



Tracking uniforms through Managed Services

How does it work?

Bristol Uniforms are fitting each newly manufactured uniform item with a passive RFID tag to enable the automatic tracking of items through their managed services care programme. This means items can be tracked from collection at the emergency services through washing, inspection and repair cycles right into the return delivery.

The waterproof neoprene fabric RFID tags are securely sewn into a pocket in the garment. They can withstand temperatures of up to 180 degrees, which means they survive in most fire-fighting conditions as well as during professional cleaning procedures.

Previously every garment had to be barcode scanned manually on collection, which was time consuming as each item had to be handled individually to locate the barcode. This process was also prone to human error. Thanks to RFID, a full collection bag of uniforms can now be scanned in seconds and a complete audit trail of assets automatically recorded.



What is RFID?

RFID (radio frequency identification) can be used to identify or track the location of inventory or assets without human intervention.

Passive RFID systems use small tracking tags, which are attached to each item that needs to be tracked. Each tag contains a uniquely coded microchip and

antenna, used to broadcast a signal to a suitable reader. Readers capture the signal and pass it to a central database, which can then be interrogated.

There is no need for direct line of sight when scanning, and hundreds of items can be captured per second.

Asset and Inventory Tracking with RFID

Vero Solutions and its sister brand RFID Discovery have a proven track record of using RFID technology to track the location of a multitude of different assets in healthcare, logistics and manufacturing industries.

Vero and RFID Discovery provide a scalable solution that allows users to quickly collect and report on asset data, replacing error prone manual and paper-based processes. By tracking assets, RFID technology can help reduce the annual capital expenditure on replacement assets by improving utilisation levels and reducing losses of assets.

Inventory can be monitored in automatically and in real-time with the help of fixed RFID readers. Audits of specific locations, i.e. a particular vehicle or room, can be carried out with mobile readers in seconds.



RFID is ideal for tracking items such as

- ▶ Tools and equipment
- ▶ Medical devices
- ▶ Documents and records
- ▶ Items of evidence
- ▶ Communication devices such as radios, mobile phones and tablets

Key Benefits

- ▶ Inventories can be completed in seconds
- ▶ Creates automatic audit trail to ensure compliance
- ▶ Staff resources can be reployed as no human interaction required to track
- ▶ Monitors inventory levels in real-time
- ▶ Reduced capital expenditure on replacement assets by reducing losses
- ▶ Reduced auditing time, ensuring required assets are present

“Before implementing RFID Discovery, it used to take our Medical Physics team three months to complete a full inventory of all medical devices. Recently, an audit of 10,000 tagged devices was carried out in just three days.”

Bryan Hynd, Head of Medical Physics, NHS Forth Valley



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