

# Foy's EPICS Events

Extrusion Production Information and Control Systems

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## 2007 EPICS Conference Was Another Great Success



Sixty-four EPICS users representing 32 plants attended another valuable User Conference in historic Charleston, South Carolina, last month. Over one-half of them stayed for a day of training on the newest EPICS features which were introduced at the conference.

Including guests and staff, the conference hosted almost 90 people. It required two busses to transport the group to the Monday evening dinner cruise on beautiful Charleston harbor.



The Doubletree Guest Suites served as an ideal location for this conference, according to most attendees. Located in the middle of Charleston's Historic District, the hotel was only steps away from dozens of restaurants, shops, and carriage rides.

Slides used at the conference are available on the Foy website at [www.foyinc.com](http://www.foyinc.com). Photos of the conference can also be viewed there.

## AEC President Addresses EPICS User Conference

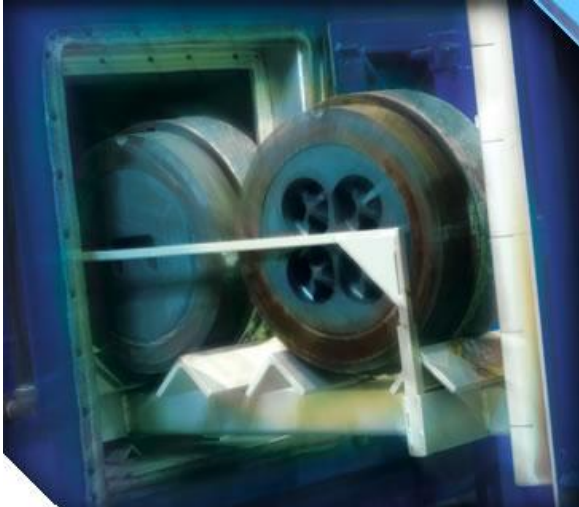
Craig Werner, President of the Aluminum Extruders Council, described to the group how the wealth of data within EPICS can be used in models to help answer key questions related to profitability. Over many years, Craig developed mathematical models that helped Werner Company become one of the most respected extruders in the world. He has recently formed **Werner Extrusion Solutions** to provide this expertise to others in the industry. Craig can be reached at [CWernerWES@aol.com](mailto:CWernerWES@aol.com).

## EPICS V8.6 update ready for release

The EPICS 8.6 update will be released early next week. Your System Administrator will receive email when the new version is ready to be downloaded.

The V8.6 update contains numerous enhancements, including several of the most-requested items on the 2006 Wishlist. The major enhancements are described below. Other changes can be found in the Help file that will be distributed with the update.

## Die Nitriding



Most extruders nitride dies in order to increase die life. Keeping track of when a die needs to be nitride can be quite a job, especially since dies vary in the nitriding frequency required.

The new EPICS Die Nitriding feature allows you to set up die nitriding schedules on a copy by copy basis. You have the flexibility to set schedules based on weight extruded or feet (meters) extruded, based on per hole or in total. So you can, for example, schedule one type of die to be nitrided after its first 100,000 feet and then after each subsequent 50,000 feet.

Screens and reports show usage since last nitriding and life remaining before next nitriding.

More detailed information on this new feature will be in the V8.6 help file. Slides from the conference presentation can be found at [www.foyinc.com](http://www.foyinc.com).

## Physical Inventory



The Number One item on the 2006 Wishlist was a Physical Inventory feature. Naturally, we led off the conference with a description of this new module. The new inventory features will enable EPICS users to significantly reduce time required for routine physical inventories.

If you are using Rack Tracking, EPICS knows what is in each rack. Inventory worksheets can be printed showing all metal EPICS thinks is in each department and that worksheet can be used to manually verify or correct piece counts. Optionally, wireless scanners or tablet PCs can significantly speed up the process.

The Finished Goods inventory consists of packed metal, so the EPICS tickets can be verified to account for that material. New screens allow quick verification of existing tickets, but again, scanners can speed up that process.

A complete description of the EPICS Physical Inventory feature can be found in the help file you will receive with V8.6. The slides used at the conference to describe the feature can be found at [www.foyinc.com](http://www.foyinc.com).

## Other new features in EPICS V8.6

In addition to the two major features described above, EPICS V8.6 contains a number of features that will benefit your operation – several of which were 2006 Wishlist items.

- In the Pricing Module, percentages can now be used in discounts or surcharges. This will be of great use for pricing elements such as Sales Commissions.
- Departments can be combined into Department Groups, and these Department Groups can be used to establish group Scrap, Downtime, and Rework codes. Only the pertinent codes will then be displayed on the department production posting screen.
- Scrap and Rework can now be charged to another department. For example, the paint line can post scrap for Die Lines, and charge that scrap to Extrusion.
- You can now choose to add more fields to the Press Schedule screen using the new “Field Chooser” function.
- CustShip has been added to the Customer Service Inquiry screen and the SOSummary screen.
- Attempting to add a duplicate die number is now halted as soon as the die number is entered.

### New Foy Building almost finished



The new Foy Inc offices are almost finished. The walls are painted, the light fixtures are being hung, and the carpet is on order. We hope to move into these facilities by the end of the month.

Scott is especially anxious to use the new training room. This room will easily handle twelve trainees, and the air conditioner will even cool that size group. The first training class on June 11 is already booked up, but the class on June 25-28 still has openings. Call Scott if you would like to join this class.

