



**PROMAT** 2015

McCormick Place South | Chicago  
March 23-26, 2015  
promatshow.com

# *Using Hybrid RFID for Improved Asset Tracking*

Sponsored by:



Presented by:

**Tom O'Boyle**

**Director of RFID, Barcoding, Inc.**

powered by



[www.ProMatShow.com](http://www.ProMatShow.com)

© 2015 MHI®  
Copyright claimed for audiovisual works and  
sound recordings of seminar sessions. All rights reserved.

## WHY RFID?

### RFID Technology is Efficient – Accurate – Connected (when implemented correctly)

- Eliminates user-initiated activities
- Removes line of sight requirements
- Provides 100% accuracy
- Connects workflows and processes
- *More cost-effective and sophisticated than ever before*

*The RFID market is expected to increase to over \$32B in 2015*

*“By 2021, it is estimated that the number of RFID tags will have risen to 209 billion as the Internet of Things takes off.”*

**FIND WHAT'S  
NEXT.**

## Think Process First, Technology Second

***What are your asset tracking goals?***

- Reduce Operational Costs
- Improve Your Customers Service and Experience
- Generate More Cash



## RFID Technology Consolidation

Select the most appropriate technology for overall requirements

- **Active RFID** – for people tracking applications, high value assets or true RTLS data is required
- **Passive RFID** – when cost or asset type limitations exist and chokepoint/gateway detection is sufficient for the application use case

**Hybrid Approach – Combines ACTIVE & PASSIVE**

# FIND WHAT'S NEXT.

## Active RFID Technology

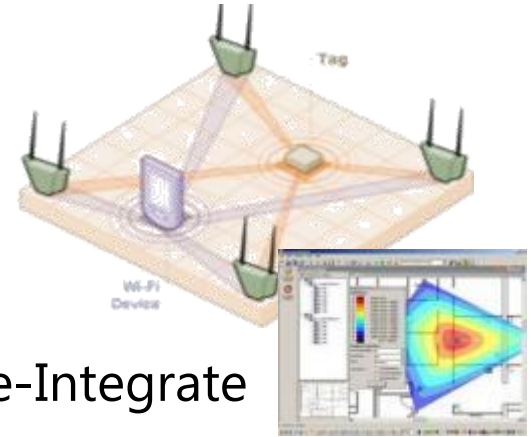
Integration to ERP, Inventory Mgt. Systems, WMS and other 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Applications



Visibility Software



Track-Alert-Manage-Integrate



WiFi Infrastructure



Wi-Fi Infrastructure and Location Engine (Wireless AP's)

Asset and worker Safety tags



Tags

Intel LBS Devices



Wi-Fi + GPS



Wi-Fi + Temp and Humidity Sensors





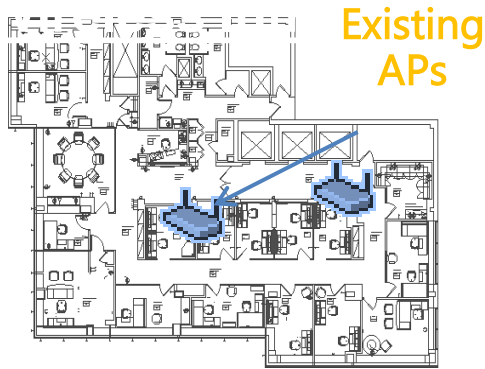
## Active Tags Location



- Highly variable movement
- Site wide location flexibility
- Real-Time location demands



