

5th RGOD HK RFID Awards 2012 香港無線射頻識別大獎 LEADERS IN BUSINESS EXCELLENCE CREATION



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Welcome Message



Entering its 5th Year Anniversary, the Hong Kong RFID Awards has received over 150 entries since its inception in 2008 and has been recognized as the HKSAR's premier RFID award. The Hong Kong RFID Awards were first established by GS1 Hong Kong to honor and recognize enterprises, which have successfully brought EPC/RFID technologies into their business operations as a pioneer to enhance business efficiency and cost reduction in Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta region.



In the past few years, the Hong Kong RFID Awards were well received with nominations coming from manufacturers, healthcare professionals, logistics services providers, global retailers, public services and utilities, academic institutions as well as leading technology providers.

This year, the U-21 Industry Facilitation Program was newly launched to nurture the RFID young talents of HK U-21 RFID Awards and connect them with the industry experts. Mentors shared their experience, insights and advice with the students to develop their projects. Through the U-21 Mentorship program, the innovative and enthusiasm students were inspired to create new insights such as applications to assist visually impaired and disabled people in their daily lives.

The Hong Kong RFID Awards also collaborated with Guangdong RFID Awards 2012 as well as HK-TW EPC/RFID Academia Awards 2012 jointly organized by GS1 Hong Kong, Guangdong RFID Technology Service Centre and GS1 Taiwan respectively. Winners of Hong Kong RFID Awards 2012 were nominated to participate in the Guangdong-Hong Kong RFID Awards 2012 and Hong Kong-Taiwan EPC/RFID Academia Awards 2012. This collaboration enhances the cross-border interaction and cooperation on RFID application and development. In additional, creative young talent in Hong Kong and Taiwan were recognized to develop new EPC/RFID technology promises for enterprises and our daily lives.

I would like to convey my congratulations to all winners for their devotion and creativity to contribute in the RFID technology. We believe the winners will lead the new concepts to create business excellence in the near future.

Ms. Anna Lin, J.P. Chief Executive GS1 Hong Kong



Congratulatory Message



It is my great pleasure in extending my congratulations to the GS1 Hong Kong of its fifth Hong Kong RFID Awards. I am happy to see the event successfully fostering the development of new RFID products and services in our daily lives.



This year, the candidates of RFID Business Awards have shown their passion to make innovative use of the emerging RFID technology by displaying a high standard of entries, which would encourage the industries as a whole in capturing opportunities and surviving challenges.

I am also delighted to share our young talents' creativity and outstanding achievements in the U-21 RFID Awards. This platform has provided our hopefuls with opportunities to pursue their lifelong career in the field of innovation and technology in the future.

Being identified as one of the six growth industries in Hong Kong, innovation and technology plays a crucial role in our long-term development. The Government is committed to providing an environment conducive to the development of high value-added and high technology industries through a programme of infrastructural and funding support.

With our concerted efforts and continued support from industry, academia and research sector, we believe that Hong Kong can become a regional hub for innovation and technology.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate GS1 Hong Kong on organising such a successful event and I look forward to working closely with GS1 Hong Kong to enhance the community awareness of the importance of RFID development.

> Ms. Janet Wong, J.P. Commissioner for Innovation and Technology HKSAR Government

Congratulatory Messages





It is my great honor to extend congratulations to all the winners of the 5th Hong Kong RFID Awards, and I speak not only for myself but also on behalf of the Communications Association of Hong Kong (CAHK), as the organization's chairman. Our industry is very proud of the achievements of every one of our participants, because it is through independent efforts that we will collectively move forward and ensure progress for Hong Kong's ICT environment.

The recognition of this year's winners is best considered within its proper context. By that I mean, it is very impressive that Hong Kong's ICT participants are making world-class breakthroughs, even within the scope of a fast-paced global industry where we see new developments almost on a weekly or even daily basis from all over the world.

Similarly, we must recollect that Hong Kong's ICT industry, and by extension its participants, remain foremost in the world, with our city being a leading light in ICT infrastructure, innovation and adoption. We are top in the world, when it comes to Internet speeds, connectivity penetration, and user bandwidth. For all these achievements, we should be very proud. Industry accolades, such as the Hong Kong RFID Awards, are crucial to encouraging our continued ICT progression and leadership. They inspire in all of us the motivation to pursue excellence, to reach high quality of ideas and execution.

As the world continues moving forward in the great technological transformation that we have been experiencing within at least the past three decades, I believe that we can also look forward to more examples of spirited breakthrough as has been demonstrated by this year's winners of the 5th Hong Kong RFID Awards.

Again, I congratulate the winners, for your success is ultimately Hong Kong's success.

Mr. Stephen Ho Chairman Communications Association of Hong Kong



Since its inception, GS1 Hong Kong has been dedicating its efforts to help companies in Hong Kong and its neighbouring region to improve their supply chain efficiency, and notably in recent years in promoting and recognising innovative applications involving RFID technology. In pursuit of this objective, among the various initiatives is the GS1 HK RFID Award which recognises the best and most innovative use of RFID technology in our business

community as well as relevant tertiary students' projects. I am honoured and proud to be one of the judges in this premium Award, and I wish to extend my congratulations to GS1 on this occasion of the Award's 5th anniversary.

Mr. Stephen Lau J.P. President Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCS)

Congratulatory Messages



Established by GS1 Hong Kong since 2008, the Hong Kong RFID Awards Scheme has been highly regarded by industry. RFID as a technology is being developed and applied with a view to increasing efficiency in logistics and supply chain management. GS1 Hong Kong should be commended for its remarkable contribution in driving forward RFID development and application. The Awards Scheme has attracted a large number of well-established firms participating in the Scheme to compete for the awards.



Mr. Stephen Cheng President **Hong Kong Logistics Association**



I would like to congratulate GS1 Hong Kong for organizing the fifth Hong Kong RFID Awards. It is commendable that the Awards have not only offered a platform for promoting RFID applications, but more importantly, an occasion to recognize the innovation demonstrated by our IT professionals in bridging RFID technology and business operations. For the awardees in particular, I would like to express my most sincere gratitude for your dedication and contribution in upholding Hong Kong as the regional hub for trade and information technology.



Ms. Caroline Mak Chairman **Hong Kong Retail Management Association**



It gives me great delight to congratulate GS1 Hong Kong for celebrating the 5th Anniversary of the Hong Kong RFID Awards. This premier event represents an important milestone for boosting the adoption of RFID technology in Hong Kong. For those local companies and individuals who have demonstrated innovation in harnessing the use



of RFID technology, they are able to obtain third party assessment and industry recognition of their solutions through participating in this award competition. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of GS1 Hong Kong and its professional team. This event has offered a unique opportunity for the industry to recognize the best adoption practices and to allow the participants to share knowledge among themselves.

On this special occasion, I congratulate GS1 Hong Kong again on its accomplishments, and sincerely wish the Hong Kong RFID Awards continued success in the years to come.

Mr P.M. Lai Chairman Hong Kong Retail Technology Industry Association (RTIA)



I am pleased to extend my hearty congratulations to GS1 Hong Kong and the 5th Anniversary of the Hong Kong RFID Awards. Through the notable devotion of GS1 Hong Kong in the past five years, I am glad that the Hong Kong RFID Awards has been established as the premier and widely recognized award of the industry.



Hong Kong Wiresless Technology Industry Association (WTIA) will continue to support the meaningful Awards which facilitates the development of the RFID technology by recognizing outstanding enterprises in the industry!

Mr. To Cheung Chairman Hong Kong Wireless Technology Industry Association (WTIA)

Congratulatory Messages



It gives me great pleasure to join the celebration of the 5th Anniversary of Hong Kong RFID Awards.



RFID has been evolving in many directions. It plays an important role in helping logistics service providers gain visibility into the global supply chain, increase efficiency by optimizing business processes and automating asset and inventory management.

With the hard work and dedication of GS1 Hong Kong, the Hong Kong RFID Awards has grown in its recognition over the past years. On its 5th Anniversary, I would like to warmly congratulate the Hong Kong RFID Awards on its contribution to the shipping public encouraging the adoption of RFID technology and fostering the development of new EPC/RFID products and services in Hong Kong.

Being a longstanding industry partner, HAFFA will continue to treasure our amicable relationship and join hands with GS1 Hong Kong to empower the core competences and competitiveness for Hong Kong's freight & logistics industry.

> Ir. Dr. Paul Tsui Chairman Hongkong Association of Freight Forwarding & Logistics (HAFFA)



Stepping into the 5th Anniversary of Hong Kong RFID Awards, this remarkable year lightened the impressive success of RFID technology development in Hong Kong. The award gives the companies the recognition of their innovative and excellence use of RFID technology. The efficient application of RFID in business has strengthened the competitiveness of Hong Kong companies with the world. We trust that the path for RFID development will continually be on a promising growth with innovative ideas and breakthroughs in the coming future.

