

Agi-Kleen PTY Ltd.

Robotic Concrete Removal System

The efforts of Agi-Kleen, a construction company located in Melbourne's south-east, to improve the safety of workers entering concrete agitators to remove hardened concrete, has earned the business recognition in the 2011 WorkSafe Awards.

Agi-Kleen was recently named one of the WorkSafe Awards Monthly Champions for May, for its Robotic Concrete Removal System, entered in the 'Best health and safety initiative in a small business' category of the annual awards.

Agi-Kleen managing director Jonathan Sweet-Kirkwood, said the technology was developed in response to an identified risk of people being injured or killed by falling concrete when removing hardened concrete from the agitators.

"Our system eliminates the need for a person to enter the concrete agitators to manually remove the hardened concrete with a jackhammer. Instead, the Agi-Kleen system removes the "dead concrete" with a wirelessly controlled robotic boom," Jonathan said.

"I saw the technology as the future of removing 'dead concrete' for the industry, to reduce the risk of injury and create an improved work environment."

Agi-Kleen's unique cleaning system came about after extensive trials and the identification of a company in the US that had partly developed a similar machine.

"We worked with the US company to import the product into Australia, and further develop the technology to meet our needs. After three years of marketing the product, it has been widely accepted by concrete companies in South Australia and Western Australia as the preferred method of cleaning their agitators."

Jonathan said that as well as removing a huge risk factor for concrete workers, the Robotic Concrete Removal System has a range of other applications for construction and other similar industries.

"The machine can also be used to clean silos, aggregate bins and other vessels on site, and the cleaning technique can be applied to other industries with similar vessels or confined spaces.

"We're very happy with product and the benefits and were proud to be recognised as a Monthly Champion in the WorkSafe Awards."

The annual WorkSafe Awards have been expanded and improved this year, introducing quick and easy online entry, broader categories and a public voting system that will help highlight Victoria's greatest success stories. Like Agi-Kleen, entries with the most votes from the public and industry experts and professionals each month will have their achievements promoted by WorkSafe.

To find out more about the new WorkSafe Awards visit www.worksafeawards.com

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