



DEWALT's annual new product rollout event in Towson, Maryland, in June wowed the crowd with an awesome new battery platform and accompanying power tools that promise to cut the cord on job sites once and for all.

# DEWALT

## CHANGES THE GAME

### NEW 60-VOLT BATTERY PLATFORM PROMISES TO USHER IN THE TRULY CORDLESS JOB SITE

Companies love to tout their new products as revolutionary, disruptive and gee-whiz game changers, but the reality often falls a bit short of the buzz. This "perception vs. reality" market check made the DEWALT 2016-17 rollout June 21 and 22 in Baltimore all the more notable for its high number of successes and new releases with the heft, feel and smell of clear winners. Just during the DEWALT portion of the two-day annual press event, the company announced more than 30 innovative new 20V MAX\* tools launching yet this year and over 100 new SKUs of blades and accessories.

#### THE NEXT BIG THING — 60 VOLTS!

DEWALT led off with the big news of the show, the all new FLEXVOLT 20/60-volt battery platform. Rather than simply up the voltage ante in the cordless wars, DEWALT is attempt-

ing to leapfrog its competitors with a different approach. The FLEXVOLT system is the world's first battery that automatically changes voltage when the user changes tools. When a user plugs the new battery into an existing 20V MAX\* cordless power tool, the tool benefits from up to four times more runtime (three times more than DEWALT 18V NiCad batteries).

But when the user plugs the new battery into one of DEWALT's all new brushless FLEXVOLT tools, the battery automatically switches to operate at 60 volts maximum (54 volts nominal). Sharp readers will note that this new battery platform is backwards compatible with

existing 20V MAX\* DEWALT tools. Neat trick there.

Two FLEXVOLT batteries, a 6.0Ah battery (DCB606) available in Q3 and a 9.0Ah battery (DCB609) available in early 2017, power the lineup of brushless 60V MAX\* and 120V MAX\* FLEXVOLT tools.

The new 60V MAX\* tools initially include five brushless tools, a 7 1/4-inch Circular Saw (DCS575), 4 1/2- to 6-inch Grinder (DCG414), Reciprocating Saw (DCS388), 1/2-inch VSR Stud and Joist Drill (DCD460) and an 8 1/4-inch Table Saw (DCS7485). All of them are expected to drop in Q3.

#### 120-VOLT CORDLESS TOOLS

Did you catch that bomb we just dropped? Yes, the new FLEXVOLT battery can also be doubled up to power 120V MAX\* FLEXVOLT tools.



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So far, there are just two: a 12-inch Fixed Head Compound Miter Saw (DHS716) and a 12-inch Sliding Compound Miter Saw (DHS790), but more tools in both the 60V and 120V MAX\* formats are on the way.

The key to this technology is the FLEXVOLT battery's ability to automatically change voltage depending on whether it's being used in a 20V MAX\* or 60V MAX\* tool (in addition to its doubling capacity for use in 120V MAX\* tools).

What this means on the job site is that high-power tool applications that previously could only be accomplished by corded tools can now be performed with the DEWALT FLEXVOLT system of cordless tools. During the event, DEWALT staffers repeatedly stressed that the new platform will finally bring the truly cordless job site from holy grail to working reality.

"The impact of the FLEXVOLT system will be felt throughout the construction industry on each and every job site," said Frank Mannarino, president of DEWALT's Professional Products Group. This

new platform packs the power required for heavy-duty applications, makes it easy to exchange corded tools for cordless, and ensures that our existing 20V MAX\* users get the benefit of added runtime without making the 20V MAX\* system obsolete."

#### NEW 60V MAX\* TOOLS

Fully utilizing the benefits of the DEWALT FLEXVOLT battery, the **60V MAX\* 7 1/4-inch brushless Circular Saw** (DCS575) offers extreme power, runtime and durability. With a 2 9/16-inch depth of cut capacity, it can make up to 339 cuts per charge in 2x4 SPF lumber on a single charge with one FLEXVOLT battery.

Other DCS575 saw features include an electronic brake that stops the blade after the trigger is released and a lower guard which improves performance for bevel cuts and cutting shim. A bright LED light provides line-of-cut visibility, a bevel scale with 57-degree capacity includes stops at 45 and 22.5 degrees, and a durable high-grade aluminum base ensures smooth cuts.

Frank Mannarino, president of DEWALT's Professional Products group, shows the assembled audience his team's game-changing new FLEXVOLT battery, which changes from 20 to 60 volts depending on the tool it is running.

The **DEWALT 60V MAX\* Reciprocating Saw** (DCS388) handles tough applications including cutting through pipe, lumber, threaded rod, OSB, duct PVC and more, with ease.

This new brushless tool has a 1 1/8-inch stroke length and 0-3,000 SPM and offers three times the power of the 18V DCS385. The saw's bright LED work light helps illuminate dark job site areas.

Additional features include a keyless lever-action blade clamp for quick and easy blade change, a variable speed trigger for speed control, and rubber molding for a comfortable grip.



The **DEWALT 60V MAX\* 1/2-inch VSR Stud and Joist Drill** (DCD460) is ideal in use on double-, triple-, four- and five-2X wood as well as engineered lumber such as Microllam beam.

DEWALT's E-Clutch System and a mechanical clutch help keep the user in control. A two-speed transmission and VSR trigger provide optimal speed for the application.