Prof. Steve Lo Wong Fung, J.P. Chairman The Chamber of Hong Kong Logistics Industry Ltd.



RFID was invented half a century ago, and its fast development in the last 30 years has enabled companies to apply it in numerous flexible ways with excellent precision and efficiency. A few years ago, people usually thought of RFID only in the supply chain sense; but today, RFID is being used in many more ways we wouldn't have imagined. The initiative of the Hong Kong RFID Awards has been playing an important role in giving invaluable support and stimulation to industrial research and to accelerate creativity of the younger generation. The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in Hong Kong is looking forward to the new deployment of the technology by the winners of this year's RFID Awards and U-21 RFID Awards.

> Prof. Becky P. Y. Loo President The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in Hong Kong



On behalf of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, it is my pleasure to offer my heartfelt congratulations to the Hong Kong RFID Awards 2012 and the awardees on the occasion of the Award Presentation Ceremony.

innovative application of EPC/RFID technology to improve our quality of living.

Since its launching in 2008, the Awards have promoted the recognition to enterprises which have successfully implemented EPC/RFID technology into their business operations. I am particularly delighted to see that the Awards provide the opportunities for the participants to demonstrate the

May I wish the Award Presentation Ceremony a remarkable event for all participants who have made commendable achievement in the development and implementation of EPC/RFID technology.

Ir. Prof. Choi Kin Kuen President The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers



About the Hong Kong RFID Awards & U-21 RFID Awards

HONG KONG RFID AWARDS



HONG KONG U-21 RFID AWARDS



The Organizer

GS1 Hong Kong is a not-for-profit industryled organization established to promote global standards, best practices and enabling technologies in the field of global value and supply chain management. As the local chapter of GS1, we are the only organization in Hong Kong authorized to issue GS1 and Electronic Product Code (EPC) identification numbers.

The Objectives

The Hong Kong RFID Awards were first established in 2008. The awards program has been created to champion the use of EPC standards compliant RFID technology by enterprises. The principal objectives of Hong Kong RFID Awards are to:

- Bring recognition to pioneering enterprises that have successfully brought EPC/RFID technologies into their business operations.
- Encourage the adoption of EPC/RFID technologies by businesses in Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta region.
- Foster the development of new EPC/RFID products and services.

In a bid to uplift the spirits of the Hong Kong RFID Awards, the Hong Kong U-21 RFID Awards was established in 2009 which is opened to both full-time and part-time undergraduate and postgraduate students of any local tertiary institutions.

The Objectives

- Foster collaboration between industry and academia to develop new EPC/RFID applications and technological products with market potential
- Nurture a new generation of technical professionals with creativity and business acumen
- Stimulate market demand for innovative EPC/RFID applications and products
- Inspire new insights in the industry with the innovativeness and enthusiasm of tertiary students

The Awards Categories

1. Best EPC/RFID Implementation

These honors will be awarded to enterprises that have successfully adopted EPC/RFID technologies in their business operation to deliver business value and proven return on investment through cost savings, operational efficiency gains, improved production and supply chain management, and better customer service.

2. Most Innovative Use of EPC/RFID

These honors will be awarded to enterprises that have employed a high degree of innovation and creativity in their application of EPC/RFID technologies to solve operational issues and meet business challenges.

3. Most Innovative EPC/RFID Products

These honors will be awarded to enterprises that have created RFID products which are highly innovative, easy to deploy, cost effective, addresses market needs and complies with global RFID standards, in particular EPC standards.

The Hong Kong U-21 RFID Awards Categories

1. Best EPC/RFID Concept

The winner of this award will demonstrate a high level of originality and creativity in adopting EPC/ RFID technologies attempting to address a welldefined business issue or daily lives' problem, which has foreseeable market potentials.

2. Most Innovative EPC/RFID Application

The winner of this award will be an EPC/RFID application, integration or product, which is innovative, possesses distinctive features, complies with global RFID standards, and may also address market needs. Heavy weights will be allocated for projects developed through partnership between an enterprise and an academic institution.



Hong Kong U-21 RFID Award Industry Facilitation Program

Hong Kong U-21 RFID Award Industry Facilitation Program

The Hong Kong U-21 RFID Award Industry Facilitation Program is introduced in 2012 with distinguished RFID technology experts, professionals and pioneers who share industry implementation experience and provide insights and advice to the Hong Kong U-21 RFID Awards participating teams that facilitate idea generation and innovative applications. Under this program, participating young talents are entitled to receive support and advice through U-21 RFID Award Mentorship Program, RFID Hardware Support and Ideas Bank.









Hong Kong U-21 RFID Award Meet the Bosses Program

Every year, upon completion of the Hong Kong U-21 RFID Award Program, young talents will be granted a unique opportunity to demonstrate their innovative ideas and success to the industry leaders and RFID solution organizations through the "Meet the Bosses Program".

Special thanks to the Industry Partners of the Hong Kong U-21 RFID Award Industry Facilitation Program















Remarkable Memories

The 9th GS1 Hong Kong Supply Chain Management Excellence Supply Chain Management Excel



Establishment of the Hong Kong U-21 RFID Awards



Establishment of the Hong Kong RFID Awards

2008

2009



Hong Kong RFID Awards branded under Hong Kong Smart City+ Awards Program of World Expo 2010 Shanghai



2012 Event Review



Hong Kong U-21 winners participated in the InnoCarnival organized by the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) of HKSAR Government.



RFID Awards Industry Success Story & Innovative Young Talents Projects Sharing



Introduction of Hong Kong U-21 RFID Award Industry Facilitation Program

((GS1





Introduction of Guangdong-Hong Kong RFID Awards 粤港無線射頻識別大獎



GS1



Introduction of Hong Kong-Taiwan EPC / RFID Academia Awards 香港-台灣 大專學界EPC / RFID大獎

2011

2012



Judging panels & assessment days



5th Anniversary By Numbers

HONG KONG RFID AWARDS & HONG KONG U-21 RFID AWARDS 85 Business project entries



46 Technologies companies

36 Gold awards granted

Silver awards granted









47 Printed media coverage

1,100,000 Readership 21 Bronze awards granted





40%+ Students came from non-technology related studies **118** Certificate of merit granted

 \star







Message from the Judging Panel



2012 sees RFID, this bubbling technology over a decade or more, reaching a boiling point soon. All the major players in the industry are calling for it and suddenly, people who are complaining RFID development having been too slow are now complaining they don't have enough time to make things happen.

The fifth Hong Kong RFID Awards were held at this exciting time. Without surprise GS1 HK has received a great collection of project entries from a diverse group of participants. The Panel of Judges was delighted at the quality and creativity of the projects which definitely bring forward in their own domain the RFID technology into significant industry applications. The Panel also noted that the emphasis was definitely shifted to commercial propositions of the technology deployment, which is always a strong asset of the Hong Kong business community.

In fact, it is now a wide consensus in the commercial and public sectors that RFID is going to become a transformation technology due to its broad and deep applications that could change supply chain decision making, enterprise operations, shopping behaviors, security measures in trade, healthcare, food consumption, and luxury products, and many more. To place Hong Kong into the middle of this big global wave, the RFID Award becomes especially meaningful as it encourages Hong Kong enterprises to creatively develop new applications that could establish unique, first-mover competitive advantages.

On behalf of the Panel, I'd like to congratulate the well deserved winners who have definitely demonstrated the leadership in this highly contested award in innovative RFID technology development and/or application, project implementation and most importantly, its impacts to the Hong Kong industries. These projects have raised the bar of the Award because they are not only outstanding in innovative use of the technology, but also equally excellent in technology implementation.

The Panel would also like to extend our thanks to the other Award applicants who would have easily won on their own merits. While GS1 should also be congratulated for successfully organized the RFID Award as usual, we have every reason to believe the Panel for the next Award will have a lot more difficult job ahead.

Mr. Tommy Lui Executive Vice President, Supply Chain Solutions LF Logistics



Hong Kong RFID Awards become one of significant awards recognized by the industry players who came from healthcare, logistics, manufacturers, retailers, and technology and utilities sectors. In the 5th year anniversary of Hong Kong RFID Awards, overwhelming nominations and feedback were received. It showed more business operations valued the importance of the RFID technology to improve its efficiency and enhance the RFID technology. This year, more new end-users applications were introduced and have already been applied in the daily operation to improve the efficiency of their inventory and security control.

Ms. Anna Lin, J.P. Chief Executive GS1 Hong Kong We at HKSTPC take great pleasure in co-organising the Hong Kong RFID Awards for the fifth consecutive year. The main objective of the industry's signature event is to accelerate the development of the RFID technology in the region. Year after year, I am thrilled to have witnessed the exceptional creativity yet pragmatic solutions demonstrated by participating companies and practitioners. I am confident that with the steadfast passion and tireless efforts, the RFID industry will continue to advance and flourish, leading us to a better sustainable future.

