



ICLogistics

Completing the last mile of supply chain integration™

ICLogistics: Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Solutions

OVERVIEW: 21st Century RFID technology has arrived with 21st century hurdles facing the widespread adaptation of wireless identification solutions for today's global supply chains. With tremendous internal investments expected by Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) to retool and train core components of their supply chain infrastructure, cost is the leading factor deterring initiatives for RFID implementation. While RFID expenditures impact investment, long-term decisions about technology strategy are in sight for many SMEs if they wish to remain competitive in the global business climate. As the agglomerate lack of standards heightened by the global marketplace further fuels resistance to RFID consideration among supply chain investors, integrated solutions are needed and pioneering process management is essential. Compounded by the potential overflow of pure data on the horizon for many who must follow suit as Wal-Mart and the Department of Defense (DoD) gear up for 2005 mandates, the wide-scale electronic gathering of information in multiple formats and multifarious processing languages calls for the emergence of cost effective electronic document transfer enabled by secure web-based supply-chain management utilities.

RFID POTENTIAL: In general, skepticism of new and emergent technology accompanies visionary and innovative business planning geared toward low risk implementation. As supply chain management incorporates RFID technology, promising mass breakthroughs in how business is transacted in the 21st century, integrating solutions aimed at bridging the digital divide will harness sheer volume into viable transactions. ICLogistics provides a low-cost 'net-centric' solution for effective integration.

TECHNOLOGY: Effectively a wireless link that identifies distinctive items, events, processes and transactions, RFID technology consists of an electronic tagging system, and an electronic reading or data collection system. While RFID tags come in varying shapes and sizes with costs ranging from as little as 50 cents to \$150, RFID "readers" must currently be linked to expensive software systems that comprehend and integrate data. Powered by the inexpensive Inner Circle Logistics Software Suite (ICLSS), incentive for RFID implementation becomes an immediate reality, rather than one driven by expected drop in tag rates. Solving the standards issues that face supply chains in the 21st century is the Inner Circle Logistics' passion and competitive advantage.

TOTAL BUSINESS-TO-BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE: The beauty and elegance of the ICLSS is that it easily interfaces to existing business applications providing seamless connectivity to back-end systems. With the added potential of RFID, the ICLSS can minimize or even eliminate manual input on transactions, automating B2B processes for the 21st Century. RFID enables granular visibility. ICLSS with RFID is not just giving visibility but assimilation capabilities to help operational, tactical, and strategic business decision making. ICLSS combines real time visibility, exception management and supply chain resilience. ICLSS and RFID enable real time shared, synchronized view across multiple trading partners, real time updates to that shared information and the context to give it meaning.



Forrester Research has indicated that 88% percent of supply chain execs expected to use the Internet for collaboration and planning in two years. But barriers --like poor IT systems and limited resources --hamper progress. To overcome today's hurdles, Forrester interviewees expected to outsource SCM to an eMarketplace.

Source: Forrester Report "Network Supply Chains Emerge"

PRODUCTS: ICLogistics offers Internet Integrated Supply Chain services, web-based applications and productivity tools, and a "Virtual Intranet" content portal providing software products, e-Marketplace services, and supply chain consulting for SMEs. The ICLSS uses web data management capabilities to integrate manufacturers, shippers and customers as supply chain partners. Users are able to exchange and provide electronic documents according to myriad specific electronic formats, as well as to create web sites that extract and post data in a password-protected relational database. We have partnered to provide passive RFID tags and readers to enable 'turn-key' net-centric solutions which satisfy DoD 2007 RFID requirements today.