

# CAST IRON PROCESSING: FAST, EFFICIENT AND SAFE

**New Allied-Gator MT™ Series Multi-Tool makes quick work of cast processing, even in the summer heat.**

**A**llied Erecting & Dismantling Co. Inc. has done many challenging dismantling jobs over the years, but when a client charged them with site remediation at major steel facilities near East Chicago and Gary, Ind., project superintendents Gordon Lindquist and Cecil Liter knew the job would be a challenge. The job included the processing and removal of large volumes of static industrial cast iron, including a massive 25-ton generator used to power a steam system. "Processing cast iron has traditionally been one of the most difficult things you can be tasked with. With this project happening in the dead of summer in 90° heat we expected quite a challenge," says Gordon Lindquist.

## **AN ACE IN THE HOLE**

However, as the team got into the project, they knew that they had an ace in hole—a new tool developed by Allied-Gator Inc. They had never used the new MT Series Multi-Tool for processing cast, but the manufacturer had assured them it could do the job. As a result they sent operator Keith Finch into the trenches with an MTR 70 with a Cracker/Crusher Jaw Set mounted on CAT 345. As Keith went to work, the team was initially encouraged by the ease with which the machine was processing material. As the job progressed they were amazed. "Reducing the cast with

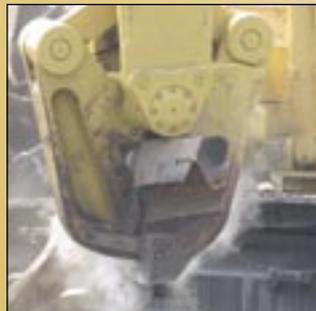
that tool was almost effortless. I've never seen anything like it," says Cecil Liter.

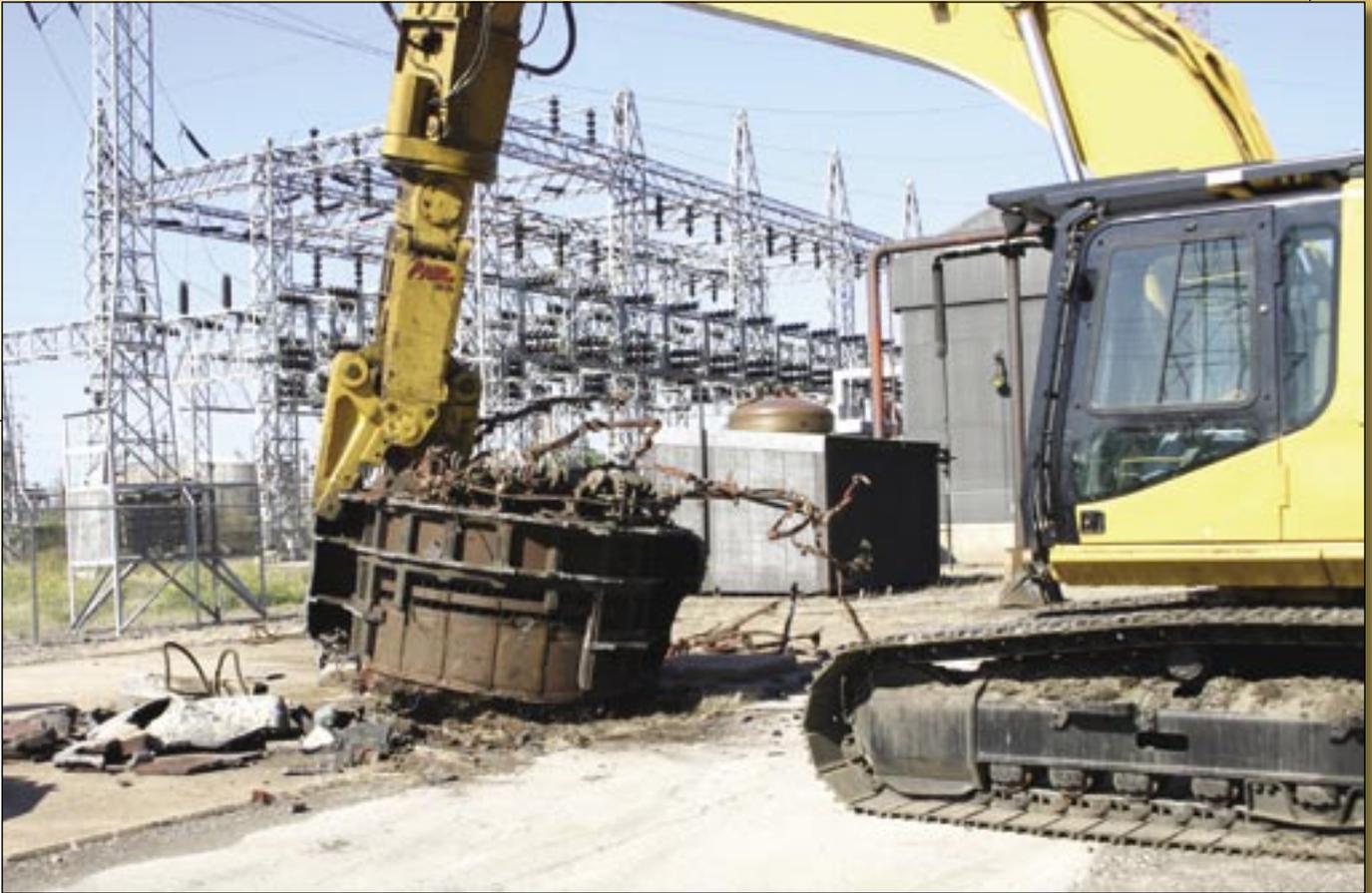
The success of the tool was important to Allied Erecting for many reasons, but one of the most pressing was safety. Due to strict safety regulations, both the contractor and customer prohibited the use of traditional cast processing and reduction methods including the balling (uncontrolled impact breaking) of this material. As a result, the Multi-Tool offered a unique combination of productivity and safety. "The Multi-Tool is the safest means of processing cast I've ever seen," according to Cecil.