> Mr. E. Anthony Tan **Chief Executive Officer** Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation

I have been part of the Panel of Judges for the HK RFID Awards for several years now but as every year I am again very impressed to see so many highly professional cases from so many different sectors. It is really impressive to see the innovative spirit and dedication of all the contestants and certainly my special appreciation goes to this year's winners.

Congratulation! Today the use of RFID/EPC is more and more important in so many sectors. This technology is key for driving efficiencies and for creating added value for any kind of business. I am keen to see what the future holds for the use of EPC/RFID!

> **Dr. Gerd Wolfram Managing Director METRO SYSTEMS GmbH**

It is my honour to be a member of the judging panel. I am pleased to share the participants' passion in making innovative use of the RFID technology in order to capture business opportunities. The synergy created among innovation and entrepreneurship has far-reaching benefits for developing Hong Kong towards a knowledge-based economy. May I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all the winners of the Awards.

> Mr. Johann Wong **Deputy Commissioner for Innovation and Technology HKSAR Government**

Congratulations to all the winners of the Hong Kong RFID Awards 2012. As innovation and technology development is important to enhance Hong Kong's competitiveness and drive economic growth, we hope this award be a good platform to encourage more application and deployment of RFID technology in different industries, particularly the logistics and supply chain management industry, to benefit the economy as a whole and capture new business opportunities.

Mr. Simon K.Y. Wong **Chief Executive Officer** Hong Kong R&D Centre for Logistics and Supply Chain Management Enabling Technologies













List of Awardees

Best EPC/RFID Implementation	Gold Award	RFID Paper Roll Tracking & In Singapore Press Holdings Limi	wentory System (PRTIS) ted & Hong Kong Communications Co., Ltd.
	Silver Award	RFID-based Apparel Manage Affirm Heart Far East Ltd., B&S Institute of Textiles & Clothing,	ment Expert (RAME) System Equipment Development Ltd. & The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
	Bronze Award	RFID Traffic Control System (Swire Coca-Cola HK & Changzh	TCS) nou Dilinx RFID Technologies Company Limited
Most Innovative Use of EPC/RFID	Gold Award	RFID-based Apparel Manage Affirm Heart Far East Ltd., B&S Institute of Textiles & Clothing,	ment Expert (RAME) System Equipment Development Ltd. & The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
	Silver Award	RFID Paper Roll Tracking & In Singapore Press Holdings Limi	wentory System (PRTIS) ted & Hong Kong Communications Co., Ltd.
	Bronze Award	RFID Traffic Control System (Swire Coca-Cola HK & Changzh	TCS) nou DilinxRFID Technologies Company Limited
Most Innovative EPC/RFID	Gold Award	Xerafy Metal Skin Series Xerafy Ltd	
Products	Silver Award	Meta-RFID Tag NeolD Limited	
	Bronze Award	mTag Megabyte Limited	
Certificate of Merits Emerging ITS Ap 18000 6C Technol Identification 3M Hong Kong Lin BMW Concessiona SocuroPro Group		oplications Using Passive ISO blogy for Automatic Vehicle	mTray Megabyte Limited ISO 15693 Handheld Antenna Reader
		Solution aires (HK) Limited & (RFID Division)	RF Tech Limited Book Enrolment Station RF Tech Limited
	Safely On-Site Sy CLP Power Hong	ystem (SOSS) Kong Limited	RFID@Mining Management System (RFID@MMS) SecurePro Group (RFID Division)
	CS8300 Series Te Convergence Syst	emperature Sensing Tag tems Limited	RFID Digital Paper Solution T2 Media Solution (HK) Limited
	Raw Material Tra Convergence Sys	acking in Manufacturing Site tems Limited & Digitnexus Inc.	RFID@Forklift System (RFID@FLS) YH Global Logistic &
	RFID for Staff Lo Esquel Group & H	cation Tracking IKC Systems Limited	SecurePro Group (RFID Division)
	Indoor Hybrid M Hong Kong Appli Research Institute	lode Location Tracking System ed Science and Technology e (ASTRI)	RFID Distribution System for Yue Hwa Chinese Products ("hybrID") Yue Hwa Chinese Products Emporium Limited, ID-Tech (Hong Kong) Limited,
	Smart Shelves So ISA Boutique Lim	olution in Retail Store ited & Alpha Solution Limited	Avery Dennison Hong Kong B.V. & Motorola Solutions Hong Kong



Winning Case Sharing



RFID Paper Roll Tracking & Inventory System (PRTIS)

GOLD Best EPC / RFID Implementation

Background

Singapore Press Holdings (SPH) is Southeast Asia's leading media organization. The company publishes 18 newspaper titles and more than 100 magazines titles.

Hong Kong Communications Ltd (HKC) is involved in the provision of home automation systems, office automation systems and information systems. connected to the server using Wi-fi.

SPH's existing warehouse technology systems were linked to the RFID system server, making it the central depository of information. Newsprint shipment information as received are transferred from the SPH system to the RFID system, and when the individual newsprint rolls are issued from the warehouse, each roll is being assigned with an active RFID roll tag (tracking identification).

Active RFID tagging was preferred to passive RFID tagging because it provides a greater communication range with a

Business Challenge

SPH in their effort of continuous improvement and in the course of staying "green" embarked on the RFID project at their Media Center printing operations. The storage and inventory of the newsprint (printing paper) needed to be managed carefully, as this is one of the key components in the printing process. Accurate inventory management and timely deployment of newsprint rolls is critical to ensure product quality standards were maintained and minimised on wastage.



reading distance of 100 metres or more, and sufficient signal strength to penetrate the paper roll thickness. This means fewer RFID network readers are needed for complete coverage of the newsprint rolls thus reducing costs.

In the intermediate storage areas, roll tags assigned to the new and used newsprint rolls enable the system to track in real time the location of and information about individual newsprint rolls, in conjunction with the respective location/lot tags. The real time visibility of the inventory on the

A wireless and real time tracking system to improve operational control and efficiency in newsprint usage was the selected solution to be applied with the ultimate aim of enhancing business performance and reducing costs.

RFID Solution

In collaboration with HKC, SPH adopted a hybrid solution of using the high performance active UHF RFID reader, industrial longrange active UHF RFID lot tags, active UHF RFID tags, an active RFID newsprint roll tracking, incorporating barcodes & passive tags and integrating an inventory management system.

The active RFID tags and readers conformed to Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA) approved limits in terms of power and frequency. They were chosen for their wide interoperability, low cost and reliability.

A RFID system server was used to host the inventory information database. Separately, a workstation ran an application for searching and checking inventory within the printing press hall. Handheld barcode/passive and active RFID readers were system provides for better inventory management where older stocks could be used first.

In the printing press, location/lot tags are also assigned to every printing reel stand to identify respective newsprint rolls on respective arm of the reel stand. This allows the system to interact through I/O modules mounted on the printing press to track newsprint consumption.

Benefits

The stocks of newsprint within the press hall are available real time on the RFID system. There is now visibility of individual paper rolls and with this traceability, the time required to locate specific newsprint rolls had been significantly reduced.

As the accuracy of the inventory system improves, better management of paper usage is expected and subsequently increases productivity and operational efficiency.

By managing the paper usage better, the company demonstrates its commitment to the environment and enhancing its green corporate social responsibility credentials.

Winning Cases Sharing



RFID-based Apparel Management Expert (RAME) System

Background

The RFID-based Apparel Management Expert (RAME) system was jointly developed by the Institute of Textiles and Clothing of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University and B&S Equipment Development Limited, with the funding support of The Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel. The system was successfully implemented and recently adopted in four assembly lines by Affirm Heart Far East Ltd, an apparel manufacturer based in Dongguan, China. Affirm Heart produces and exports high-end fashion products to European countries.



effective quality monitoring and control functions so that production management can track and monitor quality defects of each product. The module also provides in-depth analysis and diagnoses on production progress and identify potential production issues.

The second module is an artificial intelligence (AI)-based production decision-making module which can extract relevant data from the production database of the first module and transfers it to its own database for real-time decision-making. AI-based algorithms can predict individual worker efficiency using historical and real-time data, and then recommend how workers should be assigned to achieve production targets. The second module is also able to monitor whether assembly lines

need to be re-balanced and how on a real-time basis.

Benefits

After RAME was implemented on four production lines, Affirm Heart was able to reduce labor costs by 8%, increase production efficiency by 25% and reduce production waste by 10%. Efficient and accurate production planning and control decisions can now be quickly made by shop-floor managers, who no

longer need to rely on subjective assessments and quick fixes. Better supply chain coordination can be achieved so as to provide customers with better services.

In addition, with a cloud-based system architecture, the company now has fewer computer servers to maintain and reduced ITrelated manpower costs.

