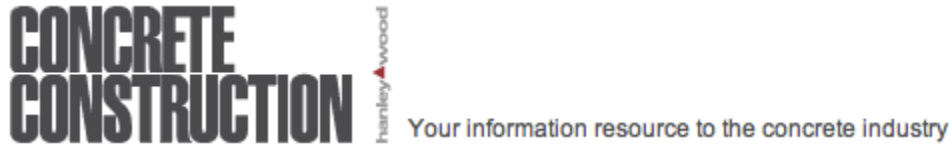


Concrete Construction, Hanley Wood, Demolition Options

Blog, Bill Palmer, Editor, Nov.2011



Problem Clinic - Demolition Options

Q: From CC's LinkedIn discussion group comes this question: Does anyone have another option to remove mass concrete foundations without using an excavator and breaker?

A: Various techniques were recommended including dynamite, expansive grouts, hydraulic splitters, and wire saws. Although the dynamite suggestion was initially made tongue in cheek ("That would certainly destroy it post haste"), several participants ended up agreeing that drilling and blasting is a valid technique for demolition in areas inaccessible to heavy equipment. The precautions on this option, though, were first that it requires a lot of drilling and to be sure to find a blaster that has insurance covering work in buildings. Another viable option is expansive grouts, including a product called Ecobust (www.ecobust.ca). Selection of the best technique should consider things such as noise, vibration, logistics to get to the site, and removal of debris.