

Foy's EPICS Events

Extrusion Production Information and Control System

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USER CONFERENCE IN LAS VEGAS A GREAT SUCCESS

Over 50 EPICS users from 28 companies attended the latest annual conference in Las Vegas. The New York – New York hotel was a great site for this event. Attendees heard about new features in the upcoming EPICS V8.19 release, and got to provide input into the design of next year's EPICS V9.

Slides of the conference PowerPoint presentations are available for download from the Foy Inc website. Photos from the conference are also at the same location.



Great networking at the Sunday evening Registration Reception



The Monday morning General Session



Over one-half of the conference attendees stayed over for the optional Wednesday training session.

RACKS CAN NOW CONTAIN TICKETS

Prior to EPICS release V8.19, production racks could contain only work-in-process material that was being moved from one department to another. It was not possible to place finished goods (packing tickets) into racks. This meant that you had to manually keep track of racks that were used to transport finished goods to a customer or from one plant to another.

Beginning with V8.19, you can now use the “Maintain Racks” screen to add packing tickets (status ‘A’, ‘B’, and ‘I’) to any rack. This improves EPICS functionality in a number of ways:

- New features available to all EPICS installations
 - For finished goods that are being shipped to a customer (status ‘A’ tickets,) you can now combine any number of tickets into a rack. At the time of shipment, scanning or selecting any single ticket number in a rack will automatically select all other tickets contained in the same rack.
 - Similarly, material being sent to an outside processor (status ‘B’ tickets) can be combined into racks for shipment to the processor. As with customer shipments, scanning or selecting any ticket in a rack will automatically select all other tickets in the same rack.
- New features available to EPICS installations that have enabled Inter-plant Transfers
 - Since they can now be placed into racks, finished goods (status ‘A’ tickets) can now be moved from one plant to another via the inter-plant

transfer process. This means that a routing that specifies packing at plant 'A' and shipping at plant 'B' can be fully tracked using the IPT screen. When the inter-plant transfer is received at plant 'B', EPICS updates the plant location for each rack and all tickets contained in each rack.

- Stock inventory (status 'I' tickets) can also now be moved from one plant to another using inter-plant transfer. Since stock tickets do not have a production routing, the Maintain Racks screen will ask the user to specify the destination plant each time that a user adds a stock ticket to a rack. These racks of inventory tickets can then be transferred using the IPT screen. EPICS will update the plant location of each stock ticket upon receipt of the IPT.

A few new columns have been added to the EPICS RackDetail, IPTDetail, and Ticket tables to support the above features. However, all of your existing reports will continue to work as normal – displaying the contents of each rack in terms of sales order item numbers and number of pieces. However, you can easily modify your reports to add the individual ticket numbers if you so desire.

OTHER NEW FEATURES IN EPICS V8.19

The latest EPICS update, EPICS V8.19.0, will be released early next week. It contains a number of new features, including ten of the top Wishlist items from the last conference.

- The **Notes and Alerts** feature has been expanded to provide the ability to pop-up notes when planning or printing workorders.
- When **entering an order**, if you use a ship-to customer for an item that is different than the ship-to customer on the other items, EPICS will now display a warning.
- When **scheduling presses**, you have always been able to change the press for an order-item-lot from that specified when the item was entered. But now, the preliminary workorder will be modified to reflect the revised billet requirements for the new press.
- When a die is returned from **nitriding**, its status has previously been reset to the value you have specified in a configuration setting. With this update, you can instead specify that the status return to the status the die had prior to nitriding.
- When EPICS searches for **stock material** during order entry or workorder planning, it will now look for both matching stock material, as well as stock material that can be cutback or finished.
- The **packing code** field (PackCode) has been expanded from 3 characters to 10 characters.

- When **posting shipments**, EPICS will now display a notice if there are tickets that could be added to the shipment. These could be tickets that were overlooked when preparing the pick list, or tickets that were created after the pick list was prepared.
- When viewing **stock inventory** tickets, the Maintain Tickets screen now displays information about the original order.
- **Production postings** normally only need to be modified within a few days following the posting. You can now set a password and a configuration value to specify the number of days during which changes can be made.
- If you use the EPICS **scheduling** feature to schedule many days into the future, you probably do not need the schedule tabs to display jobs for more than the next day or two. You can now specify the number of days to display via a configuration setting.
- When adding **links** or importing sales orders, you can now select any number of file names at once.
- Those of you in the **miniature extrusion** business will be glad to know that EPICS will now print tickets for less than one pound or kilogram.
- When scanning to **print workorders**, EPICS will suggest splitting into lots based on the DieRunLimit found in the Die table.

EPICS V9 DEVELOPMENT UNDERWAY

Most of the next 12 months at Foy Inc will be devoted to the development of Version 9. As described at the EPICS User Conference, this version will not only contain many enhancements, but it will also provide a state-of-the-art platform for future



enhancements. EPICS V9 will lead the way to more mobile features, web-based capabilities, and touch-screen enhancements.

In order to allow the time needed for this major update, the EPICS V8.19 release is expected to be the last update in the V8 series. We will continue our policy of making minor releases available when needed – just keep an eye on our web site or Facebook page for release information.

Upgrades to EPICS V9 will be available to users with paid-up software service policies (SSP) at no extra charge. However, we expect that the annual SSP will increase from 15% to 17% or 18%. We have no plans to increase to over 20%, as have most other MES and ERP software vendors.

EPICS TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



EPICS classroom training sessions are held at the Foy Inc offices in Farmersville, Texas. The next class is scheduled for July 23-26, and **you must register for this class by June 22.**

The last round of **One Hour Webinars** were very well attended. Keep an eye on the Foy web site for information on the next round of these valuable sessions. The charge is only \$50, and you can gather a roomful of attendees together to view a session.

