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Another busy, peak season winds down in the region, as the local economy continues to fire on all cylinders. We invite you to read more on how Komatsu's intelligent Machine Control technology continues to gain traction in Ohio, and on associated, iMC support services (page 12) that will be coming to market shortly. Please be safe ... and warm wishes to all, as we head into the Holiday Season.



Josh

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Fabrizi Site Foreman Larry Norman (foreground), Operator Jeremy Boudinot and a Komatsu PC228USLC excavator work together, balancing power and precision, on a sewer replacement project on Fairmount Boulevard in Cleveland Heights.

Fabrizi Trucking and Paving Company Inc. FROM 1940s COAL ... TO 21st CENTURY INFRASTRUCTURE

Like many Ohio construction companies, Fabrizi Trucking and Paving Company Inc. traces its roots back to a few relatives who joined forces to create a small business so they could provide for their families. Nearly 70 years later, Fabrizi is still family owned and operated, but it's no small business any longer.

Today, Cleveland-based Fabrizi is a heavy highway, underground site, utility and concrete paving contractor that employs as many as 250 in the busy season. The company has up to 20 projects going on at any one time, and most are large municipal projects such as sewer reconstructions and roadways. A recent project, for example was a \$6 million contract to repair the storm and sanitary sewers along Avalon Drive in Rocky River, as part of a project to eliminate storm sewer overflows in the northeastern Ohio city. The contract included replacing sidewalks, curbs and driveway aprons as needed. At the same time, the company had a \$1 million contract to replace a main water line in Rocky River.

Cleveland-based Fabrizi is a heavy highway, underground site, utility and concrete paving contractor that employs as many as 250 in the busy season.

Emil Fabrizi, president, said the company was founded in 1949 by his father, uncles and a great uncle. At first, the men did landscaping and hauled coal. "From that, they got into concrete paving, then they started doing underground work to keep busy in the winter. It evolved into a mainstay for us," he noted.

Emil took over operations in 1994, when his father retired. "Now it's pretty much me and my cousins, along with my uncle, Frank—the sole remaining founder—who still picks up parts from Columbus Equipment on a regular basis." His mother is semi-retired but she still works in the office along with his sister, who runs the administrative

side of the business with her daughter and son-in-law. A dozen family members hold positions ranging from maintenance shop superintendent to concrete crew foreman.

In the mid-1990s, the company also entered the recycling business, crushing concrete and stone. Emil's sister, Maria, runs Fabrizi Recycling. This Women's Business Enterprise operation produces about 100,000 tons a year, with Fabrizi as a prime customer for its own projects, and selling the rest. Fabrizi Recycling also performs projects similar in nature to Fabrizi and has its own fleet of Komatsu equipment.



Laborer Joe Minarchek and Takeuchi TB290 Operator Mark Deanna prepare a fire hydrant for installation on Wooster Road, Rocky River.

With the amount and variety of jobs Fabrizi Trucking and Paving works on, the company needs a range of equipment. For excavators, the company leans very heavily toward Komatsu equipment. The company owns 40 excavators, and 30 of them are Komatsu machines, Fabrizi noted, everything from a PC600 down to a PC55. The fleet includes four of the workhorse PC228 machines, three PC160s and three PC138s. Fabrizi also



Komatsu equipment is popular with both Fabrizi operators and Fabrizi management. A PC228USLC excavator is seen here on a \$1-million Wooster Road project—encompassing 6,662 linear feet of water main replacement to both high- and low-pressure service zones—in Rocky River.

owns three sizes of Komatsu dozers.

“We have been buying Komatsu equipment since the mid-80s,” Fabrizi said, noting the first purchase was a PC220-3. Within a few years, the company was purchasing almost exclusively Komatsu excavators. “We are sold on the durability and the longevity we get from our Komatsu machines,” he said. “They don’t need many repairs, especially for the hours we put on them.”

“We get a lot of flexibility with the equipment, because with the ease of operation, anyone can run them.”

Emil Fabrizi, President
Fabrizi Trucking and Paving Company Inc.

