

## Comments of an existing Cormidi customer from the Midlands using a Cormidi 9.65 COMBI self-loading machine with high tip.

With skilled labour becoming more difficult to find, to stay competitive we must find ways of retaining and increasing the efficiency of our existing workforce. I have a small business with three full time employees, they are well motivated, highly skilled and therefore well paid, I would rather invest money in equipment to increase their output and improve their working conditions. Than be entering the labour market for temporary staff or trying to find reliable sub contractors during busy periods.

Micro excavators have become more affordable, and with low interest rates and a 40% first year allowance, more of us have purchased our own machines. We have benefited from having the machine there when we need it, without having to take into account expensive hire charges and un-reliable equipment and deliveries.

Even some of the smallest machines are now powerful enough to tackle driveways as well as being small enough to fit around the narrowest side entries. But, like all new technology, to get the best out of it you have to look at the way you work as well.

Soon after I purchased a micro digger for my own landscaping company I discovered that I had to find a way of moving excavated material efficiently to disposal, whether into an 8 yard skip or to a position where the spoil can be grabbed.

Some of the situations that led me to that conclusion:

When excavating rear gardens for patios or pools, sometimes three labourers would be required to keep up with the digger. If fewer labourers were available, the digger (and driver) would often sit waiting.

Wheelbarrows would often fall over whilst being loaded, interfering with the workflow and causing delays and frustration.

When working on driveways the spoil pile could be moved two or 3 times before it was in a position where it could be grabbed or loaded into a skip.

Taking into account manual handling considerations and lifting injury claims, pushing barrows up ramps or lifting them into skips must be avoided.

There are already machines available that can provide a solution to some of these concerns; however, I chose to buy a Cormidi dumper because it gave me something extra. The 9.65 hi-tip can load itself and tip over the side of an 8-yard skip or my Leyland 400 tipper; it's powered by a quiet and reliable Honda engine and is less than 860mm wide.

I now find that digging out a driveway, and installing a layer of sub-base, is done by one man using a micro digger to directly load the dumper, then the dumper to transport the spoil and tip. When backfilling with sub-base, the dumper can load itself and tip right next to the digger for spreading. All equipment is transported to site in one journey. With the dumper on the back of a 3.5 ton tipper and the micro on a trailer, towed behind.

Tracked machine have much less impact on the ground and from the 9.65 up, the Cormidi range is fitted with variable flow pumps making the drive extremely smooth and efficient, and a unique rocking roller system that maintains ground contact and traction in the most extreme conditions.

The Hi-Tip system is simple and strong, and the self-loading arms provide a stable base when tipping. However, it is this machines ability to self-load that sets it aside from the competition. The loading arms are mounted directly onto the chassis providing the greatest support when driving into the pile and ensuring that loading is quick.

We have enjoyed over a year of trouble free use of our 9.65, and I have recently expanded and purchased the 10.65 diesel with hydraulic tipping bucket, this has proven to be a very efficient digger and loader with more power and lower fuel costs..