You can find detailed information on all of these training opportunities on the [Foy Inc web site](#).

NEW EPICS CUSTOMER IN AUSTRALIA

Almax Aluminium, in Brisbane, Australia, recently purchased the EPICS Enterprise Edition. Almax was established in 2000, and has grown to be the third largest extruder in Australia. They will use EPICS to help operate both their extrusion factory and their finishing facility.



The Almax installation marks our seventh EPICS system in Australia – one each in Angaston, Melbourne, Penrith, and Sydney, and now three in Brisbane.

**ANOTHER EPICS
INSTALLATION IN INDIANA**

Nanshan America has purchased EPICS to use in their \$100 million greenfield facility in Lafayette, Indiana. They have completed construction of a 600,000 sq.ft. facility, and are currently installing equipment for a state-of-the-art die shop.

Nanshan will start by installing a 5000 ton 12" piercer press. A 9200 ton press will soon follow, capable of running both 14" and 18" billet.

The current issue of Light Metal Age features a great article on the Nanshan facility.

**FOLLOW FOY INC ON FACEBOOK**

You can now communicate with the Foy staff as well as other EPICS users on the Foy Inc Facebook page. Check us out [here](#), or at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Foy-Inc/114419065922>

EPICS CUSTOMER LIST

*On any given day
EPICS is helping over 14,000 people
at 98 extrusion plants around the world.*

Aacoa Extrusions – Niles, Michigan
 Aerolite Extrusion – Youngstown, Ohio
 Alenco – Bryan, Texas
 Almag Aluminum Inc. – Brampton, Ontario
 Almax Aluminium – Brisbane, Australia
 Altec – Jeffersonville, Indiana
 Aluminio de Baja California (ABC) – Tijuana, Mexico
 Aluminio de Centro America – San Salvador, El Salvador
 Aluminio Del Caribe– San Juan, Puerto Rico
 Aluminum Extrusions Inc – Senatobia, Miss.
 American Aluminum Extrusions – Canton, Ohio
 American Aluminum Extrusions – Beloit, WS
 American Aluminum Extrusions – Roscoe, Illinois
 Anaheim Extrusions (UMEX) – Anaheim, California
 APEL Extrusions Ltd. – Calgary, Alberta
 APEL Extrusions – Portland, Oregon
 Apex Aluminum Extrusions – Langley, BC, Canada
 Arch Aluminum – Miami, Florida
 Architectural & Metal Systems – Cork, Ireland
 Ascend Custom Extrusions – Wylie, Texas
 Astro Shapes – Struthers, Ohio
 Benada Aluminum – Medley, Florida
 Bristol Aluminum – Levittown, Pennsylvania
 Briteline Extrusions – Summerville, S. Carolina
 BRT Extrusions – Niles, Ohio
 CanArt – Brampton, Ontario
 Capral Extrusions – Angaston, Australia
 Capral Extrusions – Penrith, Australia
 CanArt – Tecumseh, Ontario
 Central Aluminum – Columbus, Ohio
 Claridge Products – Harrison, Arkansas
 Crown Extrusions, Chaska, Minnesota
 Crystal Extrusion Systems – Union, Missouri
 Extrudex – Weston, Ontario
 Extrudex – Bernières, Quebec
 Extrudex – North Jackson, Ohio
 FISA – Guayaquil, Ecuador
 Frontier Aluminum – Corona, California
 G. James – Brisbane, Australia
 G. James – Sydney, Australia
 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 Extrusion Corp. (UMEX) – Waxahachie, Texas
 Jalex – Kingston, Jamaica
 Keymark Corporation – Fonda, New York
 Keymark Corporation – Lakeland, Florida
 Keymark Corporation – Orlando, Florida
 LCI – Goshen, Indiana
 MI Metals, Inc - Smyrna, Tennessee
 MI Metals, Inc – Millersburg, Pennsylvania
 MI Metals, Inc – Oldsmar, Florida
 MI Metals, Inc – Prescott Valley, Arizona
 Mid-America Extrusions – Indianapolis, Indiana
 Midwest Aluminum – Withee, Wisconsin
 Nanshan America – Lafayette, Indiana
 Nigalex – Lagos, Nigeria
 Non-Ferrous Extrusion – Houston, Texas
 Oldcastle (Vista Wall Arch. Products) – Midway, Tennessee
 Oldcastle (Vista Wall Arch. Products) – Terrell, Texas
 Orrvilon (Holtec) – Orrville, Ohio
 Patrick Metals (UMEX) – Mishawaka, Indiana
 Pennex – Leetonia, Ohio
 Pennex – Wellsville, Pennsylvania
 Perfiles de Aluminio.– San Juan, Puerto Rico
 Postal 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
 Silver City Aluminum -- Taunton, Mass
 Sierra Aluminum – Riverside, California
 Spectra Aluminum – Woodbridge, Ontario
 Star Extruded Shapes, Canfield, Ohio
 Superior Extrusion – Gwinn, Michigan
 Superior Metal Shapes – Chino, California
 Sun Valley Extrusions – Los Angeles, California
 Tecnoglass – Barranquilla, Columbia
 Taber Extrusions – Gulfport, Mississippi
 Taber Extrusions – Russellville, Arkansas
 Tifton Extrusions – Tifton, Georgia
 Tri-City Extrusion – Bristol, Tennessee
 Tubelite – Reed City, Michigan
 Universal Molding (UMEX) – Downey, California
 Vitex – Franklin, New Hampshire
 Wakefield Engineering – Pelham, New Hampshire
 Western Extrusion – Carrolton, Texas
 Zarbana Industries – Columbiana, Ohio

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