## **UNIQUE DEMANDS**

This project had other unique demands that required a new and controlled method for the safe and effective reduction of these problematic materials. The majority of heavy cast ranged in wall thickness from 4 to 6 inches and had dimensions in excess of 40 inches. In addition, the 25-ton generator was laden with high value nonferrous brass and copper that Allied was keen on recovering. As Keith Finch continued to work with the tool he realized he could use it to cleanly and thoroughly remove this material from the generator while also breaking the cast that housed it.

Working both processes in tandem offered not only great productivity and a tremendous savings of time,





but also two very clean material streams. "It only took me a half hour to break up the whole generator and pull out the copper," says Keith. Looking back on the project Gordon says, "Without that tool, this project would not have been nearly as successful."

#### **SUPERIOR RECOVERY**

In the end Allied recovered 63 tons of cast iron. In addition, they recovered 6 tons of copper from the processed generator. The job, however, did not end with the cast processing. It also required the processing of miscellaneous steel beams, angle, plate, sheet and channel totaling some 104 tons. To accomplish the necessary shearing of the mixed scrap Allied was charged with processing, they used an Allied-Gator MTR 70 Shear Jaw Set. This jaw set was used on the same tool used to process the cast material, adding efficiency for the crew and minimizing the amount of equipment Allied Erecting needed on the jobsite. Additional equipment employed to accomplish the project objectives included an Allied-Gator Claw Bucket on a CAT 950G and an excavator-mounted magnet.

As the project team reached the end of the job, one of their review points was how the Multi-Tool had

performed for them. The operator, Keith Finch, was left impressed by the flexibility and productivity of the tool. However, he was also amazed at the strength of it. "Even after breaking all that cast, there was no visible wear on the tool or the teeth," he says. In accessing the tool's overall effectiveness, both Cecil and Gordon were left impressed. Not only had the tool proven it could process cast in a safe, efficient and productive manner, but it had done so with minimal wear and tear. "The fact that the tool held up so well in this difficult application tells me we'll have lower maintenance costs over the long haul," says Cecil. ■

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Video segments of the MT Series Multi-Tool in this application can be viewed on Allied-Gator's website: [www.alliedgator.com](http://www.alliedgator.com)

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**MT™ SERIES MULTI-TOOL**

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