### EPICS On-Line Knowledgebase Continues to Grow

The EPICS Knowledgebase continues to expand. Chris has been adding more and more questions and answers to this important database. If you cannot find the answer to your question in the extensive EPICS Help file, your next step should be to check the Knowledgebase.

You will find the Knowledgebase at [www.foyinc.com](http://www.foyinc.com), and all you need to access it is the password “**support**”.

## RSS capability added to Foy web site



To help you in keeping track of new information being posted on the Foy website, we have added RSS capability to the site. You can now subscribe to feeds regarding such key information as EPICS updates, training schedules, and new report availability.

To learn more about RSS, [www.WhatIsRSS.com](http://www.WhatIsRSS.com) offers a one-page summary of this valuable tool.

## EPICS Customer List

**On any given day  
EPICS is helping over 11,000 people  
at over 80 extrusion plants around the world.**

Aacoa Extrusions – Niles, Michigan  
 American Aluminum Extrusions of Ohio – Canton, Ohio  
 American Aluminum Extrusions of Wisconsin – Beloit, Wisconsin  
 Aerolite Extrusion – Youngstown, Ohio  
 Almag Aluminum Inc. – Brampton, Ontario  
 Altec (Alumnitec). – Jeffersonville, Indiana  
 Aluminio de Baja California (ABC) – Tijuana, Mexico  
 Aluminio de Centro America (ALDECA) – San Salvador, El Salvador  
 Aluminio Del Caribe– San Juan, Puerto Rico  
 Aluminum Extrusions Inc – Senatobia, Miss.  
 APEL Extrusions Ltd. – Calgary, Alberta  
 Arch Aluminum – Miami, Florida  
 Astro Shapes – Struthers, Ohio  
 Atlantic Aluminum – Lumber Bridge, N. Carolina  
 Benada Aluminum – Medley, Florida  
 Bristol Aluminum – Levittown, Pennsylvania  
 Briteline Extrusions – Summerville, S. Carolina  
 BRT Extrusions – Niles, Ohio  
 CanArt – Brampton, Ontario  
 CanArt – Tecumseh, Ontario  
 Central Aluminum – Columbus, Ohio  
 Crane Aluminium Extrusions – Angaston, Australia  
 Crane Aluminium Extrusions (Capral) – Penrith, Australia  
 Crown Extrusions, Chaska, Minnesota  
 Crystal Extrusion Systems – Union, Missouri  
 D.W. Aluminum – Cassopolis, Michigan  
 Empire Resources – Baltimore, Maryland  
 Extrudex – Weston, Ontario  
 Extrudex – Bernières, Quebec  
 Extrudex – North Jackson, Ohio  
 FISA – Guayaquil, Ecuador  
 Frontier Aluminum – Corona, California  
 Hulett-Hydro Alum. – Pietermaritzburg, South Africa  
 Hulett-Hydro Alum. – Capetown, South Africa  
 Hulett-Hydro Alum. – Olifantsfontein, South Africa  
 Indalex West Inc– Watsonville, California  
 Independent Extrusions (INEX) – Hamilton, New Zealand  
 International Extrusion – Alhambra, California  
 International Extrusion – Waxahachie, Texas  
 International Extrusions – Garden City, Michigan

Jalex – Kingston, Jamaica  
 Keymark Corporation – Fonda, New York  
 Keymark Corporation – Lakeland, Florida  
 MI Metals, Inc - Smyrna, Tennessee  
 MI Metals, Inc – Millersburg, Pennsylvania  
 MI Metals, Inc – Oldsmar, Florida  
 MI Metals, Inc – Millen, Georgia  
 MI Metals, Inc – Prescott Valley, Arizona  
 Mid-America Extrusions – Indianapolis, Indiana  
 Midwest Aluminum – Withee, Wisconsin  
 Non-Ferrous Extrusion – Houston, Texas  
 Patrick Metals – Mishawaka, Indiana  
 Pennex – Wellsville, Pennsylvania  
 Perfiles de Aluminio.– San Juan, Puerto Rico  
 Pries Enterprises – Independence, Iowa  
 PT Alumindo Perkasa – Jakarta, Indonesia  
 PT Indal – Surabaya, Indonesia  
 Profab Industries – Canfield, Ohio  
 Profile Extrusions – Rome, Georgia  
 Profile (RJS Precision Ext.) – Phoenix, Arizona  
 Selaco Aluminium – Johar, Malaysia  
 Service Center Metals – Prince George, Virginia  
 Sierra Aluminum – Fontana, California  
 Sierra Aluminum – Riverside, California  
 Specialty Extrusion – Fullerton, California  
 Spectra Aluminum – Woodbridge, Ontario  
 Star Extruded Shapes, Canfield, Ohio  
 Superior Extrusion – Gwinn, Michigan  
 Sun Valley Extrusions – Los Angeles, California  
 Taber Extrusions – Gulfport, Mississippi  
 Taber Extrusions – Russellville, Arkansas  
 TAI-AO Aluminium – Taishan, Guang Dong, China  
 Tri-City Extrusion – Bristol, Tennessee  
 Temroc Metals – Hamel, Minnesota  
 Tubelite – Reed City, Michigan  
 Vista Wall Arch. Products – Midway, Tennessee  
 Vista Wall Arch. Products – Terrell, Texas  
 Vitex – Franklin, New Hampshire  
 Wakefield Engineering – Pelham, New Hampshire  
 Western Extrusion – Carrollton, Texas  
 Zarbana Industries – Columbiana, Ohio

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