



**Perspectives  
2009**  
September 20-23  
Columbus Marriott NW  
Dublin, OH

## Mark Your Calendar for Perspectives 2009

Make your plans now to attend *Perspectives 2009*—the TDCI Customer Forum at the Columbus Marriott Northwest Hotel, September 20-23.

### An Event with Immediate Value

As a MAC-PAC XE™ user, you won't want to miss this valuable event. In a year when you need to make every travel dollar an especially good investment, this is one of the few events where you will gain new ideas to help your company improve productivity and competitiveness using the tools you ALREADY HAVE.

At Perspectives 2009, you will:

- Learn new ways to leverage MAC-PAC XE and BuyDesign for improved operational and financial performance.

- Find out what other companies are doing to address market challenges and create competitive opportunities.

### Round-up Your Entire Team!

There is much more to learn than can be picked up by just one or two attendees. Many people in your organization can benefit from attending this conference: end users, department managers, executives, IT... So, start organizing your team now! September will arrive before you know it!

### Watch for More Information

Watch your mail for more agenda and registration

details. You can also visit [www.tdci.com](http://www.tdci.com) for updated information as it becomes available.

Contact Sharon Binkley at [sbinkley@tdci.com](mailto:sbinkley@tdci.com) with questions.



### Inside this issue:

Stocker Yale & Watlow	2
LASCO Fittings	2
Atrium Companies	2
User Input Workshop Recap	3
MAC-PAC Services	3
PTFs & Enhancements	4
Spotlight Tip	4

## Maysteel Performs MAC-PAC XE Assessment

Maysteel LLC is a Wisconsin-based company specializing in the custom fabrication of metal enclosures, assemblies, and components – on both a contract basis and via proprietary products used in the distribution of electric power. Today Maysteel is refining numerous aspects of their MAC-PAC XE usage based on insights gained from a TDCI assessment performed in late 2008.

The assessment was part of a continuous improvement process spearheaded by Maysteel's Supply Chain Council made up of representatives from across

the company. The goal was to better understand how MAC-PAC XE is being used today in support of key business processes, and to identify ways in which those processes could be improved.



After 2 days of structured interviews with people from just about every area of the company, TDCI produced a summary of 47 identified opportunities with specific recommendations for addressing nearly all of them with procedural changes, available MAC-PAC XE

functionality, or minor modifications. A number of the recommendations have already been implemented and most are planned for 2009.

"This was a broad assessment," says Jeffrey Henn, Maysteel Director of IT. "TDCI helped a great deal by outlining exactly what we should look at and who should be involved – that made the research stage very efficient. The other really valuable thing TDCI did was to make recommendations that are very specific and practical – that gave us a clear roadmap for taking action."

For more information about MAC-PAC XE, TDCI services, or any of the companies referenced in this newsletter, contact Shelley Horn at [shorn@tdci.com](mailto:shorn@tdci.com) or 800-630-6687 x119

## Stocker Yale & Watlow Take MAC-PAC XE to New Plants

The MAC-PAC XE user community is growing. Two companies have implemented MAC-PAC XE at new plants over the past few months:



Stocker Yale has implemented MAC-PAC XE at a plant in Ireland. StockerYale designs and manufactures structured

light lasers, LED modules and specialty optical assemblies for industrial OEMs, medical and defense markets.

Watlow Electric has implemented MAC-PAC XE at a plant in Italy. Watlow is the largest custom designer and manufacturer of industrial



electric heaters, sensors, controllers and software, with offices and manufacturing facilities around the world.

If you are considering expansion of your MAC-PAC XE usage to additional plants, contact TDCI to arrange a conversation with these and other companies about their recent experience.

## LASCO Upgrades to MAC-PAC XE V12

In January, LASCO Fittings Inc. turned on their MAC-PAC XE version 12 system. This was an upgrade from the version 10 system they had been using since the mid 1990's. LASCO performed the upgrade as the best way to get up-to-date with the many PTFs and enhancements released by TDCI over the past few years. And, it positioned them for easy application of new updates.



LASCO Fittings, Inc.

"We knew there were quite a few improvements in MAC-PAC XE that we had not applied and we wanted to take advantage of them", said Debbie Worden,

LASCO Vice President of Supply Chain.

