21st Century Logistics for Global Asset Visibility (GAV)

The Combat Feeding Directorate Global Asset Visibility (GAV) Program is exploring the use of Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology to provide automated, real time logistics and information on any item in the global supply chain.

Why is it Needed?

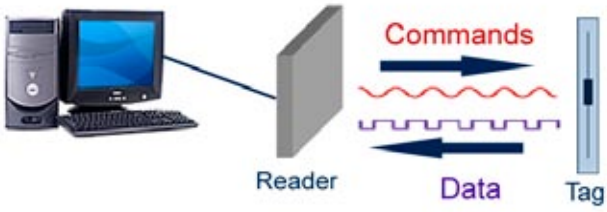
Radio frequency identification (RFID) technology will revolutionize end-to-end logistics by providing true Total Asset Visibility (TAV) of Class 1 and other classes of supply for the DoD.

Technology:

The Electronic Product Code (EPC) is a unique number that identifies a specific item in the supply chain. Passive RFID tags are made up of a microchip holding an EPC and an antenna that receives an RF signal. Powdered by a reader, passive tags emit a radio signal that transmits the EPC and other information back to the reader. Sensor integration on tags provides the capability to monitor the status of an item, pallet or container by detecting temperature, vibration, rough handling, chemical/ biological contamination (stretch goal), etc.

Benefits:

The major benefit of RFID technology is true real-time TAV of items in the supply chain. More importantly, open, global standards and competitive manufacturing processes will insure interoperability and affordability. DoD will benefit from this technology by adopting an industry solution to increase the efficiency of Total Asset Visibility. EPCglobal, Inc., in concert with the DoD and commercial industry, are driving standards to support the implementation of EPC RFID technology. The CFD recently completed a demonstration on the ability to track Class 1 supplies in an end-to-end supply chain and provide quality and shelf life data using RFID technology. Lessons learned will help shape the final DoD RFID Implementation Policy.



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