



ALUMINUM
EXTRUDERS
COUNCIL

Register by
APRIL 14TH
to receive
Early & Team
Registration
discounts.

Press Maintenance Workshop & **Die Clinic**

May 12–15, 2025

Learn from Industry Experts! Details inside.



Sheraton Music City Nashville Airport Hotel

Nashville, Tennessee

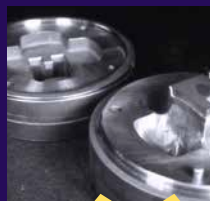
AECmeets.org

Press Maintenance Workshop & Die Clinic

MAY 12 – 15, 2025
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE



ALUMINUM
EXTRUDERS
COUNCIL



Registration Discounts *

Discounts are available
until April 14, for Early, Team,
and Combination
(\$50 off) registrations.
Save your company
up to \$150 per person!

*See Registration Form
for additional details.

Two Essential Educational Events to Save You Money, Time, and Travel!

Plan to send your key die and maintenance people to the co-located Press Maintenance Workshop and Die Performance Improvement Clinic and **lower your travel and hotel costs and time commitments** compared to sending them to separate events during the year.



Take advantage of the co-location of two of the Aluminum Extruders Council's most popular educational events: the **Press Maintenance Workshop** and **Die Performance Improvement Clinic**! These events offer extruders a convenient two-for-one option for production, maintenance and quality personnel to acquire valuable skills and learn about the interdependence of the maintenance and die departments, as well coordinate with management on how working together can improve processes to deliver high-quality aluminum extrusion products to customers.

This comprehensive, educational opportunity for AEC member extruders will help production and maintenance personnel:

- **Better understand how maintenance and die issues often can be related and**
- **Discover how to work together to keep the press running efficiently.**

Press Maintenance Workshop:

• **Monday – Wednesday, May 12 – 14**

**Plenary Sessions Covering the Essentials of
Press Maintenance • Tabletop Exhibits •
Networking Events**

The Press Maintenance Workshop is an in-depth educational event that is intended to cover the types of issues encountered during a **"day in the life of an extrusion maintenance mechanic."** This workshop is intended to benefit extrusion press maintenance personnel at every skill level and experience, providing new insights, ideas, and methods.

Die Performance Improvement Clinic:

• **Wednesday – Thursday, May 14 – 15**

**Instructive Hands-On Workshops • Interactive Problem-Solving Stations • Informative General Sessions •
Networking Events**

The Die Performance Improvement Clinic combines expert knowledge and experience with hands-on workshops for a truly valuable learning experience. This popular Clinic is a basic, practical die correction and maintenance educational event with informative general sessions, along with hands-on breakout sessions that are designed to pick up valuable tips and techniques to discuss problems, discover what went wrong, and find solutions.



Press Maintenance Workshop

May 12 – 14 (Mon.–Wed.) • Sheraton Music City Nashville Airport Hotel • Nashville, TN

A co-located educational opportunity for aluminum extruders.

Who Should Attend the Press Maintenance Workshop?

This workshop is **tailored both to industry management personnel and to those with hands-on responsibility**. The workshop is particularly appropriate for those newly hired, newly promoted, or ready for a refresher, including:

- Plant maintenance supervisors and technicians
- Engineers
- Press operators and quality assurance specialists
- Others responsible for maintaining extrusion presses
- Plant management personnel.

What You'll Learn

It is a fact that preventive maintenance is far less costly than a press shut down. Those attending the workshop will benefit by:

- Learning how to minimize press down-time
- Obtaining a greater understanding of the many aspects of extrusion press maintenance
- Learning methods to achieve and maintain optimum press alignment
- Exploring innovations in process control, automation, and systems integration
- Mastering techniques for electrical control equipment maintenance
- Learning how best to equip a maintenance department to achieve the greatest results
- Learning how to troubleshoot systems to reach peak efficiency.



BONUS!

As a bonus, each attendee will receive a copy of the **Press Maintenance Manual** on USB, a \$50 value.
(Press Maintenance Workshop attendees only).

Schedule at a Glance

PRESS MAINTENANCE WORKSHOP

This is a preliminary schedule and topics to be covered.