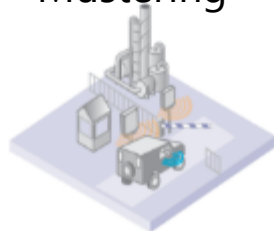
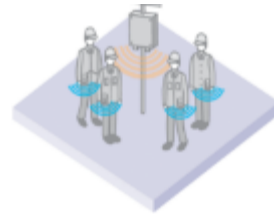
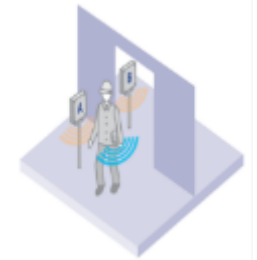
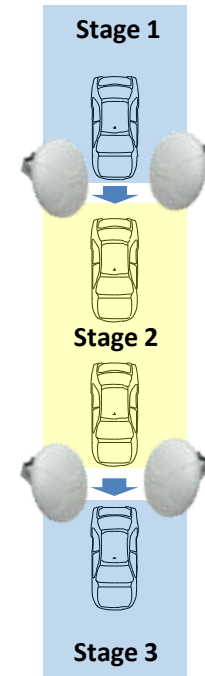
## Typical RTLS Infrastructure



### RTLS Wireless Infrastructure

- APs along perimeter
- Minimum of 3, 4 or more preferred (triangulation)
- Can supplement existing

### Exciters



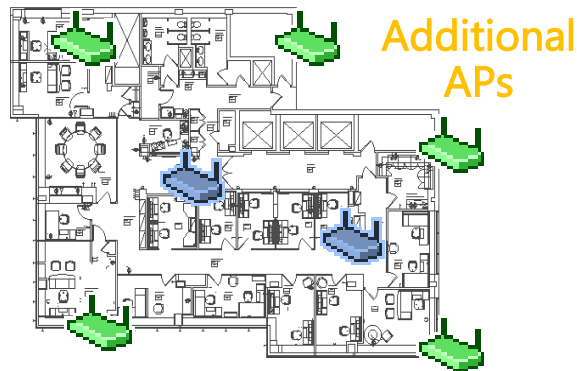
Cycle Time  
Monitoring

Gate  
Management

### RTLS Exciters

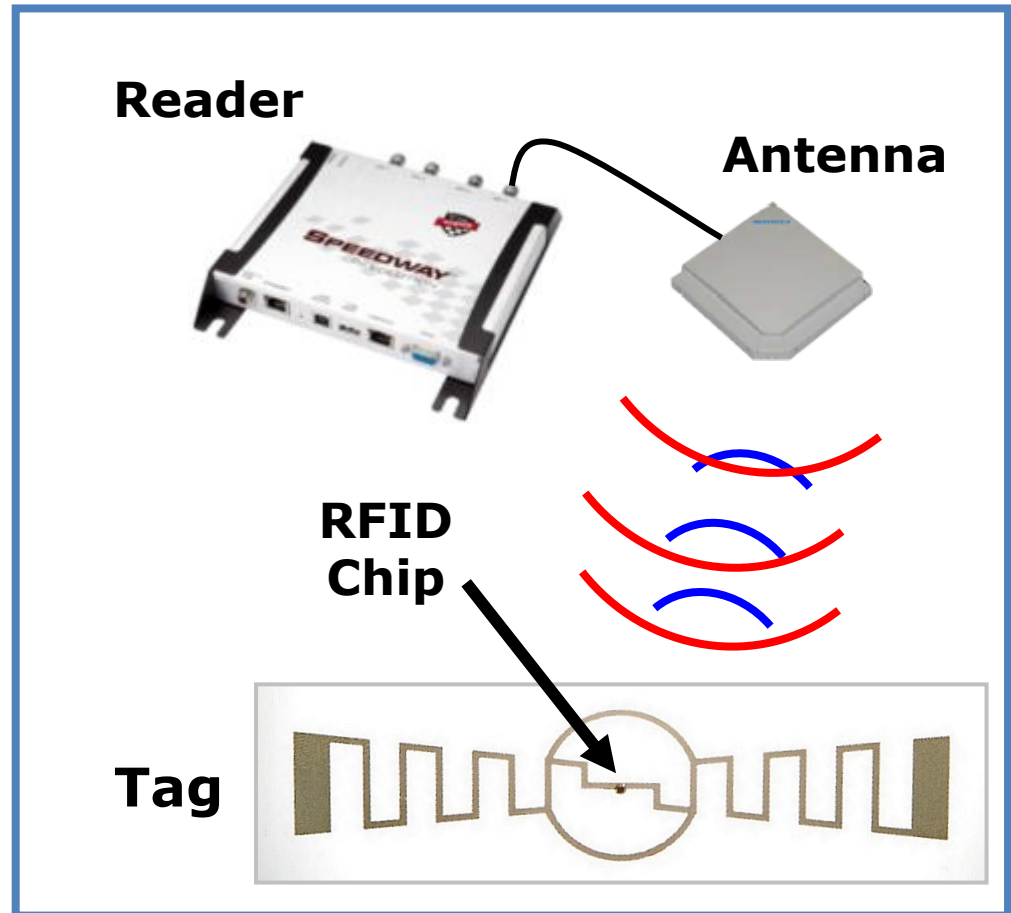
- Used in choke points or localized areas.
- Short range 1-6 meters.
- "Excite" tag - Tag id + Exciter id sent to WiFi

