

# ON THE CUTTING EDGE

*Russ T. Diamonds shines in Colorado's concrete sawing and drilling industry*

by Robyn M. Feller

*Russ T. Diamonds, Inc.'s* humble beginnings can be traced back to the year 2000, when the company was founded from the back of a pickup truck. Since then, it has become an icon in Colorado's concrete sawing and drilling industry. By continually learning, listening, adapting, and utilizing the newest industry

technologies, Russ T. Diamonds has been able to stay ahead of the curve, remaining an elite, trustworthy "diamond in the rough."

Russ Thompson, the company's founder and owner, shares his own humble beginnings that led him down the path toward building a successful

business. Russ had worked for a couple of years in the industry. After receiving countless accolades for his work, Russ decided to start his own business. He soon realized it wasn't as easy as it seemed, especially getting the needed financing. So, with the help of his Visa card, he bought some basic tools and started in his pickup as a one-man core drilling band. Landing one little job after another, he kept busy, hired another employee, and the business created massive amounts of slurry from there.

## Sawing & Drilling

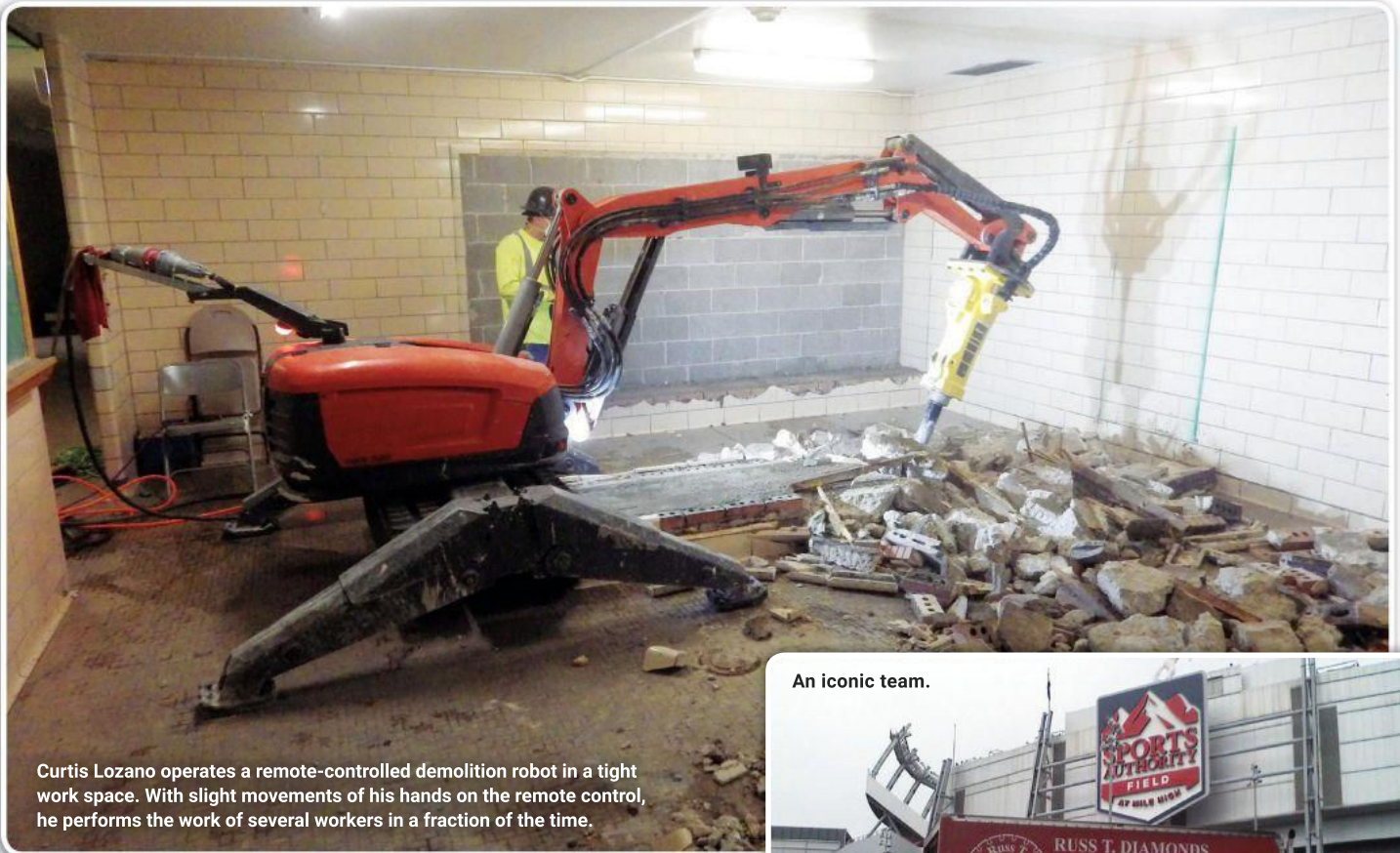
Russ T. Diamonds offers a wide range of services, mainly focused on concrete sawing and drilling. Russ proudly notes that his company is one of the few in the region that will provide "all of it, whether drilling any size hole—from a 1-inch diameter all the way to 5 feet in diameter—to cutting on walls, floors, roads, inclines, even inverted surfaces or underwater."

The company can go to any depth, any size and any shape that's needed, on any type of surface, in virtually any condition. One of Russ T. Diamonds'



Not even the 100-year flood could stop the blades of Russ T. Diamonds. The city of Boulder basically shut down for several days due to the flood in 2013, yet Russ T. Diamonds continued working at the University of Colorado's Baker Hall.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JARED THOMPSON



Curtis Lozano operates a remote-controlled demolition robot in a tight work space. With slight movements of his hands on the remote control, he performs the work of several workers in a fraction of the time.



An iconic team.

specialties is indoor work (such as food plants or hospitals) using specialized electric-powered and remote-controlled equipment in spaces where exhaust fumes are not allowed and the work needs to be done cleanly and quietly. Always ready to embrace the next cutting-edge technology, the company has recently started using remote-controlled robotics that can perform demolition, removal, and excavation work much safer and quicker than the traditional methods of excessive manual labor and hand-held equipment.

Russ explains how this is a real game-changer, as it “allows you to remove concrete, and excavate dirt, in a cleaner, quieter manner while also greatly increasing worker safety and job site production. The demolition robots are powered by electricity, so there’s no loud motors and no exhaust fumes, and the remote

control allows the operator to always remain a safe distance away.”

Russ also notes that his company was one of the first in the area to use remote-controlled wall saws and remote-controlled core drills, providing a much safer work environment for the operators and the entire job site.

### Whatever it Takes

“From the start,” Russ says, “our philosophy has been ‘whatever it takes, we’ll get you what you want.’” With that in mind, Russ has never been one to shy away from a challenge. He and his highly trained and loyal team are ready, and able, to find the best solution for every client.

As for where they are and where they’re heading, Russ says, “In spite

of the industry labor shortage, we plan on taking over the world...we’re going to cut it in half with our concrete saws and take all the gold out of the middle.”



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PHOTOS COURTESY OF AARON THOMPSON (TOP); JARED THOMPSON (BOTTOM)