



SUMMER 2024



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KUBOTA SVL97-2



Kubota

ENVIRONMENTAL TRENCHING INC.

NEW TAKEUCHI SHORT-TAIL-SWING TB350R EXCAVATOR: **Powerful, Comfortable Package Delivers High-Productivity**



With Takeuchi's new short-tail-swing TB350R excavator, contractors can work in extremely tight conditions without worrying about rear-swing impacts. The TB350R – the first short-tail-swing machine in Takeuchi's 5-ton class of compact excavators – has a rear swing overhang of only 2.95 inches, so operators can focus on digging rather than on tail swing.

A more comfortable operator environment makes it easy for operators to concentrate on the task at hand.

The TB350R, available in canopy or cab configuration, is equipped with a Tier 4 Final engine that delivers 41.7 net horsepower and more than 130.2 ft-lb of torque. It has a bucket breakout force of 10,431 lbs., a traction force of 12,320 lbs., and a maximum dig depth of 11-feet-8.8 inches.

The four-pump hydraulic system ensures smooth control of work equipment. The excavator's primary auxiliary circuit is plumbed to mid-arm and delivers 24.6 gmp at 2,990 psi to accommodate a wide range of hydraulic attachments.

"Takeuchi continues to design and build excavators that deliver a unique combination of performance, durability, operator comfort and serviceability," said

Jeff Badner, general sales manager for Columbus Equipment Company. "The new TB350R offers improvements that show Takeuchi's commitment to providing customers with advanced technology focused on comfort and productivity."

Not surprisingly, the interior of the TB350R has been redesigned to create just that—a more comfortable operator environment, thereby increasing productivity. An adjustable suspension seat, low-effort pilot controls, and one-touch switches to activate machine functions all make it easy for operators to concentrate on the task at hand.

The excavator has a wide opening rear service door and right-side cover that opens overhead for quick access to key daily inspection points. "When maintenance and service work are fast and easy to perform on a machine, it's more likely that they'll be done correctly and at the right intervals," Badner added, increasing the life of the machine and lowering the cost of ownership.

During the machine's two-year warranty period, owners have free access to Takeuchi's Fleet Management telematics system that provides machine health updates, run time, remote diagnostics, and reminders about scheduled maintenance.

If you're looking for an agile compact excavator with minimal tail swing, call your Columbus Equipment Company sales rep and schedule a demo of the new Takeuchi TB350R today!

INTRODUCING AVANT COMPACT LOADERS: **Groundbreaking, Versatile Equipment in an Ultra-Compact Package**



The Avant compact articulated loader—which does everything a skid steer or compact track loader can without damaging the ground under it—is now available through Columbus Equipment Company.

“Unlike a typical track loader or skid steer, which can rut up lawns, the Avant does very little damage on turf.”

Jeff Badner, General Sales Manager
Columbus Equipment Company

“The Avant is an alternative to a CTL or skid steer that does similar work – and more – with far less operating weight and far less ground disturbance,” said Jeff Badner, Columbus Equipment Company’s general sales manager. “Unlike a typical track loader or skid steer, which can rut up lawns, the Avant does very little damage on turf.”

With over 200 attachments, the Avant’s versatility is unmatched. Attachments range from everyday tools like buckets, pallet fork, and mini digger to specialized equipment such as a beehive mover.

Tree care professionals find the Avant loader is a game-changer because it is easy to move into a yard and manage felled trees. The Avant 528 paired with the timber grab is a popular combo that allows

operators to efficiently load a chipper and remove large logs without damaging the lawn, Badner noted. For sectors like building and property maintenance, landscaping, and golf course maintenance, the Avant works as a multi-tool with attachments such as power rakes, various mowers, leaf and debris blowers and cutting bars. Municipalities have taken to the extendable flail mowers for road and trail side maintenance and the snow-blower attachments to clear sidewalks and parking lots in the winter months.

The loader is available in seven sizes and 13 models, including a battery-powered unit that can be used indoors where ventilation is limited, as well as around livestock. Due to its compact size, the Avant saves fuel, works in tight situations and is easy to transport. It offers more clearance with less drag and more traction with less skidding. The Avant lifts more than a heavier skid steer can and features a telescopic boom, hydrostatic transmission and eight-function joystick.

Avant Techno USA is also able to provide excellent support to Columbus Equipment Company customers, with the help of an Ohio-based sales manager and a demo specialist, Badner said. The company has a huge warehouse near Chicago and can quickly deliver any items not in stock. Avant also offers excellent financing terms through its finance arm.

If you’re looking for a powerful multifunctional tool that won’t damage the ground you’re working on, ask your Columbus Equipment Company representative for details about the Avant loader today.