Affirm Heart is now deploying RAME across all its production lines, while The Hong Kong Polytechnic University and B&S Equipment Development Limited are exploring how the functionality of the system can be extended to solve more problems at the plant and supply chain levels.

(The development of the RAME system is partially funded by The Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel (HKRITA).)

Business Challenge

In recent years, the trend of fast fashion has given rise to smaller order sizes and more frequent fashion style changes, making it increasingly difficult for apparel manufacturers to manage production. Ineffective production planning and control can lead to lower production efficiency and productivity and delays in product delivery, which in turn increases overall operating costs to the apparel manufacturers.

While a number of RFID-based shop-

floor data-capture systems have emerged in the market, these systems lack real-time diagnostic tools. As a result, production managers still face significant hurdles in making informed, timely and optimal decisions regarding production and allocation of resources on the shop-floor. Production managers thus continue to rely heavily on their knowledge, experience and intuition, which may lead to inconsistent, sub-optimal production management decisions and shop-floor resources.

RFID Solution

RAME was designed to overcome this challenge by not only capturing useful production data, but analyzing the data to enable optimal production planning and control decisions.

The system consists of two modules. The first module is a cloud computing-based production tracking and monitoring module utilizes RFID technology to capture production data on a real time basis. Because the system is cloud-based, it is able to collect and consolidate production data from different manufacturing plants located in different regions. In addition, this module includes



Winning Cases Sharing



RFID Traffic Control System (TCS)

Background

Swire Coca-Cola HK is Hong Kong's leading soft drink manufacturer. The company operates 17 production lines and employs nearly 1,400 employees, producing more than 60 million unit cases annually. The company is also a supplier of syrups and carbon dioxide (CO_2) cylinders for post-mix soft-drink dispensing machines to major restaurant chains.

Business Challenge

Swire Coca-Cola HK wanted to explore how it could improve the efficiency of its distribution operations, optimizing the use

of its existing vehicle fleet and loading facilities. The company identified truck queuing and loading procedures as one area of potentially substantial improvement. The procedures for truckqueuing and loading had been in place for over a decade and were completely manual. When a delivery truck arrived back at the company's loading facilities, a security guard would pass a numbered card to the driver, indicating how many vehicles were in the queue.

As this was the only information drivers would be given, the drivers had to rely on their experience to estimate roughly how much time they had to wait in the queue and how much more time they had to wait for loading to be completed. At the same time, because the system was manually operated and truck assignment was only recorded on paper, there was no active monitoring of the system to allow management to track operational metrics. This meant that management lacked visibility and evidence to support any changes in operation to increase efficiency.

RFID Solution

To address this challenge, the company launched the Traffic Control System (TCS) project to automate truck queuing and improve monitoring of loading operations using RFID technology.

The TCS project team began by conducting thorough user requirement discussions as part of a process to identify the key requirements of the system and define the scope of work. From these discussions, the team identified the projects top requirements as allowing the free flow of incoming and outgoing



vehicle for security.

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DilinxRF

traffic at the entrance to minimize the disruption of the new system to the users. In addition, the tracking system must be EPC Global Gen 2 standard compliant, in line with the CO₂ canister management system established the year before. Because antennas must be mounted on ceiling, the team noted that the

Best EPC / RFID

Implementation

The team evaluated a range of solutions, including passive and battery assisted passive (BAP) systems. It concluded that only the EPC Global Gen 2 UHF BAP solution could meet all its key requirements.

tracking system must have a long read range. Lastly, the tags

associated with vehicles and drivers had to be placed inside the

After a successful pilot, installation of the system was extended to the entrance and other loading bays and software deployed to provide realtime tracking of trucks and loading times.

Benefits

The TCS system has had a positive business impact. Among the key operational metrics tracked by the

project, it was notable that the average number of trucks loaded per working day and loading bay utilization increased by 8-10%, while average loading time and queuing time decreased by 13-14%.

From a qualitative perspective, TCS made truck queuing and loading a more robust operation, eliminating human errors and allowing the security guards to focus on real security concerns. In addition, the system enabled the collection of real-time data, providing supervisors with immediate insight into operations so they could make informed decisions quickly. The scope of the project will now be expanded to more loading bays and vehicles.

XEBUL

Xerafy Metal Skin Series

Background

Xerafy is a global provider of industrial durable passive RFID tag solutions. The company is the first RFID tag manufacturer to develop UHF RFID tags that can be embedded into metal and has a range of products that include some of the world's smallest EPC UHF RFID-on-metal tags, yet are capable of withstanding extreme conditions while still maintaining high performance.

Business Challenge

Metal products and UHF RFID technology have traditionally not mixed well. Because metal interferes with radio waves, products with high metal content or packaged in metal containers have posed a significant hurdle to the wider adoption of RFID technology in asset management as well as global logistics and supply chain management.

Xerafy designed the Metal Skin to overcome the challenges of metal asset tagging, with these key criteria in consideration: high performance, flexible label form factor and cost effectiveness. Xerafy's motivation and innovation have always been conceived and driven by real challenges experienced by its customers. Several customers need a low profile, low cost and flexible tag solution to tag curved metallic assets such as gas cylinders and pipes.

Prior to Xerafy's invention of

Metal Skin, the metal tagging solutions available on the market were bulky, costly and inflexible, requiring laborious and timeconsuming attachment methods.

RFID Solution

Xerafy's Metal Skin is the UHF RFID inlay uniquely designed for metal assets. The Metal Skin converts to a standard polyethylene terephthalate (PET) label that can go through existing printing processes to imprint any logo, bar code and human readable identification. The Metal Skin is low profile and flexible so it can fit curved surfaces – such as the contour of metallic cylinders and drums – yet it delivers a read range of up to 5 meters on metal and 4 meters off metal. It is compliant to the global frequency



standards and EPC UHF Class 1 Generation 2 and ISO 18000-6c for use around the world. The total process from concept to product release took about eight months with substantial time spent on field tests with customers to ensure the performance met their requirements.



As a product, the Metal Skin is between a peel-and-stick inlay and a metal substrate tag. This means the Metal Skin offers cost effective on/off-metal performance but can potentially also be used as a disposable tag for the mass market, which was previously unheard of. With relatively balanced read ranges on and off metal, the Metal Skin will work seamlessly in the majority of current

applications without major variation in read range.

Benefits

The Metal Skin opens up a whole new market for metallic applications and allows label converters, to provide stickers, smart labels, tickets that can now be attached on metal. This is valuable for implementions, in product authentication, high value asset tracking and global supply chain. The metal label form factor is also more affordable and more efficient to be attached on metallic products.

Xerafy plans to develop an entire line of Metal Skin form factors for various applications including: healthcare unique device identifiers for surgical equipment and hospital assets, gas cylinder and

drum tracking, asset tracking for IT equipment and laptops, industrial product identification for maintenance and inventory management and high value retail products.



Most Innovative EPC / RFID Products

Winning Case Sharing

Winning Cases Sharing

Background

Meta-RFID Tag

NeoID Limited designs and manufactures high performance RFID tagging solutions including innovative RFID tags and RFID tag testing and encoding.

Business Challenge

NeolD

Metal products require specially designed high performance RFID tagging solutions because they can detune the antenna of a conventional standard passive UHF RFID tag, leading to a significant deterioration in reading distance.

There are many companies providing RFID tagging solutions for tracking metal products, but compared with general-purpose RFID tags, these metal tagging solutions tend to be relatively bulky (around 1cm thick) and costly. NeoID Limited wanted to create a RFID tagging solution for metal products that would be smaller and more costeffective than existing RFID tagging solutions for metal products on the market, but without compromising on the tag's performance.

RFID Solution

As a result, NeoID Limited developed an innovative RFID metal tagging solution using proprietary metamaterial technology. NeoID Limited's US-patented metamaterial antenna technology enables the company to design miniaturized, power-efficient antenna systems. Metamaterials are artificial composite materials. NeolD's patented metamaterials are used to make tiny antenna elements with significantly higher radiated power than antennas made from natural materials. One of the key properties of its metamaterial antenna technology is that it has a negative refraction index, which enables RF waves to be bent or focused across wider bandwidths without dispersion.

Using this technology, NeolD Limited developed RFID metal tags (10cm x 3cm x 0.5cm) with a read range of up to 30 meters. After developing its metamaterials-based RFID tagging solution, NeoID Limited then tested it in a pilot project with a leading steel manufacturer to track steel product shipments.

The NeoID Meta-RFID Tags were used to track for two main types of steel products, namely coils and slabs. The testing scenarios were as follows: firstly, inventory checking by a handheld computer, with the ability to read up to 13 steel coils at the same time at a distance of 20 meters; secondly, checking out through railway, reading four coils at the same time; thirdly, checking inventory of slabs at high temperatures of around 80 degrees Celsius.