The upgrade was done using the Installation & Maintenance Facility (IMF) along with phone support from TDCI. In addition to the MAC-PAC XE upgrade, LASCO updated related systems such as NuTech Data Collection, Gentran EDI, and a rebate management system. Those applications were updated to match master file changes in MAC-PAC XE. TDCI-supplied tools were used in those updates as well.

"TDCI provided us with

excellent support," said Charles Pascoe, LASCO Programming Supervisor. "They always responded quickly and professionally whenever we needed help."

In terms of lessons-learned, Pascoe points out two items: 1) be sure you have matched object and source code for your 3<sup>rd</sup> party applications before you start, and 2) pay close attention to the sequence of libraries when you recompile everything. "Other than that, the upgrade process went quite smoothly," summarized Pascoe.

## Atrium Upgrades and Expands BuyDesign™ Deployment

Atrium Companies, Inc., the largest manufacturer of vinyl and aluminum windows and patio doors in North America, has significantly upgraded and expanded deployment of their web-based dealer quoting and ordering system based on TDCI's BuyDesign Channel Sales.



Atrium Companies, Inc.

In addition to upgrading the initial implementation at the Washington division to

BuyDesign version 6, Atrium has now implemented BuyDesign for the company's North Texas business. This implementation followed a consolidation of the Texas and HR Windows divisions, allowing Atrium to maximize operating efficiencies while still delivering high quality products and services to their customers. Atrium's North Texas division uses MAC-PAC XE as their business and manufacturing system.

"Our dealers are enthusiastic

about the online quoting and ordering capabilities we've made available using BuyDesign," said Mark Gallant, Atrium Vice President of Corporate Marketing. "With the ability to generate quotes and place orders through the Internet, they can be very responsive to sales opportunities. The online approach also makes it much easier for us to keep them continually up to date as product and pricing information changes over time."

## MAC-PAC XE User Input Workshop Recap

Representatives from companies using MAC-PAC XE gathered in Columbus on March 5 to review, discuss, and prioritize MAC-PAC XE enhancements to be developed by TDCI over the coming months.

The input workshop is a key step in the TDCI enhancement process. This year's cycle started with a user survey in late 2008 where users were asked to rate the relative importance of potential enhancements requested over previous years. Based on that input, a subset was selected for further research and preliminary design. At the March workshop, TDCI presented a preliminary approach to

development, along with issues and options for each enhancement. Participants then discussed the options and relative priorities.

Out of that process came several enhancements where there was a clear user consensus on both the approach and priority. Those will now be developed, tested and made available in the typical enhancement format. They are all targeted for availability by the end of the year or sooner.

Commenting on the workshop and overall process, Mike Seitz, IT Applications Manager at Kolbe & Kolbe Millwork, Inc. said: "It's great to

have the opportunity to meet face-to-face with other users and TDCI to work out these enhancements. And we appreciate TDCI's willingness to put it all together, and to really listen."



### When Should You Consider TDCI System Management Services for MAC-PAC?

- When internal personnel are needed for other projects.
- When people leave or retire... while you're hiring and training replacements, or if you don't desire to do so.
- Whenever MAC-PAC & iSeries system management skills are just not available within your IT department.

## System Management Services for MAC-PAC

### Did you know TDCI now offers System Management Services for MAC-PAC?

These services can be provided for users of any version of MAC-PAC – even highly customized implementations. Services are available on a long-term or short-term basis, and can be tailored to fit the unique needs of just about any company.

Delivered by TDCI's experienced MAC-PAC professionals acting as an extension of your staff, System

Management Services include:

- MAC-PAC application management
- iSeries system management
- Custom report, query, and program development

Services are typically delivered remotely using a Virtual Private Network (VPN) gateway, but on-site services can also be provided as needed.

Contact Shelley Horn at [shorn@tdci.com](mailto:shorn@tdci.com) or 800-630-6687 x119

## MAC-PAC XE Community Tidbits...

Interesting happenings in the world of MAC-PAC XE users over that past couple months include...

**Genmar Yacht Group (formerly known as Carver Yachts)** won the Autodesk Inventor of the Month award in



September 2008. They won for their use of the 3D CAD system to design the company's new Marquis 420 Sport Coup which was recognized as the best new yacht in its class at the 2008

Miami Boat Show. Congratulations!

