

Concept autofeed screwdriver

Light but very powerful, this a quality driver with a great screw gun option



Concept was a new brand to me only a few months ago, but its DuroFix impact driver is certainly the most powerful one of its size, and very well built. This screwdriver follows on in equal fashion, being solid and comfortable to hold, and well-constructed throughout. The tool has dual functionality, the basis being an impact driver with a front-end collated nose able to set screws from 25 to 50mm with a fully adjustable drive depth setting operated by a simple dial on the side.

The screw length has to be adjusted with the on board hex wrench, with seven different settings for standard screw lengths within the range. The collated fixings are in strips of 50, running in a channel over the top of the nose, extended right back over the driver and beyond to keep them from jamming. It makes the tool 500mm long overall in this mode.

Using a collated gun is easy enough – a

matter of pushing the nose against the work to advance the screw, while releasing it resets and advances the next one.

The plunge spring is a little strong at first, so you need to get used to putting a bit of effort behind it; it's a learning curve if you are new to them, as it's initially easy not to apply enough pressure and leave a screw standing proud. It soon becomes second nature, though, plus you have to have the tool running before you plunge.

Collated fastenings are usually needed in the realm of plasterboarding jobs, but chipboard flooring needs to be screwed to stop creaks and squeaks, so there's scope if you do a lot of this.

A simple hex screw on the side of the nose releases the big alloy collar, exposing the 1/4in hex sleeved chuck, to make it a fully fledged impact driver, so normal day-to-day screwing jobs are easily managed. Here, the driver is about the most powerful out there, generating

up to 167Nm (Newton metres) of torque. Others in its class are around 120-140Nm, so there's little chance of it being unable to cope with even the biggest of fixings. I didn't expect it to fail when driving 100 x 6mm screws with no pilot hole, and of course, it breezed through! The batteries, while lacking any indication of amp hour rating on them, are 2.4Ah with Sanyo cells, some of the best in the business, which should ensure maximum performance and lifespan.

Like all impact drivers, there's no bulk to the tool – only 165mm from chuck to back – but the NiCd battery is quite bulky, especially now I'm more accustomed to reaching for the diminutive DuroFix impact driver. Picking up a standard 18v driver, however, soon puts this into perspective!

The Woodworking Verdict

- + Quality gun with screw-gun option; Sanyo batteries
- NiCd batteries make it a little bulky

Rating ★★★★★

Typical price: £280

Made in: Taiwan

Battery: 2 x 14.4 NiCd

Speed: 2300rpm

Impacts: 3000bpm

Web: www.conceptdistribution.co.uk



▲ Pic.1 The collated section is easily removed to use the tool as an impact driver



▲ Pic.2 The nose is adjusted with a hex wrench to suit the length of screw being used



▲ Pic.3 The screws slip into a channel over the top of the gun, advanced by depressing the nose



▲ Pic.4 Screws are easily driven in. Chipboard flooring is an ideal application



▲ Pic.5 Depth of drive is altered with a simple dial, ensuring consistent positioning