MONDAY, MAY 12

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Noon – 5:30 p.m. | Registration Open |
| 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. | Welcome Reception with Tabletop Displays
Dinner on your own |

TUESDAY, MAY 13

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. | Breakfast |
| 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. | Registration Open |
| 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. | GENERAL SESSION <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Welcome & Introduction- Safety- Extrusion Process & Alignment- Hydraulics, Electrical Controls |
| Noon – 1:00 p.m. | Lunch |
| 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. | GENERAL SESSION (continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Press Components- Press Upgrades- Lubrication |
| 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. | Reception with Tabletop Displays
Dinner on your own |

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. | Breakfast |
| 7:00 a.m. – Noon | Registration Open |
| 8:00 a.m. – Noon | GENERAL SESSION <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Die Heating & Temperature- Press Feed & Handling System- Handling System Materials- Metallurgy & Aging Ovens- Press Maintenance Practices- Summary & Closing |
| Noon | Press Maintenance Workshop Adjourns |

Die Performance Improvement Clinic

May 14 – 15 (Wed.–Thurs.) • Sheraton Music City Nashville Airport Hotel • Nashville, TN

Learn From Industry Experts!

At the AEC Die Performance Improvement Clinic, opportunities abound for hands-on learning from industry experts who have dealt with the challenges and issues you face every day. Only the Aluminum Extruders Council can give you **the best and most practical training** in the aluminum extrusion business.

Why Attend?

If you are involved in extrusion die and related operations, new to the job, or seasoned professional, you should attend this Die Clinic. It is particularly appropriate for those newly hired, newly promoted, or ready for a refresher.

- Brush up on your skills
- Learn new techniques
- Connect with fellow die personnel to "talk shop"
- Take home valuable information to improve your extrusion operation and share knowledge gained.

Who Should Attend?

- Die Makers
- Die Correctors
- Die Designers
- Die Shop Supervisors
- Extrusion Supervisors
- Press Operators
- Process Engineer
- Plant and Die Department Managers
- Sales Personnel, and more.

BREAKOUTS: The **HEART** of the Die Clinic

The breakout sessions are the heart of the Die Clinic.

All in-depth workshops and hands-on problem-solving stations are led by members of the AEC Die & Tooling Team – extruders and die makers who are experts in:

- Die Correction
- Die Manufacture
- Extrusion Operations and more.

It is the experience of these individuals, given freely, which makes the Die Clinic one of the Council's most popular events.

SEVEN BREAKOUT Sessions!

The core of the Clinic is a series of four separate in-depth workshops. Participants will rotate into small groups through each of the 7 sessions listed below over the course of the Clinic until each group has attended every workshop and problem-solving station.

FOUR In-Depth Workshops

WORKSHOP I

Die Design, Die Surface Defects and How They Affect Metal Flow

This session reviews the effects of different die design concepts and die surface treatments, such as nitriding, on extrusion finish. Also covered in the workshop is the impact of billet chemistry and metal flow. The causes of various common extrusion defects will be reviewed.

Workshop Presenters: **Bob Sulisz**, Exco Tooling Solutions;
Dan Gainor, Flextrude Aluminum Shapes (invited)

AEC reserves the right to alter the program and substitute speakers as needed.

Hotel Information



AEC 2025 Press Maintenance Workshop & Die Performance Improvement Clinic
Sheraton Music City Airport Hotel

777 McGavock Pike
Nashville, TN 37214

Online Reservations:
members.aec.org/PMW25 or
members.aec.org/DieClinic25
Phone reservations:
615.885.2200

(Please request the group rate for the Aluminum Extruders Council to get the special rate and book in our block.)

The hotel is holding a block of rooms at the special rate of **\$229 per night** (single or double) plus taxes and fees. This event is going to be in demand and will sell out quickly. Make your room reservation **no later than April 14** to be sure you get a room and to take advantage of the special AEC rate.

Transportation

The Sheraton is located just 4 miles from the terminals at Nashville International Airport (BNA). A free hotel shuttle runs daily from 4:00 a.m. to Midnight every 20 minutes. To be picked up at the Airport via the hotel shuttle, follow signs to:

Level 1 below Baggage Claim to Ground Transportation – Area 2 Hotel Shuttles.

WORKSHOP II

Evolution of Die Making and the Impact on Die Correction

This session will look at the development of die making over the last few decades. The changing levels of sophistication in die making equipment/techniques have changed the capability of extrusion dies, and the extrusions produced from those dies. Extrusion die manufacturing, and use, is moving from an art to a science. This session will take you through those changes and highlight the implication on the die corrector's role in the extrusion plant of today. Additionally, the session will cover the impact that these changes have had on the productivity of extrusion presses.

