

RFID



Location, Location, Location

CoreRFID's IT-Tracker™ Solution for Asset Audit

RFID provides a simple, easily used way of tracking valuable IT assets.

The spread of small, powerful, computing devices means that the value of IT assets outside of the data centre can be as high as that within. The combined data storage capacity of networked PC's may be as great as the storage on the organisation's server farms and storage area networks. Devices may be installed in 10's or 100's of sites.

To guard against theft and loss of devices and data, organisations need to be able to keep track of their distributed IT assets but the compact, portable nature of today's devices makes this a challenge.

One solution is to use RFID technology to identify IT assets. CoreRFID have created the IT-Tracker™ software system, a quick, low cost way to introduce RFID based IT asset audit applications. IT Tracker significantly improves the control that organisations have over their distributed IT devices.

RFID & IT Asset Management

The value of an employee's IT equipment can range from a few hundred pounds to many thousands, even without considering the intellectual property value or the value of data stored on them. Lap top or desk side computers, monitors, printers, scanners, personal digital assistants, mobile phones and Blackberry devices all represent a significant asset value, that is difficult to manage. The risk of data lost on USB memory sticks and the consequences of infringing privacy rules, Data Protection legislation or regulatory regimes is also of real concern for many organisations.

Radio frequency identification (RFID) tags offer a simple way to uniquely identify every IT device within the organisation. RFID tags are more secure than barcode labels or PAT test style printed labels. They can be hidden out of sight, permanently attached (with adhesive or mechanically) and are not easily tampered with.

Attaching RFID tags to IT assets means they can be easily tracked and audited. CoreRFID's IT Tracker system is a complete solution to the problems of recording and keeping track of RFID tagged IT assets. CoreRFID provide scanners, tags, readers and a proven software system that can be readily integrated with existing asset registration systems.

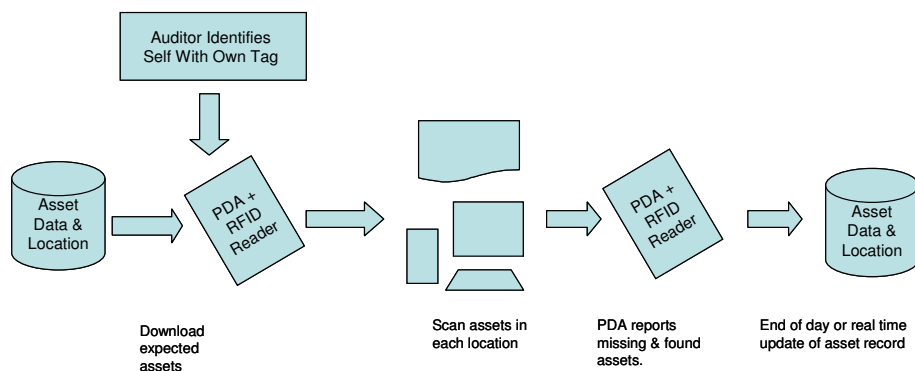


An IT auditor with an RFID equipped PDA can check assets quickly and accurately.

The benefits are *increased accuracy, better accountability and faster audits.*

The IT Tracker Asset Audit System

The system provides auditors with a list of the equipment for each location. Assets are identified with RFID tags. Auditors use a handheld computer with an RFID reader to detect which tagged devices are present. The reader tells the auditor which devices that were expected to be present are missing and which are present that weren't expected.



Auditors follow simple, on-screen, menus customised to the specific customer's needs. Knowing which assets appear to be missing allows for immediate follow up. The customised interface ensures that all processes are completed consistently. Direct entry of data and automatic collection of information from tags improves accuracy and reduces the risk of mistakes.

Both the auditor and the asset are identified during the audit, establishing a clear chain of accountability. Because the tag must be scanned before any data that might be required is entered, the risk of identifying the wrong asset is removed..

Data can be stored locally in the handheld computer and synchronised with a database. This can be done in real time or at the end of day using WiFi or GPRS links. Data can update maintenance schedules, asset registers, help desk files or rental billing systems. Details can also be integrated with databases such as Oracle or Microsoft SQL Server. Core RFID can assist with database integration.

The latest RFID tags are easy to attach and can be reliably fixed to the devices they belong to, either in the workplace or by the original IT supplier.

IT Tracker is a robust, flexible, system, easy to customise and straightforward to integrate with existing asset management systems. It can be combined with CoreRFID's portal solution to provide even greater levels of asset control. The software is fully supported by CoreRFID. CoreRFID advises on selecting appropriate tag technology, formats for tag coding and the readers best suited to the customer's applications. CoreRFID helps to ensure that the right elements are chosen to meet cost and performance requirements.

The Benefits

The IT-Tracker system provides:

- Up to date information on IT assets
- Supports for annual audits and regular / ad-hoc checks
- Reduces asset audit paperwork
- Integrates with Help Desk and / or IT asset management systems
- Reduces lost and misplaced assets
- Increases accountability & reduces human error
- Improves information on asset location, configurations and warranty
- Low implementation cost

About CoreRFID

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