> NeoID Limited's Meta-RFID Tag, Model L, was also designed to function in tough conditions. The RFID tag was attached to the inner core of steel coil, which have a diameter of 1.5 meters and length of 1.5 meters. Previously, the steel manufacturer tested other products, but could not find one that met its requirements, including the ability to track 8-9 rolls at the same time. The long reading range of the Meta-RFID tag allowed NeoID Limited to meet the steel manufacturer's requirements.

Benefits

By deploying NeoID Limited's Meta-RFID Tag solution in their steel warehouse, the steel manufacturer significantly improved its operational efficiency.

The Meta-RFID Tag solution allowed the steel manufacturer to conduct real-time tracking of products and streamlined the whole process from inspection to packaging to shipping of the steel products. It significantly decreased the time needed for inventory taking and eliminated incidents of lost stock.

In addition, NeoID Limited's tagging solution improved worker safety and delivered double the performance at a cheaper cost than rival metal RFID tagging solutions. The solution enables steel warehousing staff to use a handheld RFID reader to count steel coils from as far away as 20 meters, which is the greatest reading distance of all metal RFID tagging solutions in the market.







Most Innovative EPC / RFID Products

Winning Cases Sharing



mTag

Background

Established in 2008, Megabyte Limited develops UHF RFID devices and middleware software, including RFID readers, handheld devices and antennas. The company specializes in state-of-art RFID solutions for the retail, fashion, pharmaceuticals and security industries, as well as archive management systems.

Business Challenge

With the rapid growth of demand for luxury goods in Hong Kong and mainland China, jewelry companies face the daunting task of maintaining and accounting for tens of thousands of product items throughout their supply chain, from the warehouse to the retail stores. Existing barcode technology based systems are unable to provide full automatic tracking and sales data capturing, and requires a significant amount of manual labor to operate.

RFID technology provides jewelry

companies with a golden opportunity to address these issues. The multi-scan capability of RFID solutions eliminates the need for jewelers to manually account for each item of jewelry individually, enabling automated tracking and authenticating of assets, and managing the distribution, sales and flow of items.

The challenge, however, is that the price tags for jewelry items are normally very small, making it difficult to implement an RFID inlay with good stack-up readability and reasonable read-range in a metallic environment. None of the existing RFID inlays designs on the market for retail and logistics applications could meet the needs of the jewelry industry for a compact design with an adequate level of reading sensitivity.

RFID Solution

Megabyte consulted with a number of local jewelry companies to understand their expectations and needs and designed a series of RFID inlays in different dimensions to enable them to adopt and benefit from RFID technology. The mTag One-Fold, Two-Folds and Three-Folds can be printed and encodes using a RFID printer. The inlays have only a 3mm separation and enable handheld based stock taking with a high read rate.



In addition, the tagging solution conforms to both ISO/IEC 18000-6C, EPCglobal Class 1 Gen 2. The tagging solution has an optimized frequency range of 860-960MHz, with 496 bits EPC and 512 bits of user memory. The smallest of the three models of tags

Benefits

mTag is small in size with compact design. It enables real-time inventory and demand visibility so businesses can respond to

has dimensions of just 26 mm by 11 mm.

fulfill demand on time and in an efficient manner. Megabyte's mTag solution automates data-capture during inventory checking, stock reconciliation, stock furnishing and replenishment. It enables discreet tracking of customer buying behavior and preferred items. The marketing data that are collected can provide invaluable, timely marketing intelligence.

With enhanced product visibility providing an interactive shopping experience automated inventory

tracking, the mTag solution can also identify and instantly display information about each piece of jewelry being viewed, and provide recommendations of similar or complementary products, thus improving the customer's in-store experience and help to driving

cross-selling and upselling opportunities. And with RFID-enabled point-of-sale terminals, jewelry retailers will also be able to enable faster and more efficient customer checkout processes, shorten wait times and initiate auto-



replenishment activities. In this way, it improves the customer's in-store experience and helps generate efficiency gains.



Certificate of Merits

3M

Emerging ITS Applications Using Passive ISO 18000 6C Technology for Automatic Vehicle Identification

Traffic congestion at toll plazas is common sight, as vehicles need to stop at the toll collection points. These delays negatively impact the operational efficiency of roadway networks, causing inconvenience to vehicle owners and road operators, and exacerbating the environmental impact of vehicle usage in terms of increased air pollution. Conventional manually operated toll collection systems are also prone to human errors, which may lead loss of revenue. The company wanted to create an RFID toll collection system for toll road operators that was scalable, reliable and interoperable.

The company designed an electronic toll collection system using passive RFID for automatic vehicle identification for Far Eastern Electronic Toll Collection Company (FETC). After months of trials and testing under a wide variety of scenarios and weather conditions in Taiwan, a larger scale pilot test was conducted with more than 20,000 voluntary drivers. Following the successful completion of this pilot test, FETC launched full deployment of the eTag system island-wide in Taiwan. The benefits of the system include its cost-effectiveness, which has allowed the operator to distribute tags to drivers for free. Because the tags passive, the technology is also maintenance free. FETC will be moving to a complete open Road tolling system in the new future using the eTag.



RFID G-Formula Solution for Automatic Vehicle Identification

BMW Concessionaires (HK) Limited collaborated with SecurePro Group (RFID Division) to create a RFID based solution system for tracking inventory in vehicle storage facilities. BMW Concessionaires (HK)'s existing system was inefficient for maintaining records of new stock and where that stock was located, with cars sometimes being misplaced in the car parks. In designing a new inventory tracking system, SecurePro Technology Security System first made various site visits to decide what, where, how and when to deploy the required equipment, including the location of cabling and wires, choice of portable and fixed readers and tags.

The SecurePro G-formula Solution deployed at the car park included several components: fixed and handheld active RFID readers, active RFID tags installed on windshields and cameras, along with a vehicle license plate recognition system and RFID server to support the systems. After SecurePro G-formula Solution was installed and tested with the involvement of users to gain user acceptance, BMW Concessionaires (HK) was able to perform vehicle location checking and eliminate the possibility of unauthorized checking in or checking out of vehicles at its warehouses and services centers. The system also increased the efficiency of vehicle storage from 50% to 95% and generated manpower savings when checking in and out vehicles and stock taking.

Certificate of Merits

CLP 中電

Safely On-Site System (SOSS)



CS8300 Series Temperature Sensing Tag

CLP Power Hong Kong Limited, a subsidiary of CLP Group, supplies electricity and related services to around 5.7 million customers in Hong Kong. More than 2,000 technicians, maintenance workers, office staff, outside contractors and other people enter and leave the company's power stations every day through multiple access points and by a variety of means, including company buses, private cars and on foot. Additionally, staff at the power stations must pass safety competency qualifications, some of which need to be re-certified after a specific time. CLP Power Hong Kong developed the Safely On-Site System (SOSS) to establish a centralized means of tracking how many people were on-site at any point in time and who they were. In addition, the system could verify in real-time whether or not people present on-site met mandatory safety competency requirements. The system was established using existing employee cards and guest passes to avoid big change in the Company. These cards are based on passive tags embedded in ISO Prox II proximity access cards. The system delivers its functions by integrating the RFID, GPS and GPRS technologies in the solution.

The project significantly reduces the administrative effort needed to monitor personnel safety and also enhances the accuracy of records on employee safety competency certification. Moreover, the system enables security staff to detect when workers or visitors stayed on-site for an abnormal length of time and thus check on their safety. In this way, the system has improved the on-site security and safety.

Convergence Systems Limited (CSL) is a RFID equipment maker, which designs and manufactures a broad range of RFID products, including passive and active RFID readers and tags. The company also provides support to system integrators involved in logistics and supply chain management, manufacturing, security management, transportation, and retailing. The company saw an opportunity to create a cost-effective high performance RFID tagging solution for use in cold chain management. The read performance of conventional UHF passive tag tends to be degraded significantly when used in cold chain management, due the low ambient temperature of the operating environment and the high water content of the goods being transported, which can interfere with radio waves. In addition, conventional UHF passive tags do not have temperature sensors to monitor ambient temperature and ensure the goods are being stored properly. However, regular active tagging solution can be costly.

CSL created the CS8300 active RFID tagging solution with the design goals of low power consumption and reliable operation even in the hash environment of the cold chain. The EPC Gen 2 Class 3 compliant tagging solution has a temperature sensor built in, which can measure and record temperatures at defined intervals. Using CS8300, the storage conditions of frozen and perishable food can be closely monitored in transit in real-time, enabling product quality and safety standards to be maintained and improving supply chain efficiency. Looking ahead, CSL plans to add GPS features to the solution.

Certificate of Merits



Raw Material Tracking in Manufacturing Site



RFID for Staff Location Tracking

Convergence Systems Limited (CSL) is a RFID equipment maker, which designs and manufactures RFID equipment, including passive and active RFID readers and tags. Digitnexus Inc. is a global provider of intelligent real-time visibility solutions for large organizations. The two companies collaborated to design a raw material tracking system for China State Construction, a Chinese enterprise that produces steel structures for large building projects at a massive 24,300 square meter manufacturing site.