### Wireless Set Up for RTLS



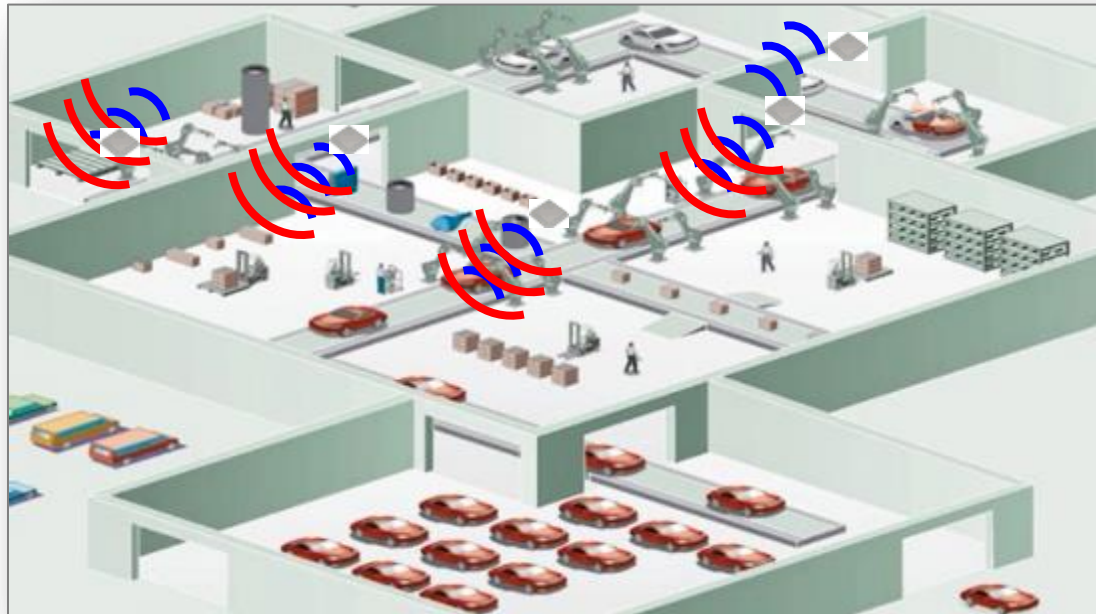
## Passive RFID Technology Review

- Reader sends signal to tag
- Tag uses incoming signal as power source
  - No battery required
- Tag talks back to reader by *reflecting* the signal
  - Much like a moving mirror reflecting back light – “Backscatter”





