



# *FOY'S EPICS EVENTS*

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## EPICS User Conference 2022 – September 11-14

EPICS User Conference 2022 will meet **September 11-14** at the Wyndham Grand Clearwater Beach hotel in Clearwater, Florida. The conference will begin with a reception on Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup>, then two days of general session, followed by the ever-popular Training Day where we take a deep dive into the newest EPICS features.

The EPICS User Conference is one of the largest annual gatherings of the aluminum extrusion industry. At the conference you will meet other people who do the same type of work that you do. It is a great time to share experiences and learn from each other. It will make you better at what you do and is valuable both to you and to your company.

We will discuss the many new features added in the past year and get your ideas of what should become part of EPICS in the year ahead. More information regarding topics, schedule and pricing will be available soon on our website [www.foyinc.com](http://www.foyinc.com). Registration for the conference will begin April 1<sup>st</sup>. Make your plans now to be a part of this epic in-person event.



We look forward to seeing you in Florida!

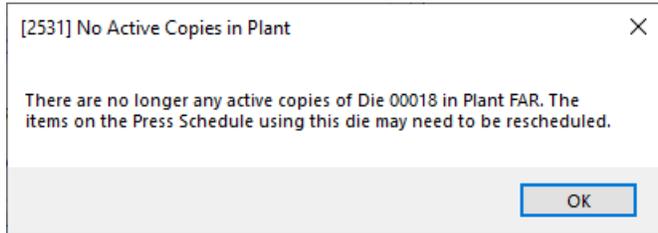
## EPICS Update 9.15

This is another feature-rich update with 10 wishlist items, including 5 of the top-10. This is also a broad ranging update with features affecting Planning, Production, Shipping, Inventory Control, Customer Service and Admin.

- 2021 WL #2 – Alert specified users when a change is made to an item that requires the work order to be recalculated. [See article below](#) for details.
- 2021 #3 – Add shipping schedule information to Maintain Customers screen and use this to assign ship dates for new orders

Shipping Days  Sun  Mon  Tue  Wed  Thu  Fri  Sat

- 2021 #5 – Add an alert option to the Run Code and, using the Customize Appearance option on the Press Schedule, highlight partially run jobs where an Alert Run Code was selected.

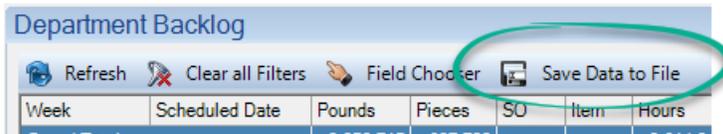


- 2021 #6 – When the last available copy of a die is scrapped or made inactive and there is an item on the current press schedule, alert that the item may need to be rescheduled.

- 2021 #9 – When hovering over the Ship-To customer number in order entry, display the full address to improve the speed and accuracy of selection

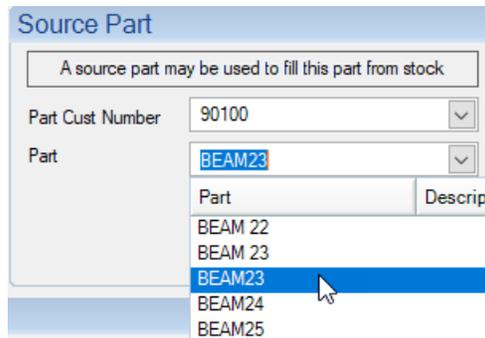
Ship-To	Prod Date	Ship Date	Priced	Cust Date													
18000	03/25/2022	03/30/2022	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	11/19/2014	▲												
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>CustNum</th> <th>CustName</th> <th>Address1</th> <th>Address2</th> <th>City</th> <th>State</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>18000</td> <td>ALM Incorporated</td> <td>3872 Red Bud Lane</td> <td></td> <td>Hartford</td> <td>CT</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						CustNum	CustName	Address1	Address2	City	State	18000	ALM Incorporated	3872 Red Bud Lane		Hartford	CT
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18000	ALM Incorporated	3872 Red Bud Lane		Hartford	CT												

- 2021 #10 – Add a Save To File button to the Department Backlog grid



- 2021 #12 – On the Stock tab of the Customer Part Numbers screen, display the Source Part field as a drop-down list instead of a text box.

- 2021 #14 – Prevent using a rack for production if the rack is currently in another plant. Add this as another effect of the existing config setting, gRestrictRacksByPlant.



