

E. Luke Greene Company's Demolition Division Takes Down Everything

by Kelly Gates

Strawberry Plains, TN-based E. Luke Greene Company owns and operates an array of complementary business divisions including a demolition, asbestos and lead abatement division and a roll-off dumpster operation.

The demolition portion of the business was created in 1984 when the company realized the growing demand for selective demolition and structure removal in the tri-state area.

According to Craig Thompson, project manager for E. Luke Greene Company, the company's demolition division takes on everything from small buildings to structures spanning more than one million square feet.

"We did the demolition of the Beacon Manufacturing plant near Asheville, North Carolina, which was a vacated manufacturing facility that had burned," says Thompson. "It was over one million square feet and we ended up handling over 57,000 tons of asbestos-contaminated debris, with approximately 6,000 gross tons of recycled steel. It took around six months to complete and we also did conventional asbestos abatement on the unburned structures of the project."

In all, the company hauled nearly 3,800 truckloads of asbestos-contaminated C&D waste material from Asheville to a waste management facility in Spartanburg, SC, which is nearly an hour and a half away, adds Thompson.

In order to manage such a wide variety of demolition projects, E. Luke Greene Company has accumulated an extensive fleet of demolition equipment.

Within the company's fleet are seven Kobelco excavators that range in size from a Kobelco 135 at 30,000 lbs. to a Kobelco 300 that weighs in at 70,000 lbs. The

excavators are fitted with buckets and hydraulic thumbs, grapples, hammers, concrete crushers and long-reach attachments, depending on the demolition application.

Two Caterpillar 963 loaders and more than 20 pieces of Bobcat mini equipment are also used on demolition projects as well as on general contracting jobs managed by the company's other contracting divisions.

"When we first started doing demolition work, we had one Bobcat loader and a lot of wheelbarrows," says Thompson. "Now, we have a lot of different equipment, including one of our primary processing tools, the Allied-Gator MT series Multi-Tool MTR70."

The Allied-Gator MTR70 is frequently used on demolition jobs that require the company to remove steel and concrete buildings. The MT series Multi-Tool is used to tear through the material within a structure, removing large pieces one at a time and later, reducing the steel and concrete to smaller-sized pieces for ease of transportation.

E. Luke Greene Company mounts the MTR70 second member onto a Kobelco 300.

Depending on the material that needs to be removed or processed, the company uses either of the MTR70's two interchangeable jaw sets.

On steel structures, the MTR70 shear jaw is used as a primary tool to cut steel beams. The versatility of the shear jaw attachment enables the company to also use the MTR70 as a secondary processing tool to cut the steel beams into smaller pieces that fit better into the company's haul trucks.

The multi-tool's concrete processing jaw attachments can be fastened to the MTR70 when the company needs to crack or crush concrete columns or

other concrete supports. The cracking or crushing jaw attachments can also be used to reduce each chunk of concrete to truck-sized pieces or to remove rebar from concrete.

Along with the MTR70, the company also has six hydraulic hammers that are used to break up concrete for removal. These units include a 5,000 ft. lb. Allied CS785, a 2,000 ft. lb. Tramac BR501C, several 410 and 610 Atlas Copco SBC breakers, says Thompson.

Along with its expertise in demolition, E. Luke Greene Company is also dedicated to the recycling of C&D waste material. Much of the initial demolition and reduction of materials is done by the company on-site, then passed on to recycling and waste management companies that specialize in processing C&D waste.

"In all of our demolition operations, we segregate into three waste streams; general waste for landfill, concrete and masonry products for recycled aggregate and salvaged scrap metals," says Thompson. "On large jobs, we'll hire someone to bring in a jaw crusher to process material, but in other cases, anything that can be recycled is taken to third-party companies that process the material and turn it into reusable products."

From a small Bobcat and a bunch of wheel barrows to a multi-faceted demolition operation, E. Luke Greene Company's demolition division has indeed come a long way over the years. And, with additions like the Allied-Gator MTR70, the company is poised to take on larger, more demanding projects in the future, says Thompson.



E. Luke Greene Co's Allied Gator Multi Tool (MTR70) mounted on a Kobelco 300, shears steel scrap to manageable lengths at the former Beacon Manufacturing Plant near Asheville, NC.



The September 2003 fire leveled most of the over one million sq. ft. former textile plant and was considered to be one of the largest manufacturing fires in North Carolina history. As a result, the debris needed to be cleared.



Within the company's fleet are seven Kobelco excavators - here they are working in tandem to process the materials.



Almost 6000 tons of steel was recycled and over 57,000 tons of contaminated debris was transported to Palmetto Landfill in Spartanburg, SC, as a result of the September 2003 fire.



E. Luke Greene Co.'s 130 Kobelco equipped with a Wag Way Concrete Crusher downsizes concrete and separates rebar, while a second excavator loads scrap steel.



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Just part of the equipment used in this demolition project.

Allied-Gator's Jaw Design Makes Work Easy for E. Luke Greene Company

In 1973, Allied-Gator Inc. was established as a manufacturer of attachments that built a select few tools for members of the demolition and scrap recycling industries. Today, the company offers 22 different models in its MT series multi-tool line as well as a wide range of demolition claw buckets and grapples.

A popular processing tool amongst members of the demolition industry, the Allied-Gator MT series Multi-Tool is a power unit that accepts multiple jaw sets specifically designed for shearing steel and crushing or cracking rock and concrete, says Mike Ramun, sales and marketing representative for the Youngstown, OH-based company.

"The MT Series Multi-Tool line accommodates all sizes of carriers from mini-excavators and skid steers to the largest mass excavators available," says Ramun.

"The MT Series patented jaw design cycles on a maintained centerline giving the operator complete control and pin-point accuracy with the tool, which are essential factors in safe demolition," says Ramun.

Strawberry Plains, TN-based E. Luke Greene

Company has been using an Allied Gator MTR70 multi-tool with jaw and shear attachments since June of 2002, when the company purchased the MT unit for its demolition division.

"Our demolition business was growing and we needed a tool that would expand our capabilities and give us the ability to perform a wide range of tasks," says Craig Thompson, project manager for the company. "We shopped around, but when we compared the MTR70 to others on the market, we realized that the features of the Allied-Gator tool were exactly what we were looking for."

According to Thompson, two of the key selling points that sold E. Luke Greene Company on the MTR70 were the high quality material used to build the tool and the unit's interchangeable jaw sets that enable quick accommodation to various demolition applications.

"The ability to perform concrete crushing and steel shearing with the same tool by quickly and easily changing jaw sets made it perfect for multi-processing," he says. "We also liked the cast steel construc-

tion compared to the fabricated components on other manufacturers' multi-processors."

The company handled nearly 57,000 tons of debris during the course of the project, which thanks to the Allied-Gator MTR70, was completed in around six months.

"Our innovative and powerful design team exceeded their goals in every dimension of functionality, versatility, and production output with this tool. The MT Series design is what gives our attachments superior power and efficiency. The overall performance is unmatched," says Ramun.

Another advantage to the MT Series Multi-Tool is that they are cast from high-alloy steel, giving them far greater impact characteristics than attachments made with fabricated materials, says Ramun.

"Our focus is on expanding our attachment line to better serve the construction, demolition and scrap recycling markets," says Ramun.

For further information regarding Allied-Gator, Inc. and its complete line, please call 800-624-2867 (ph); 330-744-3218 (fax); or info@alliedgator.com (email).