By the way, the Marquis Yacht exhibit was the place to be at the recent 2009 Miami Boat Show as well!

**Champion Aerospace** parent Transdigm Group announced in



September 2008 that a new product line acquired from Unison Industries will be integrated into the Champion Aerospace business.

TDCI has upgraded its own iSeries system to a power i 520 server with the V6R1 OS for MAC-PAC XE development and support.



**Randy Behm, IT Developer from Maysteel LLC, and Will Wilson from Cosmolab, Inc.,** are the newest members of TDCI's MAC-PAC XE Advisory Board.

The Board also includes:

Mike Neal  
Manager, Information Technology  
Link-Belt Construction Equipment

Mike Seitz  
IT Applications Manager  
Kolbe & Kolbe Millwork, Inc.

Jim Susic  
IS Business Consulting Manager  
Watlow Manufacturing

Debbie Worden  
Vice President of Supply Chain  
LASCO Fittings Inc.

Bill Danuloff  
Corporate VP, Information Systems  
The Gorman-Rupp Company

## MAC-PAC XE PTF & Enhancement Update

Twenty (20) new MAC-PAC XE core product PTFs and enhancements have already been released in 2009. That's in addition to 16 PTFs and enhancements made available in the last quarter of 2008.

2009 PTFs address a wide range of MAC-PAC XE functions, from General Ledger (GL), Accounts Receivable (AR) and Accounts Payable (AP), to Order Processing (OP), Design

Engineering (DE), Shop Floor Control (SF), Requirements Planning (RP), EDI, Recovery Management (RM), and Common Features (CF).

Full descriptions of these PTFs and enhancements are available for download at [www.tdci.com/macpac](http://www.tdci.com/macpac). Click 'Support Login' at the top of the screen, then click 'Software Fixes' or 'Enhancements' after logging in.

PTFs and enhancements are always in the works, so check the MAC-PAC XE web site often!

MAC-PAC XE Online Support is available 24x7 to companies with an active MAC-PAC XE Maintenance & Support Plan.

### Training Schedule

The 2009 MAC-PAC XE class schedule is available online at (<http://www.tdci.com/macpac/services/education.htm>).

TDCI offers a comprehensive schedule of training classes on virtually every aspect of MAC-PAC. Use these public classes to:

- Train new employees
- Investigate capabilities you are not currently using, or
- Refresh key users' knowledge.

*A sample of new ptf's and enhancements include:*

PCA	Description	Affected Area
<b>LB02</b>	Provide the ability to view invoice comments through AP inquiry.	AP800E AP800DF1, HP
<b>LB01</b>	Minimize downtime by sending alerts when there is a problem with any MAC-PAC XE asynchronous program.	CFREF2 DSREF,CFXE7
<b>L2BF</b>	Invoice discount allowed past grace period.	AR120E
<b>L2BN</b>	Message control program info maintenance gets erroneous MPC9039 message.	CF081E
<b>L2BK</b>	BDC MFG details are not being written to EC245AP.	EC232E, EC234E

### MAC-PAC Support

1-877-4MAC-PAC  
1-877-462-2722

**Hours of operation:**  
8:30 a.m - 6:30 p.m.  
(EST)

Monday - Friday  
(except U.S. Holidays)

### Spotlight Tip

**Expert Number:** XRMJ0407  
**Version:** ALL  
**Call Area(s):** CF  
**Program(s):** CF070E

#### Question:

When I do an '84' to Release Submitted Jobs, how does the CF070E program what jobs are pending for each module? And how can I remove a job from this list that I do not wish to submit?

#### Answer:

Every module has a pending operations check program (XX030E where XX=module code) that checks files or other flags indicating a pending operation, or that a job needs to be submitted. This program loads an array with the job names of the pending operations and passes this back to the CF070E program which uses the array information to build the dynamic menu of jobs that are pending.

Review the Pending Operations program for the module to discover what is causing the job to appear. You may have to get creative in removing the "condition" that is causing the job to appear on the screen for submission. If you have problem with this process or cannot find the reason for the job appearing, contact the MAC-PAC XE Product Support help desk for assistance.