

The right blades for the job

Making a purchasing decision on diamond cutting tools based solely on price can prove costly for contractors in the long term. This is the warning from Diamond Products, a specialist in the manufacture, assembly and sale of diamond tools and equipment for use in the construction, glass, quarrying and flooring industries.

Diamond Products director Darryl Gray says that although low-cost and lower quality diamond blades are useful for smaller DIY applications, the same mind-frame should not be applied by professional contractors working on bigger projects.

"We've seen that the upfront cost is often the most important consideration in purchasing tools for sawing and drilling projects. The message that we want to convey is that the initial purchase price of the diamond tool should be evaluated together with the cost of actually carrying out the work. Without exception, premium diamond tools deliver cheaper and faster cutting than the less expensive alternatives," he says.

Diamond Products co-director Brian Clark explains that higher priced diamond tools contain a larger amount of high-grade diamonds in the cutting matrix. "The diamonds placed on the tool act as the workhorse



Top-quality diamond cutting tools provide the cost-effective solution for cutting through concrete floors and other such heavy-duty construction jobs.

in the operation and it's therefore essential that a high grade of diamond is used in challenging projects, to ensure faster cutting times and a longer lifespan of the tool."

Although the properties of all diamonds are identical, Clark points out that they are graded on the shape of the crystal. "A cheaper and irregularly shaped diamond with numerous points can be fractured easily, especially when being used with a powerful machine. High-grade diamonds, on the other hand, are perfect octahedrons which have very few points that cause fracture."

By investing in more expensive and higher quality diamond cutting tools, contractors gain faster cuts and improved lifespan of the product, thereby reducing the cost per-metre-cut in the long term. Gray says, "Low-cost cutting tools can lead to

increased costs related to breakdowns and unscheduled downtime and, depending on the application, can be up to ten times slower than a high-grade product."

It's important for contractors to consider not only the price of the product but also the overall value for money.

As part of Diamond Products' commitment to service excellence and ensuring that the correct tool is used for the correct application, the company's entire range is detailed in a Product Guide which is designed to assist clients in selecting the right tool for a particular application. The Product Guide includes essential user and safety information. Diamond Products also provides full training to clients on the various applications of all its products.

Diamond Products
T +27 (0)11 552 8310