Raw material inventory tracking and management at the site was inefficient, with staff needing to spend a lot of time locating the right raw materials to use. To solve these issues, Digitnexus designed an item-level, real-time metal product tracking system suitable for use outdoors in the storage yard, using cost-effective yet durable passive tagging and CS101 handheld readers, along with a real-time locating system built by CSL. With the system in place, workers now need only 15 days to sort raw materials for projects, and human error has been eliminated from the process. This represents substantial time and human resources savings, as workers previously had to spend two months sorting components before they could begin assembling a structure. Additionally, management can now make accurate estimates of project costs due to higher inventory visibility and can track the work-inprocess and gain real-time information to avoid out-of-stock. Real-time information can also be shared among departments.

Esquel Group is a services and solutions provider in the textiles and apparel industry. The company manufactures 100 million shirts a year for leading global fashion brands and retailers, with annual revenue of US\$1.2 billion and a workforce of 56,000. Esquel Group's offices are located on different floors of the same building. As a result, it can be difficult to locate staff when they are not at their desks. Working together with HKC Systems Limited, a local company that specializes in systems integration and RFID-based asset management systems, Esquel designed a staff location tracking system to enhance operational efficiency.

To solve this problem, Esquel and HKC collaborated in designing an employee location tracking system using ultra high frequency (UHF) RFID technology. Under the proposed system, employees are issued with 2-in-1 staff cards which combine a standard 13.56Hz RFID tag for access control and a separate UHF RFID tag, which has a longer reading range, for location tracking. RFID antennas were installed at pre-defined checkpoints. When staff card carriers passed through a checkpoint, the system would capture the staff card information and send instant updates to the web-based location tracking application. The system is a costeffective way to enable real-time staff location tracking and has the flexibility to be scaled up as needed.

Certificate of Merits



Indoor Hybrid Mode Location Tracking System



Smart Shelves Solution in Retail Store

The Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute (ASTRI) designed the proposed Indoor Hybrid Mode Location Tracking System to provide low cost, flexible and accurate location tracking of personnel indoors. Location tracking systems usually relies on radio frequency (RF) beacons. The Hybrid Mode Location Tracking System, by contrast, uses LED luminaries to activate the RFID Tag worn by a user, which then sends a location identity (ID) and tag ID back to the central system through the wireless network. The hybrid mode means using visible light communication in downlink and RF the communication in uplink in order to allow the system locate the RFID tag.

Since the system involves only the replacement of LED luminaries, it allows organizations to avoid the expensive installation of numerous RFID readers for location tracking. In addition, the hybrid system has a more accurate performance because light signals are not affected by nearby metallic objects like RF signals. In addition, the hybrid technology enables the RFID Tag to achieve 80% greater power efficiency and 30-50% savings on electricity costs versus normal lighting.

Retail businesses are always looking to grow their store revenues while reducing costs. Amid a challenging business environment, the pressure to cut costs has been even greater and retailers have responded by adjusting workdays, reducing staff numbers and making inventories leaner. However, in order to survive and thrive, retail businesses must also continue to accurately track inventory, replenishing low stocks to ensure items are available when a shopper wants them, and dealing with over-stocking to reduce expenses.

ISA Boutique and Alpha Solutions collaborated to develop the Smart Shelves system for retail outlets to address this challenge. Items are tagged in order to allow the Smart Shelves to track when items are removed from shelves. In addition, the Smart Shelves are integrated with point of sales. The system uses a mobile dashboard app, which can be installed on all popular mobile devices, to enable staff to perform stock taking. After ISA Boutique installed the Smart Shelves, manpower required for stock taking was significantly reduced and accuracy of stocktaking improved. In addition, as the system could be used with all popular smart mobile devices, it proved cost-effective to implement.



mTray

Certificate of Merits



ISO 15693 Handheld Antenna Reader

Megabyte Limited develops RFID solutions for the retail, fashion, pharmaceuticals and security industries, as well as archive management systems. The company designed the Megabyte mTray to provide jewelers with robust item-level RFID-based inventory tracking solution, with a strong group tag reading capability over a short range and in an environment in which there is a lot of metal, which can lead to low reading accuracy and incorrect readings.

mTray features USB, LAN and Wi-Fi connectivity. The USB connection enables it to be used with legacy barcode-based systems, while the network interface ports make it possible for the solution to be used as part of a cloud-based inventory tracking system. The solution complies with various open standards and protocols for interoperability and integration purpose, including EPC Global Class 1 Gen 2 and ISO 18000-6C. By allowing item-level tagging, mTray provides a level of visibility that helps eliminate shortages, disputes and costly write-downs. Each tagged item can be easily tracked through every stage of the supply chain from the manufacturing facilities to the distribution center through to the retail outlet, providing accurate, near-real-time intelligence into inventory records, to identify where items are in a facility in real time.

RF Tech Limited, a provider of integrated RFID solutions, designed the ISO 15693 Handheld Antenna Reader to help libraries cut down on time-consuming manual book sorting and re-shelving processes. The ISO 15693 Handheld Antenna Reader leverages widely available Android smartphones to run a controller program.

Designing the antenna was critical part of the project. The antenna had to cope with collision between tags and be tuned for the optimal detection range. The item-sorting algorithm was another key part of project, with to create a step-by-step process for efficiently re-shelving items. RF Tech Limited also enabled book cover images to be imported from the Book Enrolment Station to the controller application on the Android device to aid item identification.

Pilot runs at the libraries of local academic institutions are proved successful, with the ISO15693 Handheld Antenna Reader demonstrating that it could enhance efficiency of library stock taking and re-shelving, with the ability to use the handheld reader to identify multiple items at the same time. In addition, with the controller program operated separately on an Android device, the reader could be lighter, lower power consumption and more competitive in pricing.

Certificate of Merits





RFID@Mining Management System (RFID@MMS)

The traditional book enrolment process is very time-consuming, with librarians required to take photos, edit photos, modify database and write RFID tags. RF Tech Limited, a provider of integrated RFID solutions, designed the Book Enrolment Station to help libraries automate such processes.

The system combines software and hardware. By making use of a built-in digital camera, barcode scanner, weight measuring device and low power solid-state electronic illumination, the system enables the librarian to automatically retrieve the particulars of a book from an international standard book number (ISBN) database by reading its barcode, take an image of the front cover and spine of the book, and read/write information to a RFID tag – all in one step.

The system has been implemented for The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT) in Macau. Extensive literature survey and patent search have been conducted to confirm that no product or mechanism or similar to Book Enrolment Station exists in the market or is being developed. Patent application has been filed. The automatic book enrolment system can greatly increase library efficiency, freeing up a librarian's time to perform other high value roles and duties for better patron oriented services. SecurePro Group (RFID Division)'s RFID for Mining Management (RFID@MMS) solution helps professionals in the mining industry to track staff and improve safety on-site. Among the primary functions of the system is the ability to accurately track staff using active RFID technology that can continue to function even during accidents, allowing supervisors to be informed of the precise location of personnel during emergencies. The system would also has an access control function with closed-circuit television (CCTV) to ensure mining sites are secure. Thirdly, the system would enable on-site vehicles to avoid blind areas and reduces risk of collisions. Lastly, the active RFID technology would be integrated with an advanced weighing system to accurately weigh materials before they are transferred to other warehouses.

The system would make improvements in three key areas including to enhance worker safety by allowing closer monitoring of staff working in extreme conditions. It may also improve productivity, as vehicles and personnel can be more easily identified to avoid downtime. Lastly, the system would improve security by allowing the tracking and tracing of materials before they leave the sites or when they are loaded onto trucks to protect important assets.

Certificate of Merits



RFID Digital Paper Solution





RFID@Forklift System (RFID@FLS)

Traditional product certification and verification solutions for printed products, such as laser labels and hologram tickers, are vulnerable to counterfeiting and can be expensive. T2 Media Solution (HK) Ltd wanted to create a printed product identification solution that overcame these challenges, providing the printing and publishing industry with a cost-effective, secure solution for applications such as professional certificates, warranty cards, legal documentation, ticketing, staff cards and cash coupon management.

The Digital Paper Solution (DPS) is a radical printed product identification solution based on the EPC Global Gen 2 standard. DPS allows users to produce their own low cost, high performance RFID UHF paper products in just four easy steps. DPS uses silverbased conductive ink to print an antenna on normal paper and a proprietary technology to bond the EPC Gen 2 compliant chip. The solution allows customization – including paper size, die-cut to antenna shape and color design – to fit each individual user's needs. The benefits of the solution include cost-effectiveness, easy of use, flexibility and security. Going forward, T2 Media Solutions aims to collaborate with RFID equipment makers to design DPS reader solutions, including RFID enabled paper trays. SecurePro Group (RFID Division)'s RFID@Forklift System (RFID@ FLS) helped YH Global Logistics Co., Ltd to make improvements to warehouse operational visibility and efficiency. The forklift warehouse management system uses fixed UHF RFID readers and antennas on forklift truck to help staff to quickly find pallets to transport. The UHF location tags are installed on shelves and at checkpoints to enable confirmation during put-away and stock-out processes. In addition, the system uses middleware to bind together the various components of the system and provide seamless integration with the company's existing enterprise resource planning (ERP) System with real-time data synchronization.

