

NEED SPEED?

“Our nine cubic foot mixer is the fastest mixer made, period.” Fighting words? Jim Swisher of Buddy Equipment, Jacksonville, Fla., doesn’t care. There are three reasons he says that: “The design of the drum, the number of paddles, and the ratio of the gears. Every mixer made has a dead zone except ours, and they all make their drums the same way except us. I don’t mean to sound egotistical; it’s just a fact. Right now, we use a bull gear with a pinion and a Honda engine.”

Swisher boasts, “We offer what we like to think of as the Dodge Viper of mixers – a bit more expensive but it’s pure performance. It’s an ‘eight-year mixer’ not a two-year mixer. For a professional mason, one who mixes five or six days a week, with proper maintenance and proper greasing of the seals, this mixer will last eight years.”

Why does he think that? “The drum is a quarter inch thick – you can take a sledgehammer and beat this thing to death and it won’t even ding. We have a lot of nice things: hidden security numbers in the unit in case someone steals it.

We have a lifting eye as standard equipment; the lifting eye enables men to put it up on the roof or store it in the air. There is a little cover over the fittings to protect them from the mud.” He quickly adds, “We’re a small company; we don’t make twenty thousand mixers a year. We have the ability to make 1,300, that’s it. We are just now getting to a position where we can supply the mixer coast-to-coast. The reason we put these features on the machine is because we feel it’s what is right. We don’t worry about what it’s going to cost, we just build the mixer the way we think is right.”