Workshop Presenters:

Richard Dickson, CASTOOL Tooling Systems;
Matt Wille, Alexandria Industries

WORKSHOP III

External Factors

This session explains when "not to correct the die." It can be more effective and productive to fix the source of the problem or the External Factors. External Factors relate to the press, billet, container, die stack etc., and their thermal management.

Workshop Presenters:

Paul Robbins and **Dan Dunn**, CASTOOL Tooling Systems

WORKSHOP IIII

Die Design & Correction, Simulation

This session takes an in-depth look at die design and die modification to achieve optimum performance:

- Die design features that inhibit velocity, and solutions
- Promoting metal flow and productivity
- Die optimization boosting performance of existing dies
- Additionally, the session will take you through in-depth look at a few cases of die rework/modification to maximize performance.

Workshop Presenter:

Joe Holdwick, Exco Canada

THREE Innovative Problem-Solving Stations

These special problem-solving stations examine real-world die correction problems illustrated using actual dies, extrusion profiles, drawings, photos, and other materials. A team of die correction experts staffs each station where attendees in small groups examine actual die correction problems. Attendees will learn and discuss:

- What went wrong
- How the problem was corrected, and
- What other options might have been used.

1) STATION A:

Bearing Maintenance and Polishing

Team Leaders: **Travis Deming** and **Aaron Norris**,
Thumb Tool & Engineering

2) STATION B:

Multi-Void Hollows

Team Leaders: **David Mrdjenovic**, Youngstown – Phoenix;
Matt Morell and **Mike Looney**, Pennex Aluminum

3) STATION C:

Metal Flow and Correction

Team Leaders: **Carl Holderbaum**, Bonnell Aluminum;
John Funai, Kaiser Aluminum

Bring your own challenges to the Clinic and get advice on how to solve them! This component of the Die Clinic is a popular and powerful learning tool. Those new to the field of die correction will be able to learn from seasoned experts while veterans can share their experiences and thoughts on die correction problems with novices.

The **Problem-Solving Stations** offer attendees a chance to see and discuss actual case studies that address such issues as pocket correction, tongue support, snap lines, polishing, multi-void hollows, incoming inspection, and more. Proper techniques such as choke and relief, bearing length, pocket modifications and bolster/mandrel support will also be covered in the interactive mini station sessions.

Schedule at a Glance

DIE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT CLINIC

This is a preliminary schedule and topics to be covered.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

- Noon – 1:00 p.m.** Lunch for Die Clinic Attendees
- 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.** **Die Clinic**
Opening General Session
 Welcome & Opening Remarks
Carl Holderbaum, Bonnell Aluminum
 Safety in the Die Shop
Carl Holderbaum, Bonnell Aluminum
 Metal Flow & the Impact on Extrusion Dies
Richard Dickson, CASTOOL Tooling Systems;
Jerome Fourmann, Rio Tinto
- 3:10 p.m. – 5:20 p.m.** **Breakout Sessions #1 – #2 ***
- 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.** **Welcome Reception**
 Dinner on your own

THURSDAY, MAY 15

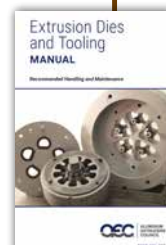
- 6:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.** **Registration Open**
- 6:45 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.** **Breakfast**
- 7:30 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.** **Breakout Sessions #3 – #7 ***
- 12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.** **Lunch**
- 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.** **Closing General Session**
 The Importance of Temperature and Pressure
Paul Robbins and Richard Dickson, CASTOOL Tooling Systems;
Jerome Fourmann, Rio Tinto
 Closing Comments
Carl Holderbaum, Bonnell Aluminum
- 4:00 p.m.** **Die Clinic Adjourns**

* Breakout sessions consist of 7 concurrent workshops and problem-solving stations in which participants rotate attending each session over the course of the 2-day Clinic.

BONUS!

