



RFID enabled Asset Tracking

Supply Chain Distribution

RFID enabled Reusable Asset Tracking

CLIENT:	Large Distribution Company
INDUSTRY:	Distribution
REV / EMP:	400M / 300+
TEAM SIZE:	8

BUSINESS CASE

The Client provides reusable containers to a wide-range of consumer based manufacturers. With the expansion of their business, additional distribution locations were being opened across North America, and were experiencing growth issues with their installed application. The customer needed assistance in deploying a new RFID-based asset tracking system across their distribution and storage centers in a limited duration.

VISION

The Client has identified the following drivers for this initiative:

- Create user-friendly tracking system that can track reusable containers via RFID as they enter and leave distribution facilities.
- Provide system the capability to re-adjust inventory levels based on last-known location.
- Enable distribution locations to operate with minimal intervention of logistics scheduling.
- Provide customized tracking at end-manufacturers to assist in container tracking.

CHALLENGES

With the need to open over 50+ distinct types of depots across the nation, a scalable solution was required to assist in tracking reusable containers. The solution had to have an intuitive user-interface, and staff training across multiple shifts. Additionally, the previous solution had to be decommissioned as quickly as possible to simplify system billing / invoicing aspects.

APPROACH

Due to the specific business needs of the client, a solution vendor was selected to modify their current tracking suite, and create a customized tracking solution. This solution interfaced with a series of RFID readers, handhelds, barcode scanners, and EDI transmissions to ship and update inventory location

and status. Working with the client, we were brought on to provide Project Management, Deployment, and support services for the roll-out of over 100 discrete RFID enabled locations.

METHODOLOGY

Excellis assisted this customer in the overall deployment and implementation of their tracking solution. The following methodology was applied to this project:

- Project Management
- Pilot Site deployment
- Project Schedule Creation
- Equipment Staging
- Deployment / Training
- Support Process Development and Actual Support

DELIVERABLES

Excellis developed a series of deliverables including User Personas, Scenarios, Characteristic and Functional Matrices, Site Map, Information Architecture and Navigation, Wireframes, Visual Specification Style Guides, and corresponding Page Specifications. Our overall responsibilities included Project Management, Deployment and Deployment Management, and Support.

FUTURE

As business continues to grow with the client, additional sites are being installed to meet business expectations. The client expects a total of 400 sites to be installed by the end of 2010.

WHY EXCELLIS

The Client selected Excellis primarily due to its experience and knowledge in RFID-based Asset tracking. Other contribution factors:

- Extensive knowledge in the area of supply chain
- Proven track record with large scale deployments
- Resource skill set in RFID, data capture, and networking