ARBORTECH AS160 BRICK & MORTAR SAW

What is the innovation and why is it innovative?

The AS160 Brick & Mortar Saw represents a revolution in cutting technology through it's unique orbital cutting motion. It's two forward facing blades combine to perform both a hammering and cutting action which produces larger particles of dust that tend to fall rather than hang in the air as dust on conventional abrasive tools do. While user health benefits and visibility are an added bonus, the AS160 offers extreme levels of precision, accuracy and control with the ability to cut square and deep without the need for lubrication.

It is an extremely safe cutting action that cannot cause serious damage even if it comes into contact with skin. I.e the hammering action works with hard material but will not cut softer material such as flesh.

With the unique blade depth of 120mm, the AS160 is the only hand held saw of its type on the market

What It changed or replaced?

The AS160 has already replaced several tools in the building maintenance industry and possibly others not yet known. Some examples:

- standard angle grinders with diamond blades used specifically for re-pointing brick buildings. The main drawback of using this type of tool is the silica dust and health hazard associated with it. In most building sites where re-pointing is done you will see a large plastic covered scaffold to protect passers by from the dust, By using the AS160 for the task, the job can done more accurately with very little dust due to the cutting action.
- when removing bricks in the very delicate heritage building renovation industry it is vital to not damage or over cut the selected brick so that it can be turned and reused. The AS160 has the ability to cut square and allow the user to remove the brick without damage. Currently there is no other tool or product that can achieve this.
- Square Cutting the AS160 is used for installation of vents, switch boxes, small
 windows or any square cut required either inside or outside of a building. Rotary cutting
 tools do not have the depth of cut necessary and usually have to over cut at the corners.

Where and when it originated, has been used or is expected to be used in the future?

The AS 160 was developed by Arbortech in Western Australia specifically for the tuck pointing and restoration of brick and masonry buildings. It was released to the market in 2004. It has since been taken up by trades or contractors such as Electricians, plumbers and builders and is now being sold in Europe and the United States. A large gasoline powered version is currently being developed specifically for its ability to cut tree roots in the ground and larger masonry walls.

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