The machines are operator-friendly too, and that works well for the way the company moves equipment around. “We get a lot of flexibility with the equipment, because with the ease of operation, anyone can run them. That makes it easy for us to put different operators on them,” Fabrizi explained.

Tony Riggi is Fabrizi’s general superintendent and the guy who manages the movement of equipment. He knows that his operators love the Komatsu excavators. “Every time we ask for feedback, the operators want us

to go with the Komatsu.” Among the features that the operators like are “the comfort and visibility. All the new ones have the backup camera, and the operators love those.”

“Every time we ask for feedback, the operators want us to go with the Komatsu.”

Tony Riggi, General Superintendent
Fabrizi Trucking and Paving Company Inc.

Operators also like the swing and stick controls on the Komatsu excavator. “They feel like they have the control of the machine at their fingertips,” Riggi said, and that’s important for critical tasks like digging around utilities.

Having a variety of sizes of excavators allows Riggi to match the machine with the task. “We have the small models for driveway aprons, for example, and when we are putting in new sewers we go with the larger machines. We have divisions that do new sewers, road excavation, pavement, landscaping, so we need all the different sizes.”

“Komatsu excavators are efficient and well-priced. We have had great luck with the longevity of the machines. They hold up very well,” Riggi noted. “Reliability is important because if the excavator is



Founded in 1949, Fabrizi Trucking and Paving Company Inc. has evolved since its landscaping and coal hauling days. The company leans almost exclusively on versatile, durable Komatsu excavators as evidenced here by Operator Jeremy Boudinot and Andy Smith as they install sewer pipe with a Komatsu PC228USLC.

down, our crew is down. If the excavator is down, we still have to pay the crew, so uptime is important."

The company generally keeps a machine as long as its operating costs are low. "The oldest Komatsu in our fleet is a PC220-5 purchased from Columbus Equipment Company in 1994. It has at least 26,000 hours, maybe more than that," Fabrizi said. "It's still used regularly. It runs a hammer for Fabrizi Recycling with one of its crusher crews."

"Komatsu excavators are efficient and well-priced. We have had great luck with the longevity of the machines."

Tony Riggi, General Superintendent
Fabrizi Trucking and Paving Company Inc.

Fabrizi has been a Columbus Equipment Company customer since "the mid-80s," he added. "They have a good sales team, and they always get us the information that we need. Richfield Branch manager Jeff Badner and the service department have always been very thorough and done a good job for us. Any warranty problems have been worked out to our satisfaction."

While Fabrizi has a full staff of mechanics, the company turns to Columbus Equipment for warranty work, parts, or to

relieve the pressure when the mechanics are swamped. And Columbus Equipment is always just a call away when an issue arises, Riggi said. "We can call them with a question and they will troubleshoot it right there for our mechanic. We are always happy with Columbus Equipment Company."

"The oldest Komatsu in our fleet is a PC220-5 purchased from Columbus Equipment Company in 1994. It has at least 26,000 hours, maybe more than that. It's still used regularly."

Emil Fabrizi, President
Fabrizi Trucking and Paving Company Inc.

Fabrizi Trucking and Paving has been rebuilding back to the size it was before the recession, and Emil Fabrizi is hopeful the company will reach that milestone by the end of 2017. No matter its size, however, the company retains the values its founders had in the 1940s. "We have a good work ethic and get projects completed in a safe and time-efficient manner," Fabrizi said.

SMARTCONSTRUCTION

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Want to make your next machine acquisition really count? Komatsu's lineup of automated excavators, including the all-new PC360LCi-11 and PC490LCi-11 feature a revolutionary, factory integrated, machine control system. The exclusive intelligent Machine Control technology lets operators focus on moving materials efficiently, without worrying about digging too deep or damaging the target surface. Contact your Komatsu distributor to learn how you can hit pay dirt today with Komatsu innovation.

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020

New Komatsu D85EXi Crawler Dozer: SMOOTH SAILING ... WITH WIDE-BLADE, INTELLIGENT DOZING



Contractors who want Komatsu’s intelligent Machine Control (iMC) system in a 30-ton-class dozer have gotten their wish with the new D85EXi dozer. Six sizes of iMC dozers are now available—D39i, D51i, D61i, D65i, D85i, and D155i.