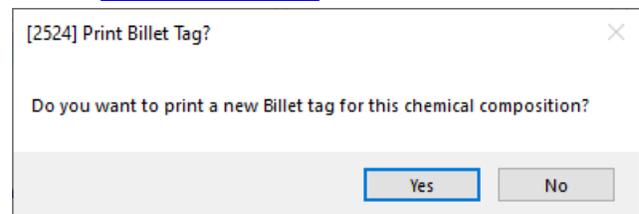
- 2021 #16 – Add new database fields to record order due date (SOItem.OrigReqDt) and billet PO date

(BilletPOItem.OrigDtDue). These new fields are not visible in EPICS and, therefore, are not editable from EPICS. They are available as data to reports and other applications.

- 2021 #17 – When scanning tickets or racks on the Physical Inventory Worksheet, highlight the item scanned

+ 1040	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	03/08/2022	SCOTT	AGE OVEN 1	
+ 1046	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	03/08/2022	SCOTT	AGE OVEN 1	
+ 1048	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	03/08/2022	SCOTT	AGE OVEN 1	
+ 1049	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	12/06/2021	STEPHAN	BAY 1	
+ 1053	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	12/06/2021	STEPHAN	BAY 1	

- Update .NET framework used by EPICS from 4.0 to 4.5.1 to reduce 'Out of memory' errors – \*\*\* Windows XP and Vista are no longer supported \*\*\*
- Add ability to print Billet Tags when adding new ChemComp records. Download a standard Billet Tag report from [www.foyinc.com](http://www.foyinc.com).
- Add ability to scan Billet Tags to enter cast numbers when posting press production
- Add new 'Crystal Billet Tag' config settings to support printing Billet Tags, including an option to prompt the user to print the tag (gBilletTagPromptToPrint)
- Allow recurring calendar events to be edited as a group  
**Note:** this mass-edit ability applies only to events that were added using V9.15 and above. Previously added events will still need to be edited individually.
- Allow plant-wide calendar events (Department = 'ALL') to be created with non-standard hours
- Fix: When a lot is split at the press, display the original lot on the Workorder tab of the production screen
- Fix: When editing and reloading item prices while invoicing, correctly reload item prices that appear only on the current invoice
- Fix: Update order entry screen correctly when using Ctrl-O to assign a one-time ship-to address
- Fix: Prevent unhandled exception when right-clicking in the grey area of Production Detail grid of Orders screen
- Fix: Capacity Planning: Prevent unhandled exception if any part's department specs have a standard rate of zero/hour
- Fix: remove the "Edit List" option from grid cells containing a user name to prevent unhandled exceptions



- Fix: Slight resize of Customer Part screen to eliminate white space in the middle of the screen when maximized
- Fix: When applying price changes to quotes, also update PricePerWt
- Fix: Do not allow the only price line to be deleted for any miscellaneous invoice line
- Fix: Prevent workaround that allowed posting production in a department for which the user has only read permission

## Online EPICS Training and Online Report-Writing Training

EPICS User Training is now being offered online. This is the standard 4-day class which. The next online classes are scheduled for April 18-21, May 23-26, and June 20-23. Meeting time is 9:00AM to 4:00PM Central time with a lunch break at noon.



A good internet connection and dual monitors are essential. One monitor is needed for watching the instructor's screen and another for running EPICS. This could be individuals in their homes or offices, or it could be several people in a conference room with a single large screen with speakers to see and hear the instructor and with individual PCs for each trainee. Trainees will connect via VPN to a training database on a Foy Inc server.

This is a great opportunity to provide training to your administrators and key users without the expense of travel. Training is valuable not only for new users, but also as a refresher for long-time EPICS users. Much has been added to EPICS V9 in past few years, and there are probably other things that have been forgotten. Take this opportunity to see the full scope of what EPICS has to offer.

Also available is Report Writing training. This is a novice-level class which uses Crystal Reports and the EPICS database to teach how to create and edit reports used in EPICS. [Please see the Foy Inc website for details.](#)

If you are interested in EPICS User Training or in Report Writing Training, please call us at 972-782-7282 or email us at [info@foyinc.com](mailto:info@foyinc.com).

## #2 Wishlist Item – Alert Users when Workorder Should Be Recalculated

Changes are sometimes made to sales order which require the workorder to be recalculated. In this case, a message is displayed instructing the user to “destroy all previous copies of this workorder” or “notify Production immediately.” These are helpful messages but, once the message is cleared, it is entirely up to the user to take note of the SO-Item-Lot and then take action. The action might require talking with others to pass along the information. With this update, appropriate users (such as workorder planners, schedulers, or department supervisors) can automatically receive an EPICS Notification when such changes are made.

