

# Foy's EPICS Events

Extrusion Production Information and Control Systems

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## EPICS V8.7 UPDATE INCLUDES KEY WISHLIST ITEMS

The EPICS V8.7 update will be available for download next week. All EPICS System Administrators will receive an email notice as soon as the update is ready.

The #1 item on the 2007 Wishlist was the ability to search by a date range on the various QBE screens. That capability has been added in the EPICS V8.7 update. To search, for example, for all SOItems with a ReqDt of this week, you can now enter “**8/26/2007..9/01/2007**” in the ReqDt field. Note the two dots between the dates – that tells EPICS that the two dates are a range.

This feature works so well with dates that we decided to expand it to virtually all fields on most screens. So if you want to see all Tickets shipped on Manifests 14117 thru 14120, you can just enter "14117..14120" on the Manifest field under **Maintain Tickets**.

The #11 Wishlist item was to record the date and time that a production posting was made. This has been done with the addition of a date/time field, along with a field for the user name, to the ShiftProd table.

Item #12 on the Wishlist was to indicate that notes are present when using the Print Workorder screen. The Notes button on this screen now acts like the Notes button on some other screens – the label changes from "Note.." to "**Note..**".

Wishlist #13 was to move PartNum to the Basic Info section of the QBE Items screen. We did this, and also moved the PartNum Customer, ReqDt, Routing, and Status to this part of the screen.

### **PACKING AT THE PRESS FACILITATED IN EPICS UPDATE**

Until now, printing a packing ticket at the press has involved numerous non-standard EPICS workarounds. But for extruders who have the capability of aging a packed, ready-to-ship bundle, this process can be a very cost-effective time saver. The EPICS V8.7 update implements this capability.

Instead of printing a racktag at the press, you can now print a packing ticket (although the record in EPICS remains a racktag record.) When the department prior to Packing is completed, EPICS "automagically" converts the racktag record to a Ticket record and posts it under PACK.

If you need this capability, you should examine the EPICS Help file description of the process.



### **OTHER ENHANCEMENTS IN EPICS V8.7 UPDATE**

In addition to the improvements described earlier, the EPICS V8.7 update includes several minor bug fixes, as well as the following enhancements:

- When printing workorders, a new warning is displayed if the selected die copy is for a different press
- Advanced Data Collection:
  - Specified press scrap is now subtracted from unspecified scrap
  - Improved logic on setting *Complete* checkboxes
  - Alloy and Temper are shown for the SOItem
  - A "Next Dept" column has been added to the Good Pieces & Scrap grid, allowing redirecting metal to any REWORK department or to any department in the routing.
- Added compatibility with registry settings used in Fastlook V12 and higher
- A customer record with a CustNum of "**HOME**" has been added if it did not already exist. You should edit this record to include your company's name and address. Future EPICS standard reports will include this info in report headings.
- When receiving logs, you can now enter the actual log length for verification purposes.

### EPICS DATABASE DIAGNOSTICS REPORT RELEASED

A new diagnostics report is now available from [www.foyinc.com](http://www.foyinc.com). This report examines your EPICS database and identifies possible problem areas. It looks at potential problems involving bad routings, missing die copies, bad billet records, missing permissions, and many other possible problem areas.

It's a good idea to run this report every few months. Most importantly, you should run it anytime you are having unexplained problems with EPICS.

EPICS System Administrators should download this report, **diagnostics.rpt**, from the [foyinc.com](http://foyinc.com) website.

### NEW EPICS CUSTOMER

We are proud to have [Silver City Aluminum](#) as the newest EPICS customer. Silver City is located in Taunton, Mass, where they have been producing aluminum products since 1952. In addition to their extrusion operation, they have extensive fabrication facilities, along with a 20ft paint line.

Silver City has the Basic edition of EPICS running under Microsoft SQL Server.



**2008 USER CONFERENCE PLANS PROGRESSING**

The 2008 EPICS User Conference promises to be another in a long string of valuable, challenging, and enjoyable gatherings.



The conference will take place April 20-23, 2008, at the [Argonaut Hotel](#), located in the historic Cannery building at San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf. The conference will start with a Registration

Reception on Sunday evening, and continue with two days of intensive EPICS topics. The popular optional Training Day will wrap up the conference on Wednesday.

For the Monday evening activity, we are planning a dinner at [Events Online](#). This dining room is located in Sausalito, across the bay from San Francisco. We will have a spectacular view as the sun sets over San Francisco Bay.

Conference sessions will run from 8:00AM through 2:00PM, leaving time for participants to enjoy the sights in The City By The Bay.



**OPEN HOUSE HELD FOR NEW FOY OFFICE BUILDING**

We have been in our new offices for a couple of months now, and are enjoying the added space and new furnishings. An open house on July 27<sup>th</sup> drew a crowd of 75 (that's most of Farmersville) and the Chamber of Commerce conducted a ribbon cutting to make it official.



The office is located at 111 Farmersville Parkway, one block south of the old office. We hope you will stop and visit anytime you are in the Dallas area.



**CHEMCOMP PROGRAM GROWS IN POPULARITY**

There are now ten billet supplier plants signed up with Foy's ChemComp program:



**Matalco Inc**  
**Ormet Primary Aluminum Corp**  
**Dubal America, Inc**  
**Metal Exchange Corp**  
**Indalloy Toronto Division**  
**Alcan Shawinigan Works**  
**Alcan Arvida Works**  
**Alcan Kitimat Works**  
**Alcan Sebree Works**  
**Alcan ABI Works**

Registration by these companies allows them to email chemical composition data to any EPICS user using a standard format. EPICS users can load this data into EPICS with a couple of mouse clicks, and then print the info on test certification forms as extrusions are shipped.

If you are not yet using this powerful feature, check out the program description on the [Foy web site](#) under "Resources/ChemComp". And if your billet suppliers are not on the above list, direct them to the supplier information on the web site. Tell them that registering as a ChemComp supplier is quick, easy, and free.

**EPICS CUSTOMER LIST**

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

Aacao Extrusions – Niles, Michigan  
 American Aluminum Extrusions of Ohio – Canton, Ohio  
 American Aluminum Extrusions of Wisconsin – Beloit, WI  
 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  
 Empire Resources – Baltimore, Maryland  
 Extrudex – Weston, Ontario  
 Extrudex – Bernières, Quebec  
 Extrudex – North Jackson, Ohio  
 FISA – Guayaquil, Ecuador  
 Frontier Aluminum – Corona, California  
 Hualum. – Pietermaritzburg, South Africa  
 Hualum. – Capetown, South Africa  
 Hualum. – 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  
 Postal Aluminum – Cassopolis, Michigan  
 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  
 Silver City Aluminum -- Taunton, Mass  
 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  
 Tecnoglass – Barranquilla, Columbia  
 Taber Extrusions – Gulfport, Mississippi  
 Taber Extrusions – Russellville, Arkansas  
 TAI-AO Aluminium – Taishan, Guang Dong, China  
 Tri-City Extrusion – Bristol, Tennessee  
 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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