The RFID@FLS allowed YH Global Logistics, a logistics services provider, to speed up operational processes and eliminate human error at its warehouse, while improving the accuracy of collected information. Warehouse staff were able to save a lot of time in the task of locating stock and checking inventory, as stocks could be scanned in one group simultaneously rather than individually using a barcode system. The system was also designed to be user-friendly and straightforward for warehouse staff to operate, thus increasing user acceptance. Through the RFID warehouse management system, YH Global Logistics was also able to increase its competitiveness, as the solution allowed it to offer a faster, more reliable service.





ID-TECH (HONG KONG) LIMITED



RFID Distribution System for Yue Hwa Chinese Products ("hybrID")

Yue Hwa Chinese Products Emporium Limited collaborated with ID-Tech (Hong Kong) Limited, Avery Dennison Hong Kong B.V. and Motorola Solutions Hong Kong to develop a RFID based solution to enhance the efficiency of distribution processes. One of the core goals of the project was to achieve efficiency gains with minimal change or disruption to existing operations. In particular, the company did not want frontline staff to be burdened with the extra work of carrying out item level tagging.

After two weeks of on-site study and various discussions with management, a hybrid distribution system, as implied by the project name "hybrID", using both Yue Hwa's existing barcode technology and new RFID technology was created. When the system receives a replenishment order, it sends a pick-up order to packing staff on the warehouse floor via individual handheld terminals. All barcodes picked goods are scanned before they are packed into the containers and sealed. The packing staff then capture the container identity (ID) by scanning the RFID label pre-tagged on each container, enabling the list of picked goods to now be associated with the container ID. All captured container IDs are then recorded in the enterprise resource planning (ERP) system. The system provides real-time visibility of distributed products through the whole logistics chain, enabling management to allocate resources more accurately. It also reduced manpower needs and human error.



Hong Kong U-21 RFID Awards Message from the Judging Panel



I am very pleased to see a progressive improvement in the quality our students in Hong Kong to the U-21 RFID Awards over the years. It is an indication of the increased awareness and interest of our students in the application of the RFID technology. Amidst the submissions there is no lack of originality and innovation. Indeed many of the ideas and concepts presented by the students could readily be realized in actual applications. I congratulate GS1 Hong Kong for the success in hosting the HK RFID U-21 Awards and thank all the sponsoring and supporting organizations.

Mr. Anthony S. K. Wong, S.B.S., J.P. Panel Chair President, China and South East Asia One Laptop Per Child (OLPC)



I am honoured to be a Judge for the U-21 RFID Awards again. Each year I saw many innovative and creative solutions and they were very impressed me. I congratulate all the recipients of the awards and wish to see more solutions will be used to improve the quality life through RFID in the future.

Dr. Hubert C.Y. Chan, J.P. Chairman GS1 Hong Kong EPC Partners Advisory Board



Congratulation to all the winners. Their projects are impressive and highly innovative. I encourage them to further develop and refine them. Successful implementation of the projects will bring tremendous benefit to the community.

Mr. Terence S.S. Chan Assistant Commissioner (Infrastructure and Quality Services) Innovation and Technology Commission, HKSAR Government

Hong Kong U-21 RFID Awards Messages from the Judging Panel

I am honored to be a Judge for the HK U-21 RFID Awards 2012 and am impressed throughout the entire judging process with the quality, knowledge and enthusiasm of the participating students from our tertiary education sector.

Not only does this Award encourage the overall and effective adoption of RFID technology and international standards in our community, it also provides a platform upon which our enlightened students in demonstrating their creativity, innovative application of IT and teamwork. I congratulate GS1 Hong Kong for this forward looking Award scheme and all the participating entries.

Ir. Stephen K. M. Lau, J.P. President Hong Kong Computer Society

Like every year of the U-21 RFID Awards, I am so impressed by the ideas and efforts from the young talents.

The creativity thoughts from the young generation show their passion in the innovation of technology. This year, many winning projects addressed minority problem, and aimed to improve better quality life. I really appreciate their attention to the social responsibility, and look forward to see the successful implementation in the real daily lives.

Mr. K. K. Suen Chief Architect and Principal Consultant GS1 Hong Kong

I am really proud of our Hong Kong young people in the sense of their innovation and commitment to the development of technology in this knowledge-based international city. I and my panel judges are deeply impressed with the quality and the uniqueness of the proposed projects using RFID technology and other ICT applications. Some of the projects even serve the purpose of great virtue which can practically help the disabled people in their daily lives.

I must express my heartfelt thanks to GS1 HK for organizing such meaningful event each year and thank all those students and project supervisors for their tremendous contributions.

Lastly, I have to congratulate all the Award Winners and look forward to their continued support next year.

Ir. Paul W.K. Wu Senior Manager, Special Systems Airport Authority Hong Kong









Hong Kong U-21 RFID Awards List of Awardees

Best EPC/RFID	Gold Award	RF-eye	
Concept		Students	Chan Yuk Chin, Cheng Chin Tung, Hui Yuk Yi, Leung Yiu Man, Liu Lai Shan, So Freedom
		Supervisors	Dr. Andrew W.H. Ip & Dr. K.K. Tseng (School of Computer Science & Technology, Harbin Institute of Technology Shenzhen Graduate School)
			Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
	Silver Award	SmartHotel LIN	IK - All in one hotel system
		Students	Pong Dik Yin, Pong Kai Sze
		Supervisor	Mr. William Leung Kwok Way Associate in Business (Hospitality Management) Hong Kong Community College
		ePlatform for C Sustain our Uni	collective Memory Acquisition and Preservation - ique Legacy Easy (eCAPSULE)
		Students	Cheng Mei Na, Kwong Kuk Hung, Leung Po Ling, Ng Chun Kit
		Supervisors	Dr. Andrew W.H. Ip & Prof. Benny C.F. Cheung Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
	Bronze Award	RFID-based Rai	ilway System - S ticket
		Students	Chan Kwok Yan, Chan Ming Hon, Choi Ka Wing, Leung Lam Hing, Mok Ling Fong, Tsui Yuen Lung
		Supervisor	Mr. Yiu Cheuk Man Alvin Department of Business Administration, Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (Kwai Chung)
Most Innovative	Gold Award	RFID-assisted L	earning and Computer Interface System for Disabled People
EPC/RFID		Students	Lau Shiu Fung, Lo Ka Yee
		Supervisor	Dr. Henry C.B. Chan Department of Computing The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
	Silver Award	RFID-Enabled A	Airport Asset Management System
		Students	Cui Yang, Li Yingxiong, Liao Jing
		Supervisor	Dr. Henry C.B. Chan Department of Computing The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Hong Kong U-21 RFID Awards List of Awardees

Students

Certificate of Merits

Electronic Data Card Using RFID Char Lik Hang Student

Supervisor Dr. Tsoi Yau-Chat Division of Applied Science and Technology Community College of City University

Examination Management System

Student Chan Johnny Chung Yau Supervisor Dr. Tsoi Yau-Chat Division of Applied Science and Technology Community College of City University

Indoor Navigation System for Visually Impaired People

Students	Chan Chi Hang, Chan Yu Pang
	Lam Yuen Ying, Mak Sze Wing Wong Pui Shan, Wong Wai Yar
Supervisor	Ms. Fong Cheuk Wai Rose

Division of Applied Science and Technology Community College of City University

Automatic & Intelligent - New Generation Buses

Students	Lam Chi Hou, Leung Chung Sze, Li Christopher Wai
Supervisors	Dr. Lee Choi Hung & Mr. Chan Pui Yuk

Division of Business Community College of City University

Development of Hong Kong Tourism - The RFID Smartphone System

Students	Chan Wai Chun, Leung Chun Ho
	Wong Kin Hung, Wu Mang Ting
Supervisors	Dr. Lee Choi Hung &
	Mr Chan Pui Yuk

Division of Business Community College of City University

Pioneer - Education Revolution

Students	Chan Janice Yuen Yee,
	Cheung Siu Tao, Lai Nga Sum,
	Lau Kei Kwan, Sze Fong Man,
	Tsui Wai Tung
Supervisor	Mr. William Leung Kwok Way
Associate in Busin	ness (Account & Finance)

Hong Kong Community College

Crowd Visibility and Ride Management in Theme Parks

Students	Chan Kwan Yip, Chan Wing Sze,
	Cheng Hiu Lam, Lee Ka Wai,
	Shum Kam Pang
Supervisor	Dr. Loretta Chan

Department of Business Administration Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (Lee Wai Lee)

RFID Adoption in Business Strategic Partnership

Students	Ma Kei Man, Ng Sze Nga,
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RFID Enabled School Management System

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Car Identity – 3Pass

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Shopping in the exhibition center: How smart phones with RFID readers will contribute to convention industries in the future

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A RFID Interactive Facility Guiding System for Persons with Visual Impairment and Persons with Physical Disability

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DIM DOU DUCK - System in tradition Chinese restaurants Studente

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THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL AND SYSTEMS ENGINEERING



RF-eye

There are around 122,000 visually disabled people in Hong Kong. These people with visual impairments have trouble leading normal, productive lives, because it is difficult for them to find their way around the city without clear sight. Even with tactile guiding paths, people who are visually disabled often need assistance from others to travel from A to B, as there is no signage for them.