This new feature uses the EPICS Notifications system. This is a standard, but optional, system. Look in the File menu to see if it is enabled for you. If it is, you will see the Notifications bell icon. If not, enable config setting `gEnableNotifications` and then see EPICS Help for how it works. When enabled, notifications will be displayed both as a Windows notification on the Windows taskbar and on a Notifications screen in EPICS.



gUserNotifiedOnWorkorderChanged	Default	Network	Plant (FAR)	User (SCOTT)												
Current Value		PLANNING:G														
New Value		PLANNING:G														
		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>GroupOrUser</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>DIE SHOP</td> <td>GROUP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FABRICATION</td> <td>GROUP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PACKING</td> <td>GROUP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PLANNING</td> <td>GROUP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PRESS OPERATORS</td> <td>GROUP</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Name	GroupOrUser	DIE SHOP	GROUP	FABRICATION	GROUP	PACKING	GROUP	PLANNING	GROUP	PRESS OPERATORS	GROUP		
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To select users to receive the notifications, open the Configuration screen, go to the Production Settings category and find `gUserNotifiedOnWorkorderChanged`. In the Network column select either an individual user or a user group. User groups can be created and assigned from the Manage EPICS Users screen.



**Notification**

✖ Delete ➡ Reply

SO 14893-17 was modified and its workorders will need to be recalculated.

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**Reference**

Open Reference

SO Item 14893 - 17

The selected users will see this as a Windows notification and within EPICS. The message is displayed with an option to “Open Reference” to open the Sales Orders screen for the indicated sales order and item number.

## Update 9.15 Marks the End of Support for Windows XP and Vista

With update 9.15, EPICS will update its Microsoft Framework version from 4.0 to 4.5.1. As discussed at last year's User Conference and in previous newsletters, this is a necessary step for keeping EPICS up-to-date with the latest technology. This will also make EPICS less prone to "out of memory" errors which can occur when power-users open many large reports and query screens at the same time.



This will mean the end of our support for Windows XP and Vista. Microsoft dropped support for XP in 2014 and for Vista in 2012. You must therefore replace or update any Windows XP workstations at your facility that are used for EPICS before upgrading to V9.15. EPICS fully supports Windows 7 OS and later. You can view our full list of currently supported platforms here:

<https://www.foync.com/Pages/EPICS/SupportedPlatforms.aspx>

If the EPICS v9.15 installation is run on an XP or Vista machine, the installation will stop and display a message about an incompatible operating system.

## Incompatibility with Crystal Reports 2020

An incompatibility with Crystal Reports 2020 and EPICS has been discovered. While reports created with CR 2020 are compatible with EPICS, the custom function library used by several key reports is not. Functions such as foyEPICSfnLen, foyEPICSfnConvertUnit, foyEPICSOrderedPieces, foyEPICSOrderedWeight and others you know and love are simply not available in CR 2020.

EPICS is, and must be, a 32-bit application to support the many EPICS users running 32-bit Windows operating systems. CR 2020, however, is 64-bit only. The function library must also be 32-bit to support EPICS, so it will not work with CR 2020. This makes CR 2020 incompatible with EPICS and therefore should not be used to design reports for EPICS.

EPICS is fully compatible with all CR versions released since 2002 and functionally there is very little difference among these versions. Our recommendation, then, is EPICS users continue using one of these fully supported versions. If you are purchasing Crystal for the first time want to update your Crystal version, we recommend CR 2016.

## EPICS Connect: Access EPICS Information Online

### EPICS Connect: Order Status - Bringing EPICS to Customers

Extrusion customers often want to be able to check the status of their orders in progress quickly and easily. This can result in customer service staff spending time responding to the same basic questions repeatedly. EPICS Connect gives extruders a way to make real time order status information available to their customers through an online portal.



Extruders can choose which information to make available through EPICS Connect. EPICS Connect uses several database views that can be customized as needed to change what information about orders and items is accessible to users.

EPICS Connect accounts can be created based on a salesperson code, customer group, or specific customer to ensure a given login can see all the information they should be able to view and none of the information they should not.

It is also possible to add reports to EPICS Connect. Reports can be configured to run for either a single customer or for all customers a user can view data for. It is also possible to choose which users may run a given report and which may not. Web users with permission to use a report can request to have it automatically generated and either request to have it emailed to them or presented as a download directly from the EPICS Connect website.