The highly-productive D85i automates dozing from rough grading to the final pass. The dozer is so efficient because the iMC system automatically controls the blade and tilt. The blade loads to a preset amount, then raises

The dozer is so efficient because the iMC system automatically controls the blade and tilt.

to minimize track slip. If the load decreases, the blade will lower and reload, maximizing efficiency on every pass. The intelligent system results in 8 percent greater efficiency in moving material from start to finish grading, compared with a typical aftermarket machine control system.

Komatsu’s integrated system also eliminates the need to install and remove blade-mounted sensors daily. That frees operators to spend more time actually operating the dozer, so projects get finished sooner. Eliminating

blade-mounted sensors also reduces damage or theft of expensive components.

The D85i is equipped with a 264-hp Komatsu Tier 4 engine that is more fuel efficient than previous models. The dozer is also available in a PXi low-ground-pressure version.

“With the monthly production gains from starting sooner, finishing faster and using less fuel, the more owners of the D85EXi/PXi-18 run their machines, the more they save,” said Sebastian Witkowski, Komatsu product marketing manager. “From heavy dozing to finish grading, this wide-blade dozer is perfect for large earthmoving jobs, where accuracy and efficiency are important.”

The D85i dozers are covered by the Komatsu Care program, whether they are purchased, leased or rented. Komatsu Care covers scheduled factory maintenance for three years or 2,000 miles.

Contact your Columbus Equipment Company sales representative to learn how the D85i can complete your grading operations faster and more efficiently.





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New Komatsu 980E-4 Mining Truck: AWESOME SCALE AND SPECIFICITY BOOST MINING PRODUCTIVITY



Komatsu's new 980E-4 mining truck has a 400-ton payload capacity, making it the largest mining truck the company has ever offered. The truck is designed to work in large-scale mining applications with big-bucket shovels such as the Komatsu PC8000.

The design for the truck builds on Komatsu's successful 960E electric drive rear dump truck, noted Tom Steadman, product manager for Komatsu America. The

Komatsu Smart Rims allow you to remove and install tires without removing the rims. This time-saving feature has never been offered on a production truck before.

company developed the 980 in response to customer requests for a 400-ton haul truck.

Design of the heavy-duty truck focused on long-term durability in rugged conditions, including a new dump body that uses high-tensile-strength, abrasion-resistant steel.

The truck's 18-cylinder, 3,500-hp Komatsu engine has a standard pre-lube system to reduce wear during start-up.

Several features contribute to the truck's outstanding vehicle control and handling. These include electric dynamic retardation to maintain constant downhill speed or allow deceleration without frequent use of the brakes. The truck also has an advanced traction and slip/slide management system to reduce wheel spin and dynamic retarding to manage wheel lock.

The operator's cab is equipped with an adjustable air suspension seat plus a buddy seat. Maximum insulation, a high-capacity HVAC system, and tinted safety-glass power windows help to create a comfortable work environment that will prevent operator fatigue.

The truck is equipped with a payload monitoring system that allows owners to monitor truck production and prevent overload conditions that could put unnecessary stress on components.

Buyers can order the truck with optional Komatsu Smart Rims, which allow you to remove and install tires without removing the rims. This time-saving feature has never been offered on a production truck before.

While a 400-ton 980E-4 may not be on every reader's wish list, contact your Columbus Equipment Company representative for details ... if it is.

Komatsu SMARTCONSTRUCTION: THE WAY DIRT WILL BE MOVED



Komatsu has created the “worksites of the future” with intelligent Machine Control (iMC) dozers and excavators. Equipped with Komatsu’s fully-integrated machine control systems, these machines can grade, trench and dig to the exact specifications of a 3D model, with no risk of overcutting or undercutting. The equipment does the job faster and more efficiently than conventional machines, even those with aftermarket systems, and allows contractors to virtually eliminate tasks such as checking grade stakes.

But the worksite of the future doesn’t end there. Komatsu and Columbus Equipment Company already offer an array of services for new and experienced iMC users to create a more productive jobsite, and Komatsu is working on more ways to leverage technology to create better solutions for contractors. The manufacturer calls these advances SMARTCONSTRUCTION.