Each Die Clinic attendee receives a copy of the **Extrusion Dies & Tooling Manual**, **Die Problem Checklist**, **3-D printed mini die**, and the **Die Clinic Workbook**:

- AEC's **Extrusion Dies and Tooling Manual** is a handy reference guide and training tool for anyone in the field of die correction and maintenance.
- 3-D printed porthole extrusion mini-die. The die is a scaled down version of a two-piece, single-hole, four-port structural pipe profile. These miniatures are an excellent training tool for participants to pass on technology learned with their extrusion die repair team back home.
- **Die Problem Checklist Poster** is a handy chart from the AEC's **Extrusion Dies and Tooling Manual**
- The AEC Die Performance Improvement Clinic Workbook includes handouts used during the sessions for reference, and pages for note-taking.



REGISTRATION FORM

Or Register Online: AECmeets.org

MAY 12 – 15, 2025 • SHERATON MUSIC CITY NASHVILLE AIRPORT HOTEL • NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Registration fees include all program sessions, workbook, bonus materials, selected meals and break refreshments. This form may be photocopied for additional people. Use one form for each person attending. Only those registered may attend. Registration is not complete until payment has been received.

Name/Title _____

Preferred First Name for Badge _____

Company _____

Company Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Zip/Postal Code _____ Country _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

☐ Check here if you have a disability or dietary restriction and require accommodation to fully participate. (AEC will contact you)

REGISTRATION

To save even more \$\$, register for both the Die Performance Improvement Clinic and the Press Maintenance Workshop and take \$50.00 off per person!

FEES (U.S. Dollars only)	Early Registration by April 14, 2025	Regular Registration after April 14, 2025	TOTAL
Press Maintenance Workshop (Monday – Wednesday)	☐ \$795 per person	☐ \$895 per person	
Die Performance Improvement Clinic (Wednesday – Thursday)	☐ \$795 per person	☐ \$895 per person	
Team of 3+ per person **	☐ - \$50 per person	☐ - \$50 per person	
TOTAL			
Combination Discount (The total discount for attending both events)	- \$50	- \$50	
GRAND TOTAL			

If you are registering a team online or attending both events, please contact Mandy Vazquez at mvazquez@tso.net for registration assistance.

**The Team Discount of \$50 off per person is available to companies registering three (3) or more representatives to attend the Press Maintenance Workshop, the Die Clinic or both if registered and paid together. If cancellation occurs and fewer than three people attend, the appropriate fee will be charged. Delegate substitutions may be made at any time up to the beginning of the event.

PAYMENT METHOD

☐ My check or bank draft for \$_____ in net U.S. funds is enclosed as full payment of registration fees. Make check payable to the Aluminum Extruders Council.

☐ Or charge my Credit Card for \$_____ ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ AmEx ☐ Discover

Required Printed Name of Cardholder _____

Signature _____

Billing Address (if different than above) _____

For your data protection, this portion of the form will be destroyed after processing your credit card information.

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____ V-code _____

(3- or 4-digit verification code on card)

Hotel Information

Sheraton Music City Airport Hotel

777 McGavock Pike

Nashville, TN 37214

Phone Reservations: 615.885.2200

(Request the group rate for the Aluminum Extruders Council to get the special rate and book in our block.)

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Mail completed forms and payment to:



Aluminum Extruders Council (AEC)

1000 N. Rand Road, Suite 214

Wauconda, IL 60084 USA

Secure Fax: 847.526.3993

Registration cannot be processed until payment has been received.

Questions?

phone: 847.416.7219

email: mvazquez@tso.net or mail@aec.org

NOTE: For your data protection, please do not email this form with credit card information. Please fax or mail completed form to AEC.

Cancellation: Registration fees will be refunded only if written notice is received at the AEC Executive Office on or before **April 28, 2025**.

A 20% administrative fee will be deducted from the refund. Substitutions may be made at any time.

FOR AEC OFFICE USE ONLY

DATE _____ ID# _____

TYPE _____ CHECK# _____

AMOUNT\$ _____

BADGE# _____ CD _____



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AEC.org

1000 N. Rand Road, Suite 214
Wauconda, IL 60084 USA

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MAY 12–15, 2025

Sheraton Music City
Nashville Airport Hotel

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members.aec.org/PMW25

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Press Maintenance Workshop & Die Performance Improvement Clinic **MAY 12–15, 2025**

Sheraton Music City
Nashville Airport Hotel
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

- Learn From Experts
- Expand Your Extrusion Knowledge
- Improve Your Maintenance & Die Skills
- Become Indispensable to Your Company

members.aec.org/PMW25

members.aec.org/DieClinic25

Tel 847.526.2010
email mail@aec.org

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