Lowering of 260 tonne floors, building demolition, Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.A.

Owner: Cousins Properties Ltd
Prime Contractor: Cleveland Wrecking Company

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Fagioli PSC was contracted to lower the 260 tonne floors of the C&S Bank Building as a faster safer alternative to conventional demolition on this site with neighbouring buildings only 1.5m and 6m away.

The building completed in 1968, was a concrete core surmounted by a structural steel truss from which were suspended 15 circular column-free floors radiating from the core.

Twelve Fagioli PSC L50 jacks were placed on top of the building, eight jacks evenly spaced on the perimeter and four evenly spaced around the core. Jack cables were passed through small holes in the intervening floor slabs

and connected to spreader beams which were shackled to the lowest floor. The jacks took up the load of the floor while its supporting beams were cut away. The jacks then lowered the floor to the ground for dismantling.

Floors were lowered at a speed of 11m per hour and at an average frequency of one floor every one and a half days.

The jacking system was closely synchronised so that the floor slabs stayed level throughout the lowering procedure. This was achieved by means of a purpose built Fagioli PSC hydraulic power pack capable of operating all or any of the twelve jacks simultaneously.