EPILOG LASER

16371 Table Mountain Parkway
Golden, CO 80403
www.epiloglaser.com

Inside:

Epilog Laser Educational Clinics

Classes and training to learn more about lasers, CorelDRAW, and Epilog!

Whether you use an Epilog or any other type of CO2 laser, or are just interested in learning more about the industry, our informative clinics are an immensely valuable resource. Covering in-depth engraving topics such as system maintenance, laser safety and the latest production techniques, you're sure to find answers to all your laser engraving questions.

Location	Sponsor	Venue	Phone	Date
Mississauga, Ontario - Canada	Engravers Express	Monte Carlo Inn Airport Suites 7035 Edwards Blvd. Mississauga, Ontario - L5T 2H8	P: (403) 569-0400	October 22, 23
Denver, CO	Innovative Cutting Systems	Denver Airport Marriott 16455 E. 40th Circle Aurora, CO 80011	P: (480) 557-7999	October 22, 23

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Laser FOCUS

3RD QUARTER 2010

WEB UPDATES

- **Sample Club:** Engraved water bottles are stylish and fun. epiloglaser.com/sc_water_bottle.htm
- **Tech Library:** Get creative and learn to make your very own FontBot. epiloglaser.com/tl_font_robot.htm
- **Sample Club:** iPad case engraving is extremely popular. www.epiloglaser.com/sc_ipadcase.htm
- **News:** We're excited to announce we've been awarded a U.S. Patent for our Waveguide™ laser tubes. epiloglaser.com/news_waveguide_patent.htm
- **News:** Epilog wins an Editor's Choice Award from MAKE Magazine at the Detroit Maker Faire. epiloglaser.com/news_mf_detroit.htm

EPILOG LASER

Epilog Laser and Instructables Present 2nd Annual Epilog Challenge

Best Instructable Entry Wins Epilog Zing Laser Engraving/Cutting System

Epilog Laser and Instructables are pleased to announce the second annual Epilog Challenge. The participant submitting the most creative and innovative do-it-yourself project will win an Epilog Zing 16 Laser, the industry's first entry-level, high-quality laser engraving and cutting system. The contest begins Nov. 8 and ends Dec. 2, 2010.

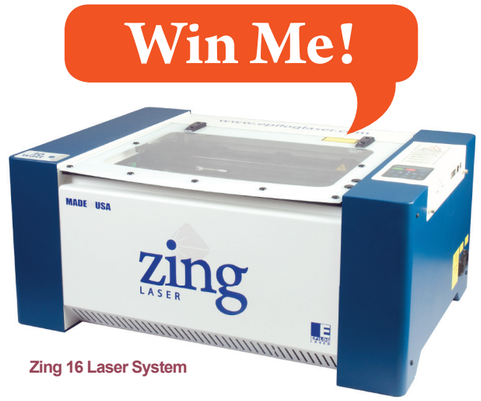
"We're excited to partner with Instructables once again for the Epilog Challenge," said Mike Dean, director of sales and marketing for Epilog Laser. "We were thrilled with last year's entries and know that this year will be even bigger – we can't wait to see the projects people come up with."

The 2009 Epilog Challenge, which incorporated an eco-friendly element, resulted in 477 entries, with the grand prize being awarded to the "DIY High-Speed Book Scanner from Trash and Cheap Cameras."

"The Epilog Challenge is the highlight of my year," said Eric Wilhelm, founder and CEO of Instructables. "I can't wait to be amazed and inspired by the creativity of the Instructables community!"

The 2010 Epilog Challenge begins Nov. 8 and entries will be accepted through Dec. 2. Fifteen finalists will be selected: 10 by user votes, and five by Instructables staff. A panel of expert judges from a variety of disciplines will select the winners. The grand prize winner will receive a Zing 16 Laser from Epilog and runners-up will win gift certificates from Ponoko.com.

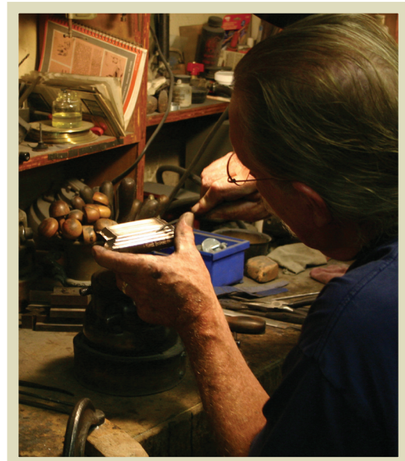
To learn more about Instructables, visit **www.instructables.com**.



Zing 16 Laser System

Customer Focus: Laser technology helps create the music industry's most coveted award

Tradition meets technology as Epilog Laser systems help Billings Artworks create Grammy Awards

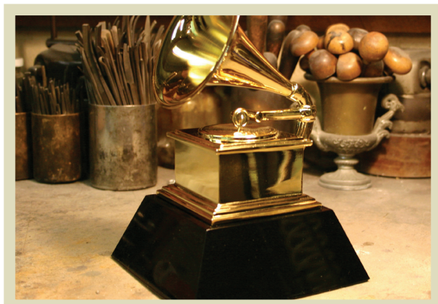


John Billings spends countless hours crafting the components of each Grammy.