“Whether you are just dipping your toe in the iMC waters or are fully committed to the technology, Columbus Equipment Company is your one-stop shop for support of your machine control equipment,” noted Mike Fenster, TSE Manager for Columbus Equipment Company. Current SMARTCONSTRUCTION services offered include:

Training and Consultation. Technology solutions experts (TSEs) provide everything from initial training on new equipment, to troubleshooting. Fenster and his team will also help you identify new uses for your iMC equipment.

GPS Hardware and Peripheral Equipment: Provision

of base stations, rovers and other equipment needed for machine control.

Jobsite Set Up. TSEs will set up the base station, and localize the site so you can come in and hit the ground running.

“Whether you are just dipping your toe in the iMC waters or are fully committed to the technology, Columbus Equipment Company is your one-stop shop for support of your machine control equipment.”

Mike Fenster, TSE Manager
Columbus Equipment Company

3D Data Services. Need help creating a 3D model for your machine? Allow Columbus Equipment Company to connect you with a partner who can perform the service.

Continuing Support. In addition to hands-on support from technical solutions experts, all iMC equipment sold by Columbus Equipment Company comes with a four-

IMPROVED

SMARTCONSTRUCTION



year, 4,000-hour premier warranty. The bumper-to-bumper coverage includes all machine control components, Fenster noted.

“It’s a huge advantage to have a complete, detailed picture of the elevation, overlay map of the design model, and be able to calculate how much more dirt has to be moved.”

Mike Fenster, TSE Manager
Columbus Equipment Company

The SMARTCONSTRUCTION services Komatsu is working on now focus on providing contractors with data to bid a job, plan the work, and monitor progress—in a faster, more accurate manner than ever before. Services on the drawing board include advanced mapping services and a SMARTCONSTRUCTION Cloud service that will aggregate real-time data in a cloud-based, easy-to-visualize manner.

Advanced mapping services will use drones to survey the site—creating highly accurate, 3D maps in minutes

instead of the hours or days it takes a surveyor to map a site. Contractors will have the option of using the service before bidding to get a detailed view of the topography and to more effectively prepare bids, or as the project progresses to survey grade accurately and measure for volume calculations or machine allocation. “It’s a huge advantage to have a complete, detailed picture of the elevation, overlay map of the design model, and be able to calculate how much more dirt has to be moved,” Fenster said.

The SMARTCONSTRUCTION Cloud service will allow project managers to monitor multiple projects without going onsite, plan efficiently for manpower and equipment needs, and otherwise streamline the process. The cloud serves a central location for status updates, daily production reports, 3D maps, and other details about the job. The cloud-based service will also allow operators to communicate with other machines on the jobsite and help the entire team collaborate.

“Columbus Equipment Company looks forward to partnering with Komatsu to provide the SMARTCONSTRUCTION Cloud and advanced mapping services,” Fenster said.

For details about iMC and how Columbus Equipment Company’s SMARTCONSTRUCTION services can help you move more dirt, contact your sales representative or technology solutions expert.

Helms & Sons Excavating Inc.: AT HOME IN THE HIGH GROWTH



Helms & Sons Excavating Inc. (HSX) had experience with aftermarket GPS systems on dozers, but they were still surprised at the efficiency boost they got with a new D61i dozer with Komatsu's intelligent Machine Control (iMC) system.

"One of the biggest benefits of iMC is that the blade can be in automatic mode all the time," said Caleb Helms, project manager. "The dozer is always working toward the design grade, gauging how much it needs to

"In addition to the labor cost savings, the D61i makes every pass count, which has resulted in efficiency gains of up to 35 percent."

Caleb Helms; Project Manager, Helms & Sons Excavating Inc.

be hogging out. It cuts and carries what it can, then comes back and goes for more, with no danger of overcutting."

In contrast, he added, "if you try to put a dozer with an aftermarket system in automatic 2 feet above grade, it just dives down and tries to push it all."