RF-eye is an RFID navigation and location-based information system that aims to address this issue, providing the visually disabled with a barrier-free environment. The system uses RFID tags embedded at locations or way points on guidance routes to provide users with geographical coordinates regarding their current location. To read these location tags and provide the user with information about the location he or she is in, the system supports three other components: a walking cane equipped with a lightweight RFID reader, a smartphone-based application and Bluetooth headset. When the user passes a tagged location point, the reader in the walking cane will detect a location tag and send the tag ID to the smartphone application, which in turn passes the associated location information to the user via the Bluetooth headset. Compared with similar GPS based systems, RF-eye has much greater accuracy and does not require a high-speed mobile network signal in order to function properly, which makes it more robust. In addition, the solution can be used to collect valuable data from users anonymously to enable the government to learn more about the types and locations of facilities that the visually impaired require, thus allowing it to improve facilities and services for the visually impaired.



SmartHotel LINK - All in one hotel system

The SmartHotel Link concept project by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University Community College's Department of Business in Hospitality Management was created to show how the tourism and hospitality industry could create a secure, convenient, integrated solution for distributing location-based tourism information, controlling access to facilities, such as hotel rooms, and facilitating retail transactions.

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The SmartHotel Link concept is based on the smartphone, which has become a globally ubiquitous mobile communications device. The smartphone is embedded with an RFID tag, which acts as a unique identifier, allowing the user to access his or her guest room, guest elevators, lockers in changing rooms and other hotel facilities. Using RFID technology, the system is contactless. This means the user simply needs to place his or her smartphone next to an access point sensor and the sensor will detect the unique ID and transmit it to a host server for verification of the user's details. Upon the guest's departure, the hotel key role of the smartphone is automatically invalidated and the next guests can access the room using their smartphones. In this way, the hotel can manage and provide access to rooms without the need for guest key cards to be distributed at the hotel front desk. The system can also be integrated with hotel's booking and reservations system to eliminate the need for manual booking, in addition to enabling automatic settlement of payment for products and services enjoyed at the hotel. Most importantly, the system enhances the guests' experience of the hotel by providing the added convenience of not having to use key cards and improving the efficiency of services.

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> Best EPC/RFID Concept

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THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL AND SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

ePlatform for Collective Memory Acquisition and Preservation -Sustain our Unique Legacy Easy (eCAPSULE)

As a tourism destination, Hong Kong has long been regarded as a shopping and gourmet paradise. Yet the city has much more to offer than just luxury goods and fine dining with a rich cultural heritage that blends Eastern and Western cultural influences. This heritage has been largely overlooked despite the potential it offers in helping to broaden the appeal of the city as a tourism destination. Indeed it is only in recent years that Hong Kong's cultural heritage has come under more scrutiny, with the demolition of Queen's Pier in 2008 in particular sparking intense public debate over the need for more cultural conservation.

By leveraging RFID technology, cloud-based computing, Augmented Reality and geo-social networking technologies, the ePlatform for Collective Memory Acquisition and Preservation – Sustain our Unique Legacy Easy (eCAPSULE) concept project aims to help Hong Kong better promote local cultural heritage and conservation. Designed by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University's Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering, this project enables visitors and locals to discover Hong Kong's cultural heritage using smartphones to read RFID location tags installed at places of interest. The user simply uses his or her smartphone to scan RFID location tags to access information about a location on a cloud-based database from a pre-installed application. The application provides integration with popular online multimedia and social networking services such YouTube, flickr, WordPress and FaceBook. In this way, the eCAPSULE not only serves as a convenient tourism guide to augment visitor's experience of Hong Kong, but also be used to build a collective memory of Hong Kong for local cultural conservation and sustainability and promote the city's cultural heritage.



RFID-based Railway System - S ticket

China's rail network handles around three hundred million passengers every year during the Chinese New Year holiday. Strong demand for rail tickets during this period has led to a flourishing black market for ticket scalping both in stations and on the Internet, and industry corruption. To clamp down on the illegal reselling of tickets, the Ministry of Railways implemented a real-name railway ticket system, under which no passenger could purchase more than one ticket per journey. While this new ticketing system proved successful in reducing scalping, it also created two major operational challenges. Firstly workloads for authorized station personnel increased, because they now had the responsibility of conducting manual passenger identification. Secondly, the extra steps required to check a ticket purchases identity lead to longer processing times for ticket purchases.

The RFID-based ticketing system was proposed by the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education's Department of Business Administration to address these issues. The system consists of a RFID-based real name ticketing system and a RFID-based locker system. The RFID-based real name ticketing system is responsible for verifying a passenger's identity by comparing data stored in the passenger's Resident Identity card with data stored in the RFID railway ticketing system database, and issues an RFID-enabled ticket with information about the passenger encoded. Additionally, the RFID-based locker enables passengers to use their tickets as keys to gain access to a personal locker. In doing so, the system helps increase operational efficiency and enhances the passengers' experience of purchasing tickets and using station facilities.



Best EPC/RFID Concept

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DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING

RFID-assisted Learning and Computer Interface System for Disabled People

People with disabilities in Hong Kong have largely unmet needs and inadequate support when pursuing academic learning. Although many educational institutions provide facilities and services for disabled students, many of these facilities are not completely suitable for people with severe disability. The ECLearn concept project was designed to address this challenge. It is an RFID-assisted learning and computer interface system for disabled people designed by The Hong Kong Polytechnic University to provide disabled people with upper limb physical handicaps and visual impairments with a barrier-free learning environment so that they can keep pace with their peers in academia.

ECLearn leverages RFID technology to enable disabled students to easily log into computer systems and determine what special accessibility requirements these students may have. It also has human computer interface devices customized for people with disabilities and support for teachers who are working with disabled students. The system uses RFID-enabled smart ID cards to identify students with disabilities and what their special requirements are, along with the Flexible RFID Encoder and Decoder (FRED) tool developed by the university for tagging information. When students with disabilities approach a learning terminal, they will automatically be recognized and logged in by ECLearn so they can begin studying. In addition, the system will read from the student's smart ID what special requirements they have and adjust the system appropriately. For instance, if a student has weak eyesight, the system will automatically display a larger font size. All people have the right to learn and providing disabled students with barrier-free learning ensures this right is upheld in Hong Kong.



DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING

RFID-Enabled Airport Asset Management System

As a key component of Hong Kong's transport infrastructure, the Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) is critical to the functioning of the local economy, and enables the city to serve as a regional transportation hub and major destination for tourism. The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Department of Computing identified an opportunity for the airport to further improve its efficiency using an RFID-based processing system for managing assets in the baggage handling area. The pilot project of RFID-Enabled Asset Management System collaborate with HKIA demonstrated the concept is applicable in assets management for a system of tens-of-thousands of items.

Working in collaboration with the Airport Authority Hong Kong, which provided information on operational processes and an environment for testing, the team from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University designed a system that enabled assets to be tracked with inexpensive 128-bit RFID UHF tags, which are the same type of tags already used in large quantities for passenger baggage processing. Tagged assets are handled by processing stations with fixed RFID reader set up at the warehouse entrance. When an item arrives, the processing station, which is connected to the system database, will process the information encoded on the tags. The information will be displayed on screen for human confirmation, further editing, querying and reporting. Handheld RFID readers can also be used for tag processing and checking anywhere. The system provides efficient, automated warehouse management for one of the busiest airport in the world, with a flexible on-tag-data encoding scheme for both on-site and off-site access. In addition, the system supports tag rewriting and updating for complete flexibility.



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Most Innovative Application of EPC/RFID

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Acknowledgements

Co-organizers

Supporting Organizations



Hong Kong RFID Awards 2012 Steering Committee Avery Dennison Hong Kong B.V. Convergence Systems Limited Hong Kong Communications Co., Ltd. LEO Paper Group (Hong Kong) Ltd. Megabyte Limited PCCW Solutions Limited RFID System & Supplies Ltd Schmidt & Co., (Hong Kong) Limited





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