

# Rage against the machine

Roger Bisby encounters an old friend in the 255mm TCT Multi-purpose Sliding Mitre Saw from Evolution Power Tools.

**T**he Evolution Rage saw range is no stranger to us at Professional Builder. We are among the first to test the portable circular saw and we gleefully cut through old timbers bristling with nails. We then took delivery of the chop saw version and cut through solid steel bar, rebar and scaffold tube before going on to cut through timber. Now we have the new Rage3 sliding arm version of that chop saw.

The whole reason for a sliding arm is to cut wide sections that won't cut in the chop saw. This kind of work suggests cable trays and panels but it will cut decking, floorboards and skirting.

## Setting up

I had a little difficulty inserting the side support arms into the cast aluminium base. The holes on one side were a fraction out, so I had to clear them with a drill. Once the arms are in they can be locked in place so that slight over-sizing didn't cause them to be sloppy.

The heavy duty gearing is low and slow compared to wood saws which scream there way through. The Rage chops through at a steady pace, so you don't get the heat build up. The exception to this is cutting wet wood (don't do it!) because the blade clogs and overheats. I did this and had to keep cutting through a piece of metal to clear the clogged up teeth, but it did convert my big old pile of old joists and rafters into some very useful firewood.

The laser cutting guide suggests jobs of a little more precision than firewood and I had some skirting and floorboards



### 255mm Blade Diameter

Max Speed.....1450RPM

Bore.....25.4mm

Kerf.....2.4mm

Teeth.....36

to be cut. The guys on site laughed when they saw me using this saw to cut

up floorboards. "Look at the blade! It is knackered and there are no teeth on it; call yourself a professional man," and so on. It was all very amusing but when I grabbed a bit of old gas pipe and chopped through it their jaws dropped. That is always a good moment.

For refurbishment work this is a dream machine because you don't have to worry about using old timber that might have the odd nail in it. If you have a few days of cutting nothing but virgin timber, and you want to do it a bit faster, you can quickly swap to a dedicated timber blade.

■ For more information about Evolution Power Tools use the reader enquiry number below.

**Roger says** "The safety guard release on this saw is operated by your little finger on the trigger. It is the best guard release mechanism I have seen on any mitre saw."

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