

Paper Mill Outage:  
Turnkey Demolition  
Services

LOCATION  
Mehoopany, PA

CUSTOMER  
Ronco Machine

DESCRIPTION  
Robotic hammering,  
diamond wire  
sawing, metal and  
concrete coring  
during mill upgrade.

## *Turnkey Demolition Services Handle Paper Mill Outage On-Time*

Using a variety of controlled demolition services, Bluegrass performed a turnkey demolition project and completed both outage and non-outage portions on schedule at a paper mill in Mehoopany, Pennsylvania.

Procter & Gamble, owner of the paper mill, was doing an extensive paper machine rebuild and needed concrete demolition work on three levels of the plant. Bluegrass' client was general contractor Ronco Machine.

The outage portion of the demolition took less than a week working around the clock. Bluegrass used diamond wire saws and Brokk robotic hammers to cut and demolish twelve large concrete foundations on the basement level. In plan view the foundations ranged from one foot square to twenty by thirty feet, and up to sixteen feet tall.

By taking out the foundations first, Bluegrass opened up the area under the wire pit, a ground-level paper processing pit measuring twenty-two by thirty feet by three feet deep. Bluegrass next used diamond wire sawing to cut the elevated pit floor into beam-like sections, each measuring about two by twenty feet and three feet thick. The pit floor blocks were rigged, lowered into the basement and removed from the mill. Cutting in this manner eliminated the need for shoring and provided a safe, quick solution.

### *Multi-tasking the job*

"The challenge of the outage portion of the work is to get it done in a few days," says David Kreider, Bluegrass project manager. "Ronco could have hired a driller, a breaker, and a cutter, but we can do it all. We worked together to perform multiple tasks in several areas at one time, and Ronco didn't have to coordinate several subcontractors."

During the outage portion Bluegrass also wire sawed foundations and floor areas on a mezzanine level that overlooked the operating floor. Ronco removed the building roof in this area and removed cut concrete pieces through roof openings. Miscellaneous pipe penetrations were also cored on the operating floor and on the mezzanine.

In the non-outage portion of the work, Bluegrass used Brokk robotic hammers to demolish six large concrete blocks, each about ten feet by twelve feet by twelve feet, and then loaded the rubble and deposited in the mill landfill.

Once again controlled demolition technologies proved their worth in the outage environment.

