

Topic: RFID: What Does Congress Need to Know?

Benefits of RFID

While much of the focus is on RFID in supply chain logistics, there are many other types of RFID systems that can provide benefits to the U.S. including:

- Helping to provide Homeland security
 - o Document authentication (US VISIT, passports, pilot licenses, etc.)
 - o Container identification and security seals to enhance C-T/PAT, SST, and other U.S. government initiatives
- Helping to ensure the security and integrity of the pharmaceutical and food supply chains by enabling current FDA and USDA initiatives for:
 - o Product authenticity / anti-counterfeiting / product diversion
 - o Product pedigree / tampering prevention
 - o Livestock identification and tracking
- Helping to increase the efficiency, accuracy and velocity of the supply chain, resulting in:
 - o faster retailer response to customer needs
 - o greater selection and availability
 - o lower prices

RFID offers the potential to improve efficiencies in recycling of an increasing number of products and components, helping to safeguard the environment.

RFID tagging will significantly improve the quality of life around the world, and will provide significant commercial benefits to the developed world and a competitive advantage to the U.S. economy as a technology leader. The pervasive, ethical, and intelligent implementation of RFID technology will extend the competitiveness of U.S. manufacturing and distribution operations and ensure that the U.S. maintains its leadership in the digital age.

Privacy

AIM Global was the first to develop a standard, globally unique emblem to identify the presence of an RFID tag on a label or item. The unique design represents a standard that has been welcomed by public interest groups. AIM Global members are diligently working to develop technology-based solutions to privacy and security issues. AIM Global believes that policies and procedures should be put into place to ensure consumers rights, namely:

- The right to know whether products contain RFID tags.
- The right to have RFID tags removed or deactivated when they purchase products.
- The right to opt out of RFID-enabled services.
- The right to access an RFID tag's stored data.
- The right to know when, where and why the tags are being read.

Additional Policies and Guidelines

Posted at www.rfid.org.



About AIM Global

For more than 3 decades, AIM Global and its member companies have been the leaders in developing automatic identification and data collection (AIDC) technologies, standards and practices around the world. AIM Global is an ANSI-accredited, ISO-recognized international not-for-profit trade association representing the providers of technologies such as radio frequency identification (RFID), bar code, magnetic stripe, smart cards and biometrics. These technologies provide much of the convenience, productivity, and security benefits we take for granted every day.

AIM Global provided the first comprehensive guideline on RFID tag placement to assist companies complying with Department of Defense, Wal-Mart, and other mandates. Current activities include standards, guidelines and policies on the use of RFID on privacy and security, recycling, livestock identification, safety and education. AIM Global is examining the establishment of testing facilities to provide objective empirical testing and reporting on RFID systems.

AIM Global supports the appropriate use of automatic identification technology by providing unbiased, professional information on the technologies and their uses. AIM Global, its RFID Experts Group (REG), and its members stand ready to provide impartial expert advice on RFID and other AIDC subjects. For more information about AIM Global, contact Dan Mullen, (724) 934-4470, dan@aimglobal.org.

