



A Graniterock Division

CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF LEADING THE WAY WITH THE BEST IN PAVEMENT REMOVAL AND PRESERVATION APPLICATIONS

By Brian Haavær

FMG was established in 1999 by partners Mike McElroy and Frank Fonseca with just one milling machine and a dream to be the best, not necessarily the biggest. The duo built their milling business one machine at a time, and their reputation one customer at a time.

In 2014, Graniterock acquired FMG and have continued to build on a culture of excellence that both companies have shared for many years. FMG now operates as a division of Graniterock, a family-owned construction company founded in 1900. FMG is celebrating 20 years of service and an ongoing tradition of providing top quality asphalt milling, micro-milling, 3/D- UTS milling, concrete milling, grinding, pulverizing and cold-in-place recycling applications.

FMG currently serves Northern California and the Central Valley with an impressive fleet of Wirtgen grinding machines with drums of varying widths and

capacities. They have completed more than 15 million square feet of recycling projects for a long list of San Francisco Bay Area cities and counties with state-of-the-art single unit train, Wirtgen 3800CR machines, the most highly trained crews and Caltrans certified mobile laboratory technicians.

Miguel S. Zarate, milling operations manager for FMG, has been with the company since 2006. "This year marks our 20th year in business, and the thing that I am most proud of is that we have humbly set the standard for many other companies that do what we do," says Zarate. "Our operators are highly regarded in this industry and are known for a skill level that goes beyond what you would commonly find. We do not claim to be the price leader, but our knowledge, skill, and professionalism separate us from the rest."

FMG operations support a broad range of projects for both private owners and public agencies, from small parking lots and trench grinding to long-term heavy highway construction projects. FMG has recently expanded its offerings with the addition of Cold-In-Place Recycling (CIR) with expanded foam.

"Our customers were looking for other alternatives to remove and replace on their projects," says Zarate. "We will continue to grow with our customer's needs in mind, and they know that we firmly stand behind everything that we do. We listen and make adjustments, and that is good for everyone. It is our people and their

drive to be the best that makes the difference."

If you ask Zarate if the equipment he and his operators use each day makes a difference, he will give you a resounding, yes! "We have tried just about every machine available on the market, and there is no better choice than Wirtgen," says Zarate. "They manufacture a highly technological, longer lasting machine and our dealer, Nixon-Egli (Equipment Co.) has always given us outstanding service and support since day one. We can call on our representative, David Cucinelli, and he is there for us no matter what the issue or the time of day or night, and that same commitment has been there with their parts and service department as well. We give the best, and we expect the best, and we get that from Wirtgen and Nixon-Egli (Equipment Co.)."

FMG also uses Trimble technology and their 3D milling and Universal Total Station (UTS) technology to achieve the tightest possible tolerances when

deemed necessary. "Many of the airport jobs we work on and other Caltrans projects have very tight tolerance requirements, and we have the technology and capability to meet even the strictest specifications," says Zarate. "We have been working at the San Francisco Airport for around two years now on a job where we are required to use micro milling with UTS technology while removing the runways and taxiways. We are also on a similar job at Salinas Airport and Highway 1."

Zarate emphasizes that his FMG crews take just as much pride in a small driveway or parking lot project as they do with the massive airport and highway projects. "Every job provides all of us at FMG with the opportunity to prove ourselves and leave an impression that will guarantee a callback, and that is what it is all about," says Zarate. "Our operators go through their machines several times a day, and they are all extremely conscientious. We also do all of

our maintenance and repairs in-house."

FMG is a fully licensed general engineering contractor that performs most of their work as a subcontractor. They will, however, offer bare rental services to specific counties and agencies throughout their service area on a case by case basis. They offer grinders from 21" to 144" drum widths and depths ranging from 2 inches to 12 inches, as well as drum conversions. Their 12' machine has the production capability of removing upwards of 4,400 tons in 1 shift. They also provide paving machines up to 16 feet in width, as well as skid steer loaders equipped with a variety of grinding and other attachments. For more information on all of FMG's services and offerings, please visit their website at www.fmgcoinc.com or call their San Jose headquarters at (408) 573-9364, or you can call Miguel Zarate directly at (510) 418-4176. **CC**



Left & Above: FMG's Wirtgen milling machine at Cross Field Airport Runway in Novato where they were milling approximately 4,400 tons of asphalt removal per shift for Team Chalotti.