### EPICS Connect: Outside Processors – Closing the Loop

EPICS Connect also allows extruders to gain more detailed information from their outside processors. EPICS Connect can be used with some outside processors while still handling other outside processors normally, allowing extruders to use the system only with outside processors that are willing to use the system.

Outside Processor accounts in EPICS Connect can see tickets shipped to them and mark them as received, and then post an update when the material is shipped back. They can also use EPICS Connect to add production notes, report if any pieces are scrapped, and easily split tickets if they arrive or need to be shipped back in multiple batches.

Outside Processor accounts are also able to view information about orders that have the relevant outside processor in the routing to better prepare for upcoming material. As with the Order Status features, all information shown to outside processors can be customized by the extruder to ensure that outside processors are able to see exactly the information that is relevant to them.

### EPICS Connect Security Information

Data is sent between the EPICS Connect website and extrusion company servers through the EPICS Connect service, which uses a secure SSL Web Socket connection to transfer data. The EPICS Connect service does not expose the Extruder database itself to the internet – the service does not accept incoming connections at all. Instead, it establishes a connection directly to the central EPICS Connect server. The server relays requests for information and responses between the website and the service. These requests are predefined keywords with a very limited scope. If the central server is compromised, it will still not be possible to use the connection to execute arbitrary SQL commands or queries.

Please contact Foy Inc to discuss how EPICS Connect can work for you.

### Welcome to New EPICS Customer

**Extrusions, Inc.** is a full-service extruder in Fort Scott, Kansas featuring a large inventory of stock dies and thousands of custom shapes for all types of aluminum products. Specializing in flexibility and creativity, they work closely with clients to provide the best solution and top-quality products.



### Foy Inc at ET 2022

**ET 2022** Twelfth International Aluminum Extrusion Technology Seminar & Exposition  
**A Clear Vision for the Future**  
May 3–5, 2022  
Hilton Orlando · Orlando, Florida USA  
**ET22.org** 100+ Technical Sessions • ET Expo • nETworking

The long-anticipated ET 2022 is planned for May 3 – 5 in Orlando, Florida. The Extrusion Technology conference brings together extruders from all over the globe to share their experience and learn from each other. New products and processes are displayed and technical papers are presented by industry leaders and academic scholars. We at Foy Inc will be among the presenters. Look for our two presentations: *Maintaining Traceability of Extruded Lots* and *The Benefits of Barcode and RFID Scanning in Managing Extrusion Production Information*.

We will have a booth in the ET Expo as we have for every ET since 1980. **Please come by and see us in booth P908** at the main entrance. We look forward to seeing you.

## EPICS Customer List

*On any given day EPICS is helping more than 15,000 people at 100+ extrusion plants around the world.*

