

# PECAS VISION ERP SOFTWARE USERS CONFERENCE



**T**his continues the tradition of running users conferences in Europe and North America, to ensure global input to the future product direction of PECAS Vision. Past events have enjoyed excellent attendance from top packaging companies.

This year's European Users Conference in Wolverhampton, England, opened with an address from the Radius Solutions User Group President, Chris Pickerill, Head of I.T. - Europe at Graphic Packaging. Following the opening address, David Taylor, President and CEO of Radius Solutions provided a company update including important developments for customers and future product direction of the PECAS Vision ERP application suite.

## Being Proactive

A key theme at this year's event was 'proactive business management'. Radius Solutions rolled out a state-of-the-art Business Intelligence suite for packaging companies to help provide complete clarity into business operations. The new solution taps into the vast transactional data captured by PECAS Vision and quickly turns it into meaningful business information that can be used to improve operations.

**It was mid-March when Radius Solutions completed its 2010 European Users Conference, pulling together top packaging companies from around Europe.**



David Taylor

Capabilities such as immediately being able to identify the most and least profitable clients, production facilities and jobs were presented. Also shown were demonstrations of the solution's 'what if' capabilities – allowing companies to see how changing variables such as materials costs, would impact their bottom line profitability. The Business Intelligence sessions were presented by Steve Rice, newly appointed Director of Business Intelligence at Radius Solutions.

This year's event also featured a number of guest speakers sharing knowledge and experience of different areas of expertise. Dannielle Beattie, Group Finance Manager of inspirepac Group provided a presentation on SIPOC Implementation, and together with Eric Ooft, I.T. Manager of Amcor Tobacco Packaging, shared an overview of how their companies make best use of the PECAS Vision Production Scheduling Assistant Tool. Brent Adonis from Progress Software also presented at this year's event – his session addressed ways to improve operational efficiency.

Along with main-stage and break-out sessions were a number of hands-on workshops to help clients maximise their use of the many capabilities built into the PECAS Vision applications suite. Scheduling, Estimating, Reporting and Business

Intelligence were primary areas of focus. Also included in the agenda were sessions to help clients get the most out of Radius Solutions support services and implementation consulting services; including complimentary one-to-one consulting sessions with Radius Solutions applications experts.

The Radius Solutions PECAS Vision Users Conference offers a unique opportunity to not only see what is in the latest software releases, but to shape the future product direction of the PECAS Vision application. The interactive format of the event provides a great deal of opportunity to meet with the professionals who formalise the plans for future product development. The final session at the event is always a product input session where an 'enhancement wish list' is developed, collated and prioritised. The wish list shapes future releases of the product.

A mainstay of the PECAS Vision Users Group and Conferences is the chance to network with peers running the same application within the packaging industry. "Within our users community there is an exceptional amount of expertise regarding how to best utilise every aspect of our software system. Our clients can get together and help one another in ways that add another dimension of value to the gatherings. It is an excellent, productive collaboration between software vendor, attendees and partners that make these events uniquely valuable, and consistently well attended," says David Taylor.

The final element in making these events a success is to involve clients. Radius Solutions have a sitting User Group Committee who correspond with their entire user community to help set the entire agenda for each year's event, including content, location and timing. Thanks go to the following people for their time, energy and valuable participation: Chris Pickerill, User Group President from Graphic Packaging and Dannielle Beattie, User Group Vice President from inspirepac Group, and the rest of the

***"An excellent and smoothly organised conference."***

Michael Johnston, Operations Support Manager, Dakota Packaging.

***"I found the conference both informative and enjoyable. I was really glad I attended and hope to attend future meetings. Thank you,"***

Margaret McGee, Financial Controller, Kenilworth Products Ltd.

***"Thank you Radius for organising this event and preparing the very interesting presentations. For me it was a true user group event with just the right balance of content. Thanks also for organising the one to one session on the Friday - a very important element of the two days for us,"***

Ian Powis, Head of I.T., Nampak Europe.

***"Thank you for an excellent two days. The conference was enlightening and gave me confidence for the future of PECAS Vision development."***

Pat Case, PECAS Vision Implementation Officer, A&R Carton.

***"Many thanks for a very well organized event. Having received numerous invitations over the years, this was my first time to attend a Radius Solutions conference. I enjoyed the presentations and the networking that was afforded through this gathering,"***

Eamonn Lightholder, Financial Controller, CB Packaging Limited.

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board members: Robin Agnew from MSO Cleland, Paul Backhouse from Parkside Flexible Packaging, Glenn Ingram from Boxes GH, Michael Johnston from Dakota Packaging, Eric Ooft from Amcor Tobacco Packaging, Andy Smith from Chesapeake Corporation and Peter Vernon from A1Trade Print Services.

The next PECAS Vision Users Conference will be the North American event, to be held on the 21-23 July in Chicago, IL, USA. Planning for the next European Users Conference is already underway. "We look forward to good attendance, excellent content and in short, a great deal of value derived for our clients," concludes Mr Taylor.

