

# Keep In Touch



Manufacturing Software

Visit our website at:- [www.seikisystems.co.uk](http://www.seikisystems.co.uk)

## Exo-View - simplifying the process

Exo-View is a specialised software package developed specifically to enable component suppliers to integrate with Exostar, the system used by aerospace and aero-engine manufacturers to inform their subcontract suppliers of delivery requirements.



As the principal requests that the supplier confirm that they can comply to these changes or notify of any problems with quantities, prices, or delivery dates by the end of the week it is essential that the information that you have is up-to-date. This means co-ordinating the latest Exostar release with your production schedules, which when done on multiple spreadsheets and using paper based methods can be time consuming and often inaccurate.

Exostar is an ideal solution to enable suppliers to forward plan but due to the large quantity of information and with no method of highlighting any changes simply and quickly, maintaining the system can be problematical.

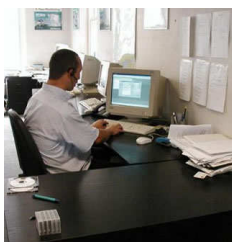
Managing Exostar schedules normally requires a dedicated member of staff, usually a senior manager, to spend many hours each week to manually run through multiple spreadsheet pages, often containing hundreds of lines, to check for any changes from previous issues. The implications of error can be serious as they can cause production and delivery problems not only on site but also for the end user.

Exo-View, the latest product release from Seiki Systems can automatically analyse the customer's requirements quickly and highlight changes, a task that normally takes days when done manually. A traffic light system also alerts to any items needing immediate attention. Further to this the system can also be integrated to the Real Time Scheduler allowing you to view the exact position and status of W.I.P, obtain an immediate forecast of any possible late deliveries and longer term effects on production.

## Support - Live on the web

Providing a reliable and effective technical support service to our customers is very important to us at Seiki Systems. In an effort to ensure that we are able to continuously enhance this service we are constantly seeking to use the latest technologies available; giving our engineers access to tools that will enable them to offer technical assistance quickly and remotely whenever it is possible.

Seiki Systems are registered users of GoToMeeting™ which allows our engineers to provide technical assistance by directly logging on to the customers' PC over a secure internet connection. The major benefits of this online support facility include increased flexibility and convenience for the customer as our engineer is able to investigate and interactively resolve solutions to complex technical issues. This can potentially greatly reduce the amount of time required to resolve the problem in comparison to what can be achieved over the telephone or by making visits.



This service is free of charge to our customers and all that you require is a PC, email address and a broadband connection.

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## Support Challenge

In April Brian our technical support engineer, who is a keen cyclist, will take on the Macmillan Peru Cycling Challenge. As many of you will already know Brian was unable to take part in the 7 day trek last October as he sustained a broken leg just a week before he was due to fly out to Peru.

Now that he is completely healed and back on his bike Brian is ready to fly out once again to take part in the challenge that starts at Lake Titicaca (the highest lake in the world) across remote altiplano and past snow capped mountains before finishing at Macchu Picchu—the famous 'Lost City of the Incas'.

This cycling challenge is to help ensure that Macmillan are able to continue to support cancer patients and their families.

*If you would like to know more about the Macmillan cycling challenge and how you can support the cause visit their website: [www.macmillan.org.uk](http://www.macmillan.org.uk)*

## Give your production manufacturing intelligence

*There is so much more to be had from electronic production management systems than meets the eye. Andrew Ward explains in the January 2007 issue of Manufacturing Computer Solutions*

Doubling the percentage of deliveries that meet their due date, cutting delivery lead times from months to weeks, and maximising production: the stuff of dreams? What's extraordinary is not just that British manufacturers are achieving exactly this today, but that it's largely made possible by a few wires and some PCs.



manufacturers, on both sides of the Atlantic, are asking for, according to David Trowell, general manager at Seiki. "They want management, control and measuring: managing the production, controlling the process and measuring the performance," he explains.

Replacing paper with electronic communication - especially on the shop floor - has long been touted as a way to make things move along faster, more efficiently and with more accuracy, automated audit trails and the rest. But the reality of what can be accomplished today with electronic production management systems far surpasses those somewhat mundane achievements, yet it still takes some manufacturers by surprise.

One company that has benefited substantially from this approach is specialist subcontract machinist Kenard Engineering, which is using manufacturing and production scheduling system iMES from Seiki Systems to help increase sales turnover, improve machine utilisation and reduce work in progress - all through improved communication and control.

And what Kenard is achieving today is just what many

The foundation is an electronic scheduler - supplanting yesterday's infinite capacity schedulers and spreadsheets with a finite scheduler - one that takes into account shift patterns, how best to route jobs around the shop floor, due dates, shop capacity and other limitations."

Of course this level of production management has been possible for some time, but it hasn't been very achievable. But today, PCs are cheap, easy to use and blisteringly fast. "No longer are we fighting performance problems, and no longer are there huge IT requirements sitting behind it for the management side," says Ellis (Keith Ellis, managing director of Kenard Engineering). Which is just as well, because life in the face of global competition isn't going to get any easier.

This extract is taken from Manufacturing Computer Solutions - January 2007. To read the article in full please visit our website [www.seikisystems.co.uk](http://www.seikisystems.co.uk) or [www.mcsolutions.co.uk](http://www.mcsolutions.co.uk)

## Take Control

The Graphical Real Time Scheduler provides up to date information and lets you know exactly what is happening at all stages of production. By maximising the productivity of your existing assets you can focus on improving all aspects of your manufacturing. By selecting the Scheduler as a solution you could benefit from:-

- Maintaining delivery dates
- Predicting problems and delays
- A controlled workflow
- A reduction in W.I.P and inventory
- Increased flexibility

Visit [www.seikisystems.co.uk/products/takecontrol.htm](http://www.seikisystems.co.uk/products/takecontrol.htm)

## 2007 - the year ahead

2007 promises to be a very exciting year at Seiki Systems. We have been working very hard to develop and enhance our existing software; this is a continual process as we are working on your behalf to improve the product and these improvements are often based upon feedback from customers. We are also very excited that we have brand new products that are due to be launched in 2007. All the latest news will be published on the Seiki Systems website so keep checking for updates. Finally, we can confirm that we are to attend MACH 08 after last year's show was such a success.



Please send me information on: (tick all that apply)

- > Support -Live on the web
- > Give your production manufacturing intelligence
- > Graphical Real Time Scheduler
- > Exo-View - simplify the process
- > Other \_\_\_\_\_ (please specify)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
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