Almag Aluminum Inc. – Brampton, Ontario  
 Almag Aluminum Inc– Florence, Alabama  
 Almax Aluminium – Brisbane, Australia  
 Altec – Jeffersonville, Indiana  
 Altus NZ – Hamilton, New Zealand  
 Aluminio de Baja California (ABC) – Tijuana, Mexico  
 Aluminios de Puerto Rico – Humacao, Puerto Rico  
 Aluminio de Centro América – San Salvador, El Salvador  
 Aluminum Extrusions Inc – Senatobia, Miss.  
 Aluminum Insights – Goshen, Indiana  
 American Aluminum Extrusions – Canton, Ohio  
 American Aluminum Extrusions – Beloit, WI  
 American Aluminum Extrusions – Roscoe, Illinois  
 Anaheim Extrusions (UMEX) – Anaheim, California  
 APEL Extrusions Ltd. – Calgary, Alberta  
 APEL Extrusions Ltd. – Coburg, Oregon  
 Apex Aluminum Extrusions – Langley, BC, Canada  
 Architectural & Metal Systems – Cork, Ireland  
 Astrex Inc – Lake Shore, Ontario  
 Benada Aluminum – Sanford, Florida  
 Bonnell Aluminum– Niles, Michigan  
 Bristol Aluminum – Levittown, Pennsylvania  
 Briteline Extrusions – Summerville, S. Carolina  
 BRT Extrusions – Niles, Ohio  
 CanArt – Brampton, Ontario  
 CanArt – Windsor, Ontario  
 Capral Extrusions – Angaston, Australia  
 Capral Extrusions – Penrith, Australia  
 Claridge Products – Harrison, Arkansas  
 Crown Extrusions - Chaska, Minnesota  
 DeeZee, Inc – Des Moines, Iowa  
 Dependable Anodizing – Markham, Ontario  
 Extrudex – Weston, Ontario  
 Extrudex – Bernières, Quebec  
 Extrudex – North Jackson, Ohio  
 Extrum – Chaloma, Honduras  
 Extrusions, Inc – Fort Scott, Kansas  
 FISA – Guayaquil, Ecuador  
 G. James – Brisbane, Australia  
 G. James – Sydney, Australia  
 Gateway Extrusions, Ltd – Union, Missouri  
 Hulamin – Pietermaritzburg, South Africa  
 Hulamin – Capetown, South Africa  
 Hulamin – Olifantsfontein, South Africa  
 Independent Extrusions (INEX) – Hamilton, New Zealand  
 Independent Extrusions (INEX) – Brisbane, Australia  
 Independent Extrusions (INEX) – Melbourne, Australia  
 International Extrusions – Garden City, Michigan  
 International Extrusions (UMEX) – Waxahachie, Texas  
 Iowa Aluminum – Albia, Iowa  
 Jordan Aluminum Company – Memphis, Tennessee  
 Keymark Corporation – Fonda, New York  
 Keymark Corporation – Lakeland, Florida  
 Keymark Corporation – Orlando, Florida  
 Mayne Inc. – Langley, British Columbia  
 Merit Aluminum – Corona, California  
 MI Metals, Inc. – Millen, Georgia  
 MI Metals, Inc – Oldsmar, Florida  
 MI Metals, Inc – Prescott Valley, Arizona  
 MI Metals, Inc - Smyrna, Tennessee  
 MI Windows and Doors – Carrollton, Texas  
 Michigan Extruded Aluminum – Jackson, Michigan  
 Midwest Aluminum – Withee, Wisconsin  
 Mountain Ridge Metals – Millersburg, Pennsylvania  
 Nanshan America – Lafayette, Indiana  
 Nigalex – Lagos, Nigeria  
 Non-Ferrous Extrusion – Houston, Texas  
 Oldcastle Building Envelope – Midway, Tennessee  
 Oldcastle Building Envelope – Terrell, Texas  
 Orrvilon (Holtec) – Orrville, Ohio  
 Paramount Extrusions Company – Paramount, California  
 Patrick Metals (UMEX) – Mishawaka, Indiana  
 Peerless Products – Fort Scott, Kansas  
 Pennex – Leetonia, Ohio  
 Pennex – Wellsville, Pennsylvania  
 Perfiles de Aluminio – San Juan, Puerto Rico  
 Ply Gem Extrusion– Bryan, Texas  
 Postle Aluminum – Cassopolis, Michigan  
 Press Metals – Cumming, Georgia  
 Pries Enterprises – Independence, Iowa  
 PT Alumindo Perkasa – Jakarta, Indonesia  
 PT Indal – Surabaya, Indonesia  
 Profile Extrusions – Rome, Georgia  
 Profile (RJS Precision Ext.) – Phoenix, Arizona  
 Schimmer Metal – Bangkok, Thailand  
 Selaco Aluminium – Johar, Malaysia  
 Service Center Metals – Prince George, Virginia  
 Sierra Aluminum – Fontana, California  
 Sierra Aluminum – Riverside, California  
 Silver City Aluminum -- Taunton, Mass  
 Spectra Aluminum – Bradford, Ontario  
 Star Extruded Shapes - Canfield, Ohio  
 Sun Valley - Los Angeles, California  
 Superior Extrusion – Gwinn, Michigan  
 Superior Metal Shapes – Chino, California  
 Taber Extrusions – Gulfport, Mississippi  
 Taber Extrusions – Russellville, Arkansas  
 Tecnoglass – Barranquilla, Columbia  
 Tower Extrusions – Hensley – Wylie, Texas  
 Tower Extrusions – Martinez – Wylie, Texas  
 Tifton Aluminum Extrusions – Tifton, Georgia  
 Tri–City Extrusion – Bristol, Tennessee  
 Tubelite – Reed City, Michigan  
 Universal Molding (UMEX) – Downey, California  
 Veer Aluminium – Olifanstfontein, South Africa  
 Vitex – Franklin, New Hampshire  
 Wakefield-Vette – Pelham, New Hampshire  
 Wakefield-Vette – Withee, Wisconsin  
 Western Extrusion – Carrollton, Texas  
 Wolverine Tube Inc – Decatur, Alabama  
 Zarbana Industries – Columbiana, Ohio

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