Established in 1958, the Grammys are one of the most highly-sought after honors in the music business. John Billings, owner of Billings Artworks, has a deep connection to the award as he's been making them for over 30 years.

"I began working on the Grammys in 1976 in California as an apprentice to Bob Graves, who was a master mold maker," John tells us. "Bob made molds for metal trophy figures for many of the trophy companies at the time, and he also made the molds for the first Grammy in 1958. After a seven-year apprenticeship, Bob passed away and I bought the business from his widow and moved it into my garage. At that time I was making around 130 Grammys a year and the majority of my work was mold making."

While the Grammy award itself is created from a mold, the text on the name plaques and serialization tags is engraved. John began engraving the Grammy plates on an antique New Hermes Pantograph. He explains that the machine had a tray of brass letters that the operator would slide into a slot one at a time and then clamp into place. The letters were traced using a stylus with one hand, while the other hand held down a drag-engraving tool that transferred the letters to a brass plate. The process was long and tedious, and John recalls that it was not uncommon to spend as much as three hours engraving just one Grammy.



A finished Grammy sculpture prior to adding the name plate.

Realizing he needed to retool the way he went about engraving the awards, John attended his first Awards and Recognition Association show in Las Vegas in 1986. There he found the Dahlgren Wizzard, which he purchased on the spot and used for the last 25 years. Though the Dahlgren drastically reduced the engraving time for John, the size of projects he could do was limited by the small table.

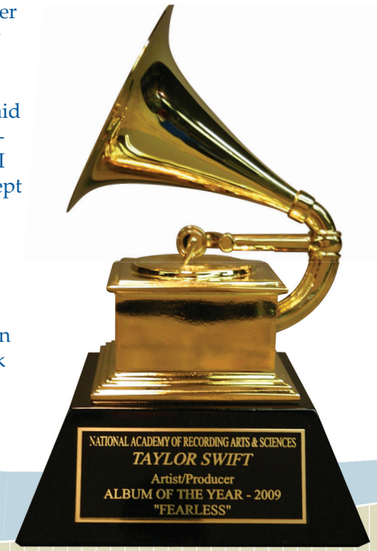
"I was looking for an engraver that would allow me to do larger items," John said. "I had seen lasers in the industry trade magazines for years, but never thought I could justify the expense. So I started doing some research, downloading manuals, reading the comments and reviews in various forums, and time after time Epilog kept coming out ahead."

John decided Epilog's Helix model would best meet his engraving needs. He said after his first job he couldn't wait to try more projects. "Even before Sean, a representative from Innovative Cutting Systems, came out for our onsite training, I had experimented with all kinds of materials lying around the shop and just kept coming up with new ideas and applications."

Creating each Grammy from scratch is a time consuming process; however, John's Epilog greatly reduces the engraving time on several of the components. "When Sean arrived he helped create a jig so that we can engrave 40 Grammy plates at a time – I was very impressed. Additionally, each Grammy gets its own serial number – in the past we would drag engrave a small brass plate and stick it on the bottom. With my Epilog, I cut a jig from Plexiglass and now I can just slip the base of the award into the laser to engrave the serial number and our logo and it's done in 20 seconds."

Full story continued online...

To read the full story and learn more about Billings Artworks, visit **epiloglaser.com/cs_billings_grammy.htm.**



Finished Grammy with name plate.

Tech Library: Maintenance Refresher

Just as you would take your car in for tune-ups and oil changes, preventative maintenance on your laser system is an integral part of being a laser owner. Here we'll highlight some of the most important tasks you can perform in order to keep your system running at peak performance. For full instructions on these items, please refer to your owner's manual.

Weekly:
1. Clean optics - Smoke, resin, or other contaminants can reduce the available laser power and will cause damage to the optics.
2. Clean the auto-focus plunger - Removing residue helps ensure precise focusing.
3. Clean beneath the vector grid/vacuum table - Reduce any possible fire hazards by removing debris that has fallen through the table.
4. Cleaning the Bearing Rail (not necessary on EXT) - Proper cleaning ensures bearings perform at their best.

Monthly:
1. Clean the linear encoder strip - Cleaning will ensure the x-axis will not lose its position.
2. Cleaning the linear optical encoder - Prevents debris buildup that stops the encoder from working properly.

Quarterly:
1. Lubricate bearing rails (not necessary on EXT) - Proper lubrication ensures optimum performance and long life for your bearing system.

Semi-annually:
1. Clean exhaust - Cleaning the exhaust system removes built-up debris and reduces fire hazards.

Sample Club: Engraved Glass Centerpiece

This beautiful engraved glass centerpiece adds style and sophistication to any holiday setting.

The design includes a wreath of leaves and holly of varying grayscales to create depth and contrast. This vector-based design can be resized to fit any dimensions and can be further customized with a family name or favorite holiday quote.

Here we'll walk you through the steps to create this stunning centerpiece.

You'll need:

- Beveled glass candle holder/centerpiece (square) - ours was 13" x 13" and we purchased it from Hobby Lobby.

We used the following settings on a 50-watt Helix:
Speed: 85%
Power: 100%
DPI: 400

Instructions continued online...
For complete instructions and to download the sample file visit epiloglaser.com/sc_holiday_centerpiece.htm