Findlay-based HSX purchased the D61i early in 2017 and has used it for projects ranging from a mile-long

ODOT road widening project in Mansfield to site work for a subdivision near Toledo. Like other iMC owners, the company has virtually eliminated the use of stakes to check grade, reducing the need for laborers and surveyors on the job site. Operators can run the job from the dozer, so



sometimes a foreman isn't even needed. "In addition to the labor cost savings, the D61i makes every pass count, which has resulted in efficiency gains of up to 35 percent," Helms said.

One unexpected benefit of the integrated iMC system was doing away with the hassles of installing aftermarket

For additional video coverage, visit columbusequipment.com/videos.php for more on Helms & Sons Komatsu experience.

DOVE WITH iMC



Helms & Sons 26-Year Veteran Operator Brian Robinson

systems, Helms said. There's no need to keep track of aftermarket pieces, no risk of sensors falling off or being hit while dozing, and no worries about theft or weather damaging the cables. "There was also the liability of having someone climb up and down the dozer every day to install pieces. We've cut all that out," Helms noted. With iMC, "everything is inside the cylinders. It's hard to damage but easy to replace."

"The D61i is a very versatile dozer."

Caleb Helms; Project Manager, Helms & Sons Excavating Inc.

Aside from the machine control system, Helms is impressed with the dozer itself. "It has a better ride, better view, and has good power. The compartments are well laid out and things are easy to get to. The dozer is very well built. The pivot point bears the load well and it doesn't look like it will wear out like on other machines."

The D61i is also a great size. "It's really good for anything. We can use it on roadway projects, site projects, and it's small enough for parking lots. The D61i is a very versatile dozer," Helms said.

Company president Shane Helms started HSX and Helms Construction Inc. 20 years ago after running

construction jobs for other companies. After starting with small residential projects, the companies have graduated to larger commercial and public jobs. Recent projects include a Love's Truck Stop in Upper Sandusky, where the company did demolition, underground work, grading and subgrade work up to the asphalt.

HSX has a good relationship with Columbus Equipment Company, Helms said. "[Sales representative] Luke Matheson isn't just selling equipment, he's trying to do the best job he can for us. And Columbus Equipment has been really good about training us on iMC and helping us transfer files. We couldn't have asked for a smoother transition."

Did You Know ...

When they aren't moving dirt, Shane and Caleb Helms can be found racing on it. Caleb drives the Helms Racing sprint car in the Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions. His father Shane and grandfather were both racers, and are also both on Caleb's pit crew.

In March 2017, Caleb won featured races at two Ohio tracks—Attica Raceway Park and Mansfield Motor Speedway. In July, he also set a course record during a qualifying race at Outlaw Speedway in Dundee, N.Y.

Complete Clearing Inc.: SERIOUS EQUIPMENT FOR SE



When selecting new tree-clearing equipment about a year ago, Complete Clearing Inc. ended up using two different strategies. For a feller buncher, they stayed with a brand they had experience with, adding a third Komatsu to their fleet. For stump grinding, they demoed three different brands and chose a product they'd never used before, a CMI C400.

“The 430 has tremendous power and it operates very fast. I love the way it handles and how it sticks really well to the slopes.”

Brock Dixon; Land Clearing Supervisor, Complete Clearing Inc.

In both cases, the company has been very happy with the purchases, according to Brock Dixon, land clearing supervisor with the Marengo, Ohio-based company. Complete Clearing, in business since 1995, performs land clearing and demolition around the state. Clearing projects are large scale, ranging from heavy highway to bulk clearing of acreage for subdivisions.

Complete Clearing owns several Rayco stump grinders, and they demoed a Rayco and a Bandit along with the CMI from Columbus Equipment Company. “We really liked the CMI machine itself. The design is flawless, in addition to being an extremely well-built machine,” Dixon said.

The CMI C400 is outfitted with an S400 stump grinder with a 38-inch-diameter Bucktooth wheel. Dixon can't say enough good things about the stumping head. “The S400 stumping head is awesome. Maintenance on the teeth is about half of what's required on other stumpers. A lot of that comes from the tooth design. For most stumpers the teeth are welded on and you can break the bolts, but these teeth are deeply set in the wheel [with steel cleats] so they don't break. The only time you need to change teeth is when they simply wear out. The operator can work so much longer because he's not out maintaining them.”