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ENVIRONMENTAL TRENCHING INC.: **Evolving with State-of-the-Art Equipment and a Trusted Partner**



Operator John Shafer and the company's Kubota SVL97-2 are guided by Topcon's MC Mobile system in applying a 1% fall across a 250-foot-long garden plot area in the Berlin Farm subdivision in Delaware County, Ohio.

In 2023, Russ Frye, owner of Environmental Trenching Inc., was in the market for a grader box he could use on bike paths and move easily through the woods and around wetland areas. While at ConExpo, he and Columbus Equipment Company President Josh Stivison found a Level Best grader box that was the right size for Frye's needs. They also saw Topcon's new MC Mobile system for automating compact machines.

"The Kubota SVL97 has enough power, and it's big enough to cut to grade."

Russ Frye; Owner, Environmental Trenching Inc.

After returning to Columbus, Frye ordered the Level Best attachment, the Topcon MC Mobile system, and a Kubota SVL97-2, and Columbus Equipment Company put the package together. Frye couldn't be happier with the setup, which he uses for fine grading and spreading materials.

The first job Frye used the setup for was a bike path, and it quickly proved its value. "The grade

was spot-on, and the work went really quickly," Frye said. In 2023, Environmental Trenching built 4 miles of bike trails with the Level Best combo. "It upped our production; we used less stone, and it's so much simpler."

"It's unbelievable how fast it goes."

Russ Frye; Owner, Environmental Trenching Inc.

"We've used it to grade building pads for housing, and it's just so easy. We get close to grade with a dozer, then have the Level Best grader box on the Kubota 97 go right behind the dozer. It's unbelievable how fast it goes," he added.

This is his first experience using a Topcon system, and he's impressed with the efficiency he's gained. "We save on material, because we're not using extra stone. It's so much harder to spread with a dozer than to keep it in a box. Also, we don't have to guess about grades," so operators never overdig and waste stone.

Frye admits his operators initially weren't excited about learning to use the GPS system, but "once they saw how easy it was," they were onboard. He



Frye describes the company's four Kubotas as "phenomenal machines." The SVL97-2 has proved a perfect complement to the Level Best grading box, increasing margins on compact grading projects, as well as bike path and baseball diamond installations.

added that Columbus Equipment Company did an outstanding job providing training and support. "Robert Ditmars from the SmartConstruction Division came out every day with us until we figured it out. He was top-notch, and the guys still call him if they have issues. Columbus Equipment Company is great with that."

Frye noted that the most important goal while creating the Level Best/Topcon/Kubota setup was keeping it small. "The Level Best was the right size blade for what we do. The box is only 8 feet, and I can work with that." He's used it on paths as wide as 10 feet or as narrow as 5 feet. Previous boxes he used were bigger and difficult to get through the wooded areas that bike paths wind through, even when operators angled them.

"Columbus Equipment is the
greatest company in the world."

Russ Frye; Owner, Environmental Trenching Inc.

"The Kubota SVL97 has worked well in the setup," he added. The compact track loader "has enough power, and it's big enough to cut to grade. Mostly, we're cutting 8 to 12 inches deep, then putting stone in and paving on top of it."


Recently, he's used the setup for basketball and pickleball courts and baseball diamonds. The precision grading is essential for baseball fields, where he can order the exact amount of material needed for the infield and be sure he'll have just enough to complete the job.

Frye started Environmental Trenching 25 years ago, and the company has divisions specializing in excavation, erosion control and concrete. The company works primarily in the Columbus area, mostly outside I-270. Significant customers include residential developers like M/I Homes, D.R. Horton, Rockford Homes and Homewood Homes. Frye also works for townships on projects like curb replacements and crack sealing.

Frye has used Kubota compact equipment for about four years and owns several Kubota loaders and a mini excavator. He also owns two Komatsu dozers and five Komatsu excavators.

"Everything I own is from Columbus Equipment Company," he said. "Columbus Equipment is the greatest company in the world. The salespeople are great. You call them and they jump through hoops to help you do what you need to be doing. And the service is phenomenal. That's why I buy from Columbus Equipment Company."

Frye's relationship with Columbus Equipment Company began when he started his business. The first piece he bought was a mini-excavator, and the salesman was Josh Stivison, who had recently graduated college. "I still have that contract in my desk," Frye said. "I'm a loyal fan of Columbus Equipment Company, and always will be."

A lot has changed since Frye made that first purchase. He's gone from having about five employees to almost 30, and Stivison now heads Columbus Equipment Company. However, one thing that hasn't changed is Columbus Equipment Company's focus on helping customers get the right equipment for their specific needs. 



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