.

The saw blade market has also changed since the recession.

“With the construction economy still on the upswing from 2008, our customers are seeking long-lasting products at affordable prices,” notes Kristin Hare, Accessories product

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customized lengths. SawGear also comes standard with a feature called Crown+MiterPro, which instantly calculates difficult crown angles and lengths, making the entire product offering an on-site solution for increased productivity while providing shop-accurate results.



RAGAN

"With the tables to support your materials throughout their length, you are guaranteed accurate cuts every time," says Jack Ragan, SawGear vice president. "The entire SawGear product offering, with Crown+MiterPro and SawGear tables, helps you control most cutting variables and eliminate a huge portion of human error, so you're increasing your yield from your raw materials as well as increasing the accuracy and quality of the work that's done."

SawGear and its tables easily attach to either side of a miter or chop saw, providing automatic and accurate length measuring on the job site. They are offered in 8-, 12 and 16-foot lengths.



A hinge system and tripod supports make the tables easily transportable, simple to level and quick to set-up and break down. Also available are customizable in-feed tables.

"SawGear and its tables are completely unlike manual miter/chop saw fences and stops: they easily attach to either side of a miter or chop saw and provide automatic and accurate length measuring on the job site" Dick says. "Because lengths are simply entered into SawGear's keypad, the need for repeated measuring is eliminated, saving time, reducing material waste and vastly increasing efficiency."

"From framing to finish carpentry, SawGear's easy-to-use technology improves the accuracy of every cut to within 1/128-inch." **CS**

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