As an operator, Dixon appreciates the CMI's comfortable, roomy cab. “You're not stuffed in there, and you can see well almost all around you. In the other stumpers we have, you can't see out as well. The comfort level is really good – the heat and air conditioning work great. The C400 is an awesome machine. It climbs hills and sticks, it's easy to operate. I would rather run it than a Rayco.”



The Mulching Specialists

For additional video coverage, visit columbusequipment.com/videos.php for more on Complete Clearing's CMI experience.

SERIOUS LAND CLEARING



Complete Clearing already owned XT445 and XT425 feller bunchers from Komatsu. However, the new XT430L-3 has been redesigned, and the improvements are noticeable, Dixon said. The longer tracks result in excellent grip on steep slopes. "The 430 has tremendous power and it operates very fast. It's quick, and I love the way it handles and how it sticks really well to the slopes."

"We really liked the CMI machine itself. The design is flawless, in addition to being an extremely well-built machine."

Brock Dixon; Land Clearing Supervisor, Complete Clearing Inc.

The redesign included an upgraded cab with improved operator visibility, thanks to a floor-to-ceiling front window and large side windows. The machine is also equipped with a state-of-the-art digital control system.

Complete Clearing, which also owns about a dozen Komatsu excavators, was a Columbus Equipment Company customer long before working with the

Environmental Division.

The Columbus branch has provided excellent service whenever the CMI or XT430 has encountered issues, minor as they may have been, Dixon noted. "I was in Aberdeen when the CMI kept cutting off. I called Jason Woods [field service technician] who walked me

"I would rather run it than a Rayco."

Brock Dixon; Land Clearing Supervisor, Complete Clearing Inc.

through the issue and we got it fixed." Woods was also able to walk him through an issue with a bad breaker.

"Jason Woods is a super guy. He comes out immediately, and we haven't seen anything he can't fix," Dixon added. "Columbus Equipment Company is really quick to handle any problems that arise. We are tickled to death with them."

Sticking to one familiar brand and trying a new one with a better product has been a successful strategy for Complete Clearing. "We absolutely love the machines. We are confident we made the right decisions," Dixon concluded.



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Rep. Bill Johnson Visit Signifies OPTIMISM IN SOUTHEASTERN OHIO ECONOMY



Columbus Equipment Company was honored to host Rep. Bill Johnson (R-6th District) at our Cadiz Branch on Aug. 30. The Congressman wanted to see how the oil and gas industry in Southeastern Ohio is affecting the area, including the equipment business.

Johnson toured the facility and discussed a wide range of subjects—from infrastructure to the cost of health insurance—with Columbus Equipment Company manage-

“I thoroughly enjoyed my visit to Columbus Equipment Company in Cadiz.”

Bill Johnson, Representative - 6th District

ment. He also spoke with employees to gauge how they felt about the future, said Dan Minnis, branch manager.

Johnson addressed the opportunities that the oil and gas industry is bringing to Southeastern Ohio, including a proposed ethane cracker plant in Belmont County.

The plant would be an estimated \$6 billion investment and would use local shale gas to produce polyethylene, an ingredient for the plastics industry. Such a project would mean thousands of temporary construction jobs,

and could help redevelop the polymer industry in Ohio, bringing additional, longer-term jobs.

According to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, employment in core shale-related industries, including pipeline construction and well drilling, was nearly 11,000 in the fourth quarter of 2016. Of those jobs, the largest share was in oil and gas pipeline construction—with 4,466 workers—and support activities for oil and gas at 3,139 jobs. Ancillary related jobs, including everything from freight trucking to environmental consulting, have also increased significantly since 2011 when the Utica play became active.

During the visit, arranged by the Associated Equipment Distributors, Johnson “learned a lot about the equipment industry, including Columbus Equipment Company’s statewide presence and contributions,” Minnis said. The equipment itself got a great response. “His staff was in awe of the scale of the equipment.”

“I thoroughly enjoyed my visit to Columbus Equipment Company in Cadiz. Meetings like this help me better serve those I represent, as I am able to take their comments and concerns back with me to Washington. Thanks to Dan and the team for showing me around. They have a great operation to be proud of,” Johnson said.

