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## **Jim Dvoratchek Takes the Reins of the Concrete Sawing and Drilling Association for Second Time**

**Clearwater, FL**—Jim Dvoratchek, owner of Hard Rock Concrete Cutters, Inc. of Wheeling, Illinois, was elected president of the Concrete Sawing & Drilling Association's at its 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Bonita Springs, Florida. It was no surprise to members since Dvoratchek held the position of vice president for the previous two years, and the vice president assumes the position of president. However, it was a milestone for the association and Dvoratchek as he became the first person to be re-elected to the position for a two-year term.

Dvoratchek was first elected president of CSDA in 1999, twelve years ago. At that time, he had been in the industry for 20 years and was busy growing his company in the highly-competitive Chicago market. He was also a founding member of the CSDA Insurance Program which took quite a lot of time to administer but he felt the time was right to commit his own time and energy to the office.

Now Dvoratchek, who studied Business at the University of Illinois at Chicago and Northeastern Illinois University, has been in the concrete sawing and drilling industry for over 30 years and has, once again, committed his time and energy to the office. But it is now a much more seasoned professional taking the reins of the association to give back to the industry that has meant so much to him. The fact that contractors fill offices in industry-wide associations does, in many ways, relate to the life cycle of their own businesses.

In 1979, he began his career in concrete cutting as a helper laborer, became a cutter then an estimator with the Concrete Sawing & Drilling Company before co-founding Hard Rock Concrete Cutters in 1987. He served as secretary/treasurer for the new business and then moved to president, a position he still holds today. In 1995, Jim also helped to co-found and serve as president of Hard Rock Company of Wisconsin and held the position of secretary/treasurer for Central Illinois Concrete Cutters, Inc.

At the time Jim joined CSDA, he was keen to learn from other cutters about concrete cutting—techniques, applications and equipment. He knew that he needed this kind of knowledge to make his business a success and he had the energy to dive in. "From the beginning, I saw tremendous value in networking with industry leaders, says Dvoratchek. "I sought knowledge, and the members of CSDA were willing to openly share their knowledge with me." Hard Rock began to grow, as did his involvement with CSDA. He was able to implement the things he was learning into his business and share his own ideas with other members of the association's Board and committees. This participation coupled with additional years in business helped him to gain much knowledge, forge important business relationships and form strong friendships—all things that can help any young business leader.

Now that Hard Rock had developed into a large-scale operation, and now that Dvoratchek is working on a business succession plan with a trusted team, including some of his children, he now feels he has the time and resources to commit to the position of president. For some, this may have been the perfect time for a guy like Dvoratchek to slow down and reap the benefits of his years of hard work, but experience, especially in the past few years, has taught everyone that it is not enough to rest on their laurels anymore.

Next year marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CSDA. Many of the industry leaders that helped grow the association in its infancy and make it such a valuable organization are now ready to step aside from the day-to-day operations of their own companies and help new leaders develop. In Jim Dvoratchek, the association has a president who is exactly at this point in his career. He is a great example of the kind of people who make up the membership of CSDA. The association is fortunate to have dedicated people who are willing to get back in the saddle and continue to steer it in the right direction.

For more information, visit **[www.csda.org](http://www.csda.org)**, call the CSDA office at 727-577-5004 or email **[info@csda.org](mailto:info@csda.org)**.

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*CSDA is a nonprofit trade association of contractors, manufacturers and affiliated members from the concrete construction and renovation industry. The CSDA mission is to promote the selection of professional sawing and drilling contractors and their methods. Concrete cutting with diamond tools offers the industry many benefits including lower total project costs, precision cutting, maintenance of structural integrity, reduced downtime, reduced noise, dust and debris, limited access cutting and the ability to cut heavily-reinforced concrete. Founded in 1972, CSDA has 500 international member companies.*