

# RFID



## RFID Compliance for US Department of Defense

### *UK shipments meet US specifications*

Trading with the US Department of Defense represents an significant market opportunity for enterprises around the world. Shipping goods to US DoD sites is just one of the services provided for clients by Good Packing, a UK company that specialises in commercial packing and shipments across the globe.

As part of their drive for improved efficiency the US Department of Defense are making more and more use of radio frequency identification (RFID) to keep track of goods delivered to its various warehouses and logistics centres. As part of this, the DoD mandates the use of RFID tags on goods shipped to them.

To make sure that they could continue shipping goods to the US DoD on behalf of their clients, Good Packing needed a way of including the right tags with the right coding on their shipments. To help them implement their solution, they turned to CoreRFID.

## Good Packing

### *A Global Business*

Good Packing Company has been in operation for over 50 years in the packing and freight industry. Their continued operation and success in the competitive packing and transport industry demonstrates the wealth of experience and that the company has built up.

Goods shipped worldwide face a number of challenges that could prevent their safe arrival at their destination. Climactic factors could expose the contents of containers to damage from condensation. Handling during shipment could threaten damage to goods sensitive to vibration. Good Packing Company is a specialist in combating these problems, advising their clients on the most appropriate packing and handling to ensure that goods are delivered, safe and intact, to the customer, anywhere in the world.

The company offers a complete service including the project management of global shipments. Good Packing Company can provide a full packing team or can just handle the management of shipments, organising and supervising the packing, loading and lashing into containers of machinery and their movement. As part of this they complete comprehensive packing and contents lists; liaise with outside inspection agencies, shipping companies and forwarding agents; organise outside craneage or lifting tackle if required; and oversee the complete contract from start to finish with regular reports and up-dates.

One specialist area for the company is in shipments from defence contractors where packing has to meet not only the needs of the shipment method but also the subsequent storage on defence sites for as much as five years. This involves ensuring that shipments meet specific packing and labelling specifications, including the US DoD RFID labelling standards.

Good Packing is able to undertake most packing operations; from small engineering parts up to 50 tonne generators. It serves many blue chip companies both in the Aerospace and Heavy Engineering sectors with packing bays are equipped with overhead cranes and lifting beams for the heavier items of equipment. The company has third party accreditation to ISO 9001 and MOD DR/14 package design approval. For shipments to the US Department of Defense, working for Meggitt Aircraft Braking Systems, Good Packing Company needed to be able to offer RFID labelling of cases and containers.



**A PC attached reader / writer is used to encode RFID tags but portable devices can be used too.**

***"The CoreRFID solution was delivered on time, allowing us to meet our shipment commitments to our customers and to satisfy the US DoD." Mike Brereton, Good Packing Company Ltd***

## The CoreRFID DoD Coder

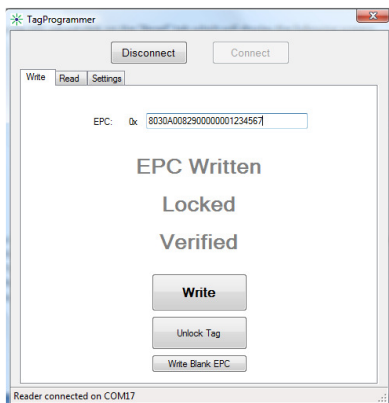
The answer to Good Packing Company's problem was CoreRFID's DoD Coder, a simple, easy to implement system that allows logistics and shipment companies to create tags with DoD compliant data codes for attachment to consignments destined for locations where RFID tagging is mandatory.

It is particularly suitable for low volume shipments of custom or high value products where it is not easy to build the RFID tagging approach into the shipment process.

The package consists of software that can run on any standard PC, together with a compact RFID reader / writer that connects to the PC through a USB interface. Good Packing was able to install and operate the system on one of their existing PC's. The only new hardware required was the cigarette packet sized desktop reader / writer and the tags that are added to each consignment.

The software package allows Good Packing Company to create tags for any of their clients. Tags are written using a standard data format laid down by the US Department of Defense. CoreRFID developed their solution to meet the specification laid down in the Suppliers Passive RFID Implementation Guide V14.0, the latest version, and will continue to update the system as needed as part of Good Packing Company's support contract.

The DoD Coder software supports standards for case and pallet tagging and will also support a future implementation of item tagging when specifications are published. It provides for data export linking tag data to an ASN (advanced shipment note) and provides reports and enquiries for ASN and tag data. Although Good Packing Company has deployed the system on a fixed reader PC, a version is also available for use on a portable handheld device.



**Written, Locked & Verified. The DoD Coder makes it clear that codes have been added to tags correctly.**

## About CoreRFID

CoreRFID provides a range of software solutions based on RFID and similar technologies for logistics, manufacturing, health, safety and other business areas.

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## The Benefits

DoD Coder benefits include:

- Creates US DoD compliant tags .
- Works with custom logistics and packing processes.
- Adaptable to the range of Good Packing Company's clients.
- Fully supported by with training and technical support available from CoreRFID.



**Confidex Casey Label Tags are easily applied and reliable.**

As well as providing the DoD Coder application and the required hardware, CoreRFID worked with Good Packing to select appropriate RFID tags for their application. The US DoD mandates the use of ultra-high frequency RFID tags using the EPC Global Class 1 Gen 2 standard but there are many different styles of tag conforming to this specification.

For this application CoreRFID recommended the Confidex Casey tag for its good performance and reliability, coupled with its suitability for attachment to the consignments that Good Packing will be shipping. The Confidex Casey – a label style tag with a read range of up to 6m - met all the application needs at the right price. CoreRFID is also able to offer US DoD compliant RFID tags suitable for use on wooden pallets or on metal containers.