

RFID Solutions

RFID is evolving as a major technology enabler for identifying and tracking goods and assets along the supply chain. It can help pharmaceutical companies to reduce counterfeiting, and logistics providers to improve the management of moveable assets. It also promises to enable new efficiencies in the supply chain by tracking goods from the point of manufacture through to the retail point of sale (POS).

An RFID system usually consists of an RFID reader, an antenna, and a tag on each object to be identified and tracked, and a host computer (see Figure 1 below). The tag contains data about the object or item tagged, at a minimum the data is the ID of the tagged item. The antenna receives radio frequency (RF) signal about the tag data. The reader processes the RF signal from the antenna and passes the information to the host computer. The host computer acts on the RFID data for various RFID business solutions.

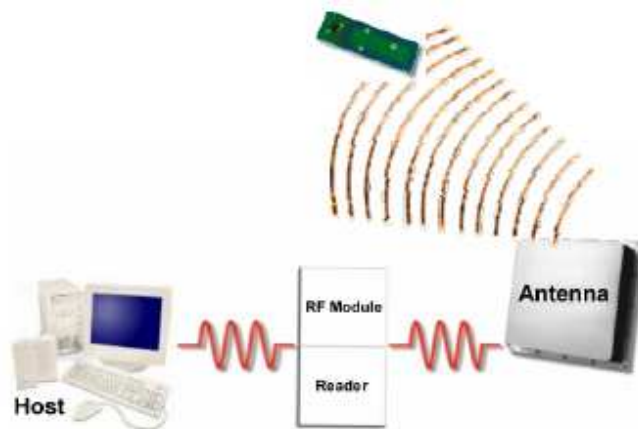
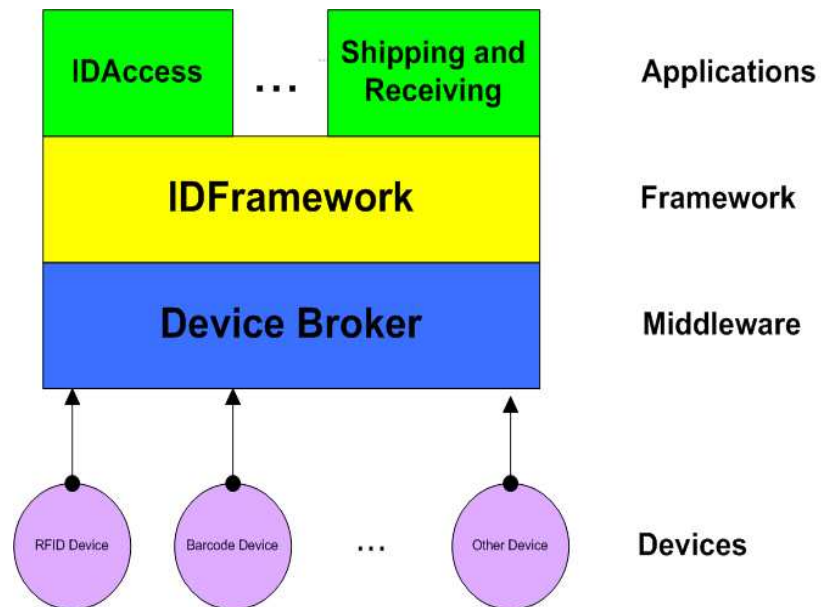


Figure 1. An RFID System

Figure 2 below shows the architecture of SoftLogistics RFID solutions. It has a DeviceBroker™ layer to facilitate the communication between RFID devices and the IDFramework™ layer. IDFramework™ is a SoftLogistics proprietary platform for quick RFID application development

and customization, based on .NET technology. Each RFID solution is an RFID application on top of IDFramework™.



Typical RFID solutions are:

- 1) Parking Management System;
- 2) Yard Management System;
- 3) Asset management;
- 4) Automatic Shipping and Receiving System; and
- 5) Supply Chain Track and Trace, such as e-pedigree for the pharmaceutical industry.



Figure 2 Typical RFID Applications



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Benefits of RFID applications:

- Parking Management – Hands-free in and out of parking facilities for drivers; and secure and high throughput of the parking facilities during peak hours for facility operators and owners.
- Yard Management – Automated gate check significantly increases accuracy and reduces labor costs and time to process. Real time visibility to which vehicles are in the yard and how long they've been sitting is critical to avoiding detention charges.
- Asset Management – Track the location of critical tools, equipments, or shipments.
- Automatic Shipping and Receiving – fast and accurate shipping and receiving transactions.
- Supply Chain Track and Trace (such as shipment tracking and e-pedigree) – visible and secure supply chain.

For Further Information:

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