Aggregate Technologies, Inc. (ATI) is a concrete saw cutting company based in Houston, Texas. ATI specializes in pile cutting and also provides services such as wire sawing, wall sawing, slab sawing, core drilling, GPR scanning, surgical/structural and robotic demolition. ATI has been in business for 16 years and currently provides services throughout the country with a high concentration in the Gulf Coast region. Ronnie Wills, Founder/President of ATI, started the company with just one concrete saw, a truck, a helper periodically and an undeniable passion for success. The company has grown to become an industry leader in the concrete cutting and demolition industry.

ATI currently has 30-plus fleet vehicles and its crews are available to be dispatched almost anywhere in the country, providing services to the gas and oil, petrochemical, industrial, commercial and marine industries. ATI is recognized as a top leader in its industry and is eager to prove that to new clients. ATI has received numerous accolades for outstanding safety and job performance. These awards are proudly displayed in the lobby at the main office in northwest Houston.

“We currently have 35 employees and some have been with us for 10 to 15 years,” said Wills. “Everyone pulls their weight and it’s not uncommon to see me out on a project running equipment to get the job done – we do whatever it takes. We are in the people business, we just happen to cut concrete, and making our clients happy is what is expected. The way I look at it, if we can take industry problems and create innovative solutions for them, well that’s just one less thing our customers need to worry about.”

Innovative new technology
One of ATI’s most recent accomplishments is the issuance of a United States Patent for the new Pile Cutting Machine (PCM) in October of 2012. These revolutionary new PCMs have been well received in the industry. Everyone who has watched them in operation acknowledges that PCM technology is the safest, most efficient way to cut piles. These revolutionary machines can cut 125 to 200 piles per day with only one operator and one machine.

In 2007, Wills knew that his company needed diversity, but cutting piles was an unsafe and labor-intensive process at the time. A safer and more efficient method needed to be developed. Mounting a concrete saw to the end of a telescopic arm would remove workers from the danger zone or cut zone. ATI could dominate the pile cutting industry if this design worked. Wills worked to have his idea designed, engineered and built. The machine was successfully tested and the patent was filed. The machine has cut thousands of piles with no injury or incident to date. The cabs are climate-controlled and use mechanical power, which eliminates operators from the exposure of heat exhaustion and back injuries.

According to Ronnie, “Safety is the future, because without it we don’t have one.”

ATI is currently working on one of the largest concrete pile projects in the country. With just one PCM, the company is happy to report that productivity is surpassing all expectations. ATI is consistently cutting over 125 piles per day with one operator and one PCM.
“The way I look at it, if we can take industry problems and create innovative solutions for them, well that’s just one less thing our customers need to worry about.”

– Ronnie Wills, Founder/President, Aggregate Technologies, Inc.

Industry recognition
The PCM even led to an ABC Excellence in Construction Award in 2009 for cutting and removing 10,000 concrete piles at Motiva in Port Arthur, Texas. Currently, ATI is completing phase 1 of the Sabine Pass LNG Terminal project which consists of over 17,000 piles.

ATI technicians and operators are renowned for implementing innovative solutions to complete even the most challenging concrete cutting projects. The company and its employees pride themselves in thinking outside the box. Their structural engineer is consulted on all complex high profile projects. His expertise has allowed ATI to successfully complete projects that most of their competitors would not attempt. Some of these projects include custom cranes for removing concrete panels, custom mechanical core drill bits and the newly patented PCM. ATI strongly believes in its fundamental core values: teamwork, professionalism, innovation and integrity. Wills believes that following these core values throughout the years has been a big part of ATI’s success. ATI is continually striving to be the leader in their industry with innovative solutions for their customers while simultaneously creating a safer work environment and increased efficiency.

New PDCA members
ATI is an active member of over a dozen trade associations related to the construction industry and we are excited to be new members of PDCA. We had a great time at the 17th Annual International Conference & Expo 2013 in Orlando, Fla. this past April. We were able to network with several other companies in our industry with the same goals in mind. We look forward to the future opportunities that being a PDCA member will bring!

Other specialty projects ATI has successfully completed:

Concrete sawing – Lake Charles Louisiana Airport
When it came time to rehabilitate the main runway, efficiency was crucial. The general contractor had a 90-day window to complete the project, and many doubted this could be achieved. With expertise and professionalism, ATI crews worked seven days a week to cut over 20,000 linear feet at a depth of 12 inches in heavily reinforced concrete. The concrete cutting phase of the project was completed twelve days ahead of schedule, enabling the general contractor to finish the project early and restore the airport to full service by deadline.

Wire sawing – Silo Project in Mississippi Delta
This project in Convent, La. presented a unique set of challenges. The job called for precision cutting into cylindrical grain silos at a height of nearly 50 feet. To fulfill these stringent job requirements, interior and exterior scaffolding was installed for personnel and equipment. All cutting took place from the inside using a diamond wire saw and hi-cycle wall saws. Skilled ATI operators took great care to ensure that all cuts were made at a perfect angle relative to the silo’s radius and at the precise dimensions stipulated by the customer.

ATI offers slab sawing services

The pile cutting machine can cut 125-200 piles per day with only one operator and one machine

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