The brushless **DEWALT's 60V MAX\* 8 1/4-inch Table Saw**

(DCS7485) covers 95 percent of job site ripping applications on a variety of materials. With a FLEXVOLT battery, this saw can rip up to 302 linear feet of 3/4-inch OSB on a single charge.

With a maximum rip capacity of 24 inches on the right side of the blade and 12 inches on the left, the saw can easily handle full 4x8-foot sheets of material. The telescoping rack and pinion rip fence adjustment allows fast, smooth, and precise adjustments while maintaining front to rear parallelism of the fence to the blade.

The saw also incorporates feet for stability and a roll cage for durability and protection of the tool. At only 45 pounds (without a battery) and with the blade guard assembly and all other components stored onboard, the table saw is easy to transport.

For high-power cutting and grinding of structural steel, metal pipe, rebar, steel plates and concrete, the **DEWALT 60V MAX\* 4.5- to 6-inch Grinder** (DCG414) features a brushless motor that delivers up to 126 cuts of 1/2-inch rebar on a single charge using a FLEXVOLT battery and 6-inch FLEXVOLT cutting wheel.

This grinder features a kickback brake which automatically shuts down and slows the wheel to a stop when a wheel pinch is detected. It has power equivalent to 13 amps or 1,700 Maximum Watts Out (compared to the D28144) and a brake with less than two-second stop time.

#### 120V MAX\* TOOLS

DEWALT's new 120V MAX\* line is launching with two AC/DC 12-inch miter saws (DHS790 & DHS716). Each saw combines the power of

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More innovations include an attachment for converting a 20V MAX cordless tool into a cordless shear. DEWALT product managers Scorr Muhlbauer (L) and Maurice LaPointe (R) demonstrate the new accessories.



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two 60-volt FLEXVOLT batteries to deliver 120-volt power.

The model DHS790 **120V MAX\* 12-inch Sliding Compound Miter Saw** can deliver up to 289 cross cuts in 3 1/4-inch base molding without having to find an outlet or use extension cords. It has a maximum horizontal cross-cut capacity of 16 inches (with back fence), vertical cut capacity of 6-3/4 inches and nested crown cut capacity of 7-1/2 inches.

The **120V MAX\* 12-inch Compound Miter Saw** (DHS716) has a maximum horizontal cross cut capacity of 10 inches (with back fence), vertical cut capacity of 6 1/2 inches, nested crown cut capacity of 6-5/8 inches, the integrated CUTLINE Blade Positioning System and stainless steel adjustable miter detent

Two new 12-inch miter saws are DEWALT's first entries in its new 120V MAX\* line. Each saw combines the power of two 60-volt FLEXVOLT batteries to deliver 120-volt power, which translates to nearly 300 cuts per charge in 3 1/4-inch base molding.



plate. Using two FLEXVOLT batteries, this saw is capable of delivering up to 289 cross cuts in 3 1/4-inch base molding — all cord free.

Also capable of operating off of the FLEXVOLT battery platform are a bunch of new 20V MAX\* tools and accessories, including a Portable Power Station (DCB1800), a 20V MAX\* Bluetooth Radio Charger (DCR025) and a traffic-cone-tall 20V

MAX\* remotely controllable Bluetooth LED Area Light (DCL070).

**NEW 20V MAX\* TOOLS — AND A SURPRISE**

DEWALT introduced far more new tools than we can discuss in this article. More detail is in our online coverage at [www.contractorsupplymagazine.com/pages/News---20160628-DeWalt-Changes-the-Game.php](http://www.contractorsupplymagazine.com/pages/News---20160628-DeWalt-Changes-the-Game.php).

Now for the surprise. DEWALT has dabbled in job site boxes with licensees before but now it is bringing out its own U.S.-made products, four bright new ToughBoxes. Each job site chest is equipped with features and benefits best for large commercial and residential construction sites.

For durability, these ToughBox Storage Chests are manufactured with a 16-gauge steel body, 14-gauge steel floor, and 7-gauge steel skids. Each unit features a three-point lock mechanism to safeguard the job site's most valuable tools and help prevent theft. (Due to its size, the 36-inch chest has a two-point lock mechanism.)

Each ToughBox has finger-groove lids with two gas struts for easy opening and closing and recessed

side handles, four-way skid access and an electrical pass-thru grommet for charging tools.

DEWALT will offer four chest sizes including a 36-inch Job Site Chest (DWST3628), 42-inch Job Site Chest (DWST4228), 48-inch Job Site Chest (DWST4828), and a 60-inch Job Site Chest (DWST6028) in July 2016.

This article only covers a fraction of the products DEWALT introduced at the event. In all, the two-plus day event featured DEWALT, high-end PROTO professional mechanics tools, master sets and storage solutions plus Porter-Cable, Stanley Fat Max and Black & Decker offerings.

Learn more at [www.dewalt.com](http://www.dewalt.com) and at the dedicated sites for each brand. **cs**



DEWALT's gorgeous new Toughbox Storage Chests are being offering in four sizes; 36, 42, 48 and 60 inches. Besides job site-sturdy construction, they boast nifty features such as inside-lid storage pouches and the ability to nest Tough System cases on built-in "rails" over the main storage compartment. Rugged, beautiful and thoughtfully designed.

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