PAVING DIVISION

Melway Paving Inc.: SMOOTH SAILING WITH ROAD



Melway Paving Vice President Phil Schlabach (left) and Estimator Terry Triner pictured just north of Liberty Street, in the hills above Millersburg, the county seat of Holmes County, Ohio. The company has relied upon dependable Roadtec pavers for 15 trouble-free years.

A “A piece of machinery has to make three people happy—the operator, the mechanic, and the owner,” said Phil Schlabach, vice president of Melway Paving Inc. For his Holmesville-based company, “the Roadtec RP-175e ticks all three boxes.”

“Operators like that it’s a relatively simple machine. It has a very nicely laid out operator platform and great

“A piece of machinery has to make three people happy—the operator, the mechanic, and the owner.”

Phil Schlabach; Vice President, Melway Paving Inc.

visibility,” he said. Mechanics like the reliability and easy access to maintenance points. And the Melway Paving owners like Roadtec because their 15 years of using Roadtec pavers have been virtually trouble free.

Melway first purchased a 10-foot Roadtec RP-195 paver back in 2002, then followed with an 8-foot

RP-155 in 2005. Before switching to Roadtec, the company had used Blaw-Knox and Cedarapids pavers. Melway demoed four different brands of pavers back in 2002, and “there were a lot of design features we liked on Roadtec. It was a total package,” Schlabach said.

Two years ago, the company purchased the 175, which became their primary 8-foot machine, although Melway kept the 155 as backup machine. The 175 is very similar to the 155, Schlabach added, “but it’s newer and tighter. The older machine has been very good to us, it’s still all original with no major problems, and we were looking for another one like that.”

“The Roadtec has a Carlson screed and lays a quality mat,” he said. When Melway switched to Roadtec, the company also went from rubber machines to track tires “and we get a nicer ride that way. We get a lot more traction and better production. Technology has really advanced since the ‘90s, traction-wise, and this is way more forgiving.”

The Roadtec 175 is used daily and moved frequently from job to job. The paver is very easy to transport, with augers that can be raised and other features that provide more clearance for loading, Schlabach noted.

In 1980, Schlabach and his brother Steve, company



For additional video coverage, visit columbusequipment.com/videos.php for more on Melway Paving's Roadtec experience.

ROADTEC'S DEPENDABLE RP-175e

president, purchased Melway from its founder, their father. The company has two asphalt plants, a concrete plant, and a gravel operation. "We do anything from state highways on down, anything that needs paving in Holmes County and the surrounding area," he said.

called for "3,200 feet of asphalt, 60 feet wide. It had to be flat with no bumps. Smoothness was definitely an issue," Triner said. The contractor decided to use a MOBA leveling system with its Roadtec 175 and a second 175 rented from Columbus Equipment Company. Chuck



The Melway Paving crew spearheaded by Foreman Paul Troyer (37 years) boasts 152 years of combined paving experience. Screwguys Larry Troyer (28 years) and Kennard Miller (18 years), and Operator Matt Mast (15 years) navigate the tight streets of Millersburg, just west of N School Street.

The company offers a variety of paving services, with asphalt paving and chip sealing accounting for the majority of work.

Melway has been doing business with Columbus Equipment Company since the 1980s, when the dealership supplied parts for Blaw-Knox pavers. With six mechanics

"We do anything from state highways on down, anything that needs paving in Holmes County and the surrounding area."

Phil Schlabach; Vice President, Melway Paving Inc.

on staff, Melway typically does most of its own service work on the pavers, but it turns to Columbus Equipment Company for technical issues, according to Terry Triner, company estimator and job superintendent.

In fall of 2016, for example, Melway handled the paving of Dragway 42 in West Salem. The project

Amnah and Craig Hull, paver product support specialists from Columbus Equipment Company, were very helpful in setting up the system, he added.

"The Dragway 42 project went really well, and the Roadtecs were flawless. They worked perfectly, and never stopped throughout the project."

Terry Triner; Superintendent, Melway Paving Inc.

"The Dragway 42 project went really well, and the Roadtecs were flawless," Triner said. "They worked perfectly, and never stopped throughout the project."

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