## Passive Tags Location

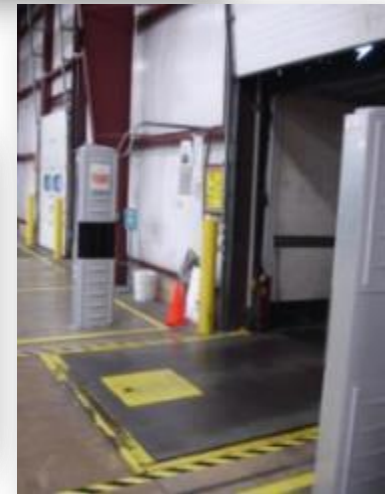
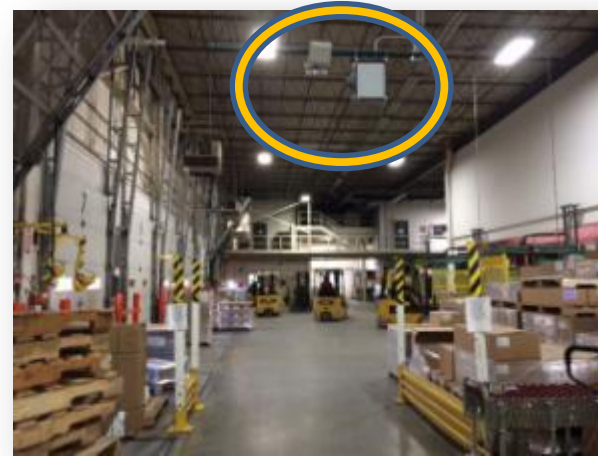


- Fixed RFID Reader locations
- Defined material flows
- Reports Last Known Location



# FIND WHAT'S NEXT.

- Common Passive Applications
  - Asset Tracking / Visibility
  - Receiving
  - Ship Confirm
  - Physical Inventory
  - Returnable Tote Tracking
  - Box Count Validation



## AGPS and Dual Mode Technologies

### Dual Mode Tags



- Dual Mode WIFI and Satellite GPS
- Long Battery Life – IP 67 rated (-22F to 167F)
- Large outdoor areas with limited WIFI infrastructure
- Sensor features
- Transmission intervals configurable
  - Event based (movement)
  - User Defined

### GPS Only Tags



- GPS based on Cellular triangulation
- Long Battery Life- Sealed and encased (-4F to 140F)
- Large outdoor areas no infrastructure needed
- Sensor Features
- Transmission intervals configurable
  - Event based (movement)
  - User Defined




# FIND WHAT'S NEXT.



**PROMAT** 2015

McCormick Place South | Chicago  
March 23-26, 2015  
promatshow.com

powered by MHI

	Active RFID 	Passive RFID 	AGPS/Dual Mode 
Best Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Real-time location</li> <li>•Uses existing Wi-Fi Network</li> <li>•Reusable tags w/replaceable batteries</li> <li>•Site-wide visibility</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Low Tag Cost</li> <li>•Small tag sizes and formats</li> <li>•Writeable memory</li> <li>•No batteries required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Limited Infrastructure investment</li> <li>•Long Battery Lives</li> <li>•Configurable Logic</li> </ul>
Limiting Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Tag cost and Size</li> <li>•Battery Life - long term storage</li> <li>•Insufficient Wi-Fi Coverage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Read range</li> <li>•Last Seen Knowledge</li> <li>•Choke Point location limitations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•High tag cost</li> <li>•Long term storage/chain for custody on tag assets</li> <li>•Affixing Challenges</li> </ul>
Best Use Cases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Large area coverage</li> <li>•High value or high impact assets</li> <li>•Cell based manufacturing</li> <li>•Highly variable movement patterns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•High volume of assets</li> <li>•Lower costs assets</li> <li>•Continuous flow, narrow movement patterns IE: Conveyer Belts</li> <li>•Supply Chain operations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Wide area coverage</li> <li>•Asset on 3<sup>rd</sup> party property</li> <li>•Visibility in transit</li> <li>•Sense movement</li> </ul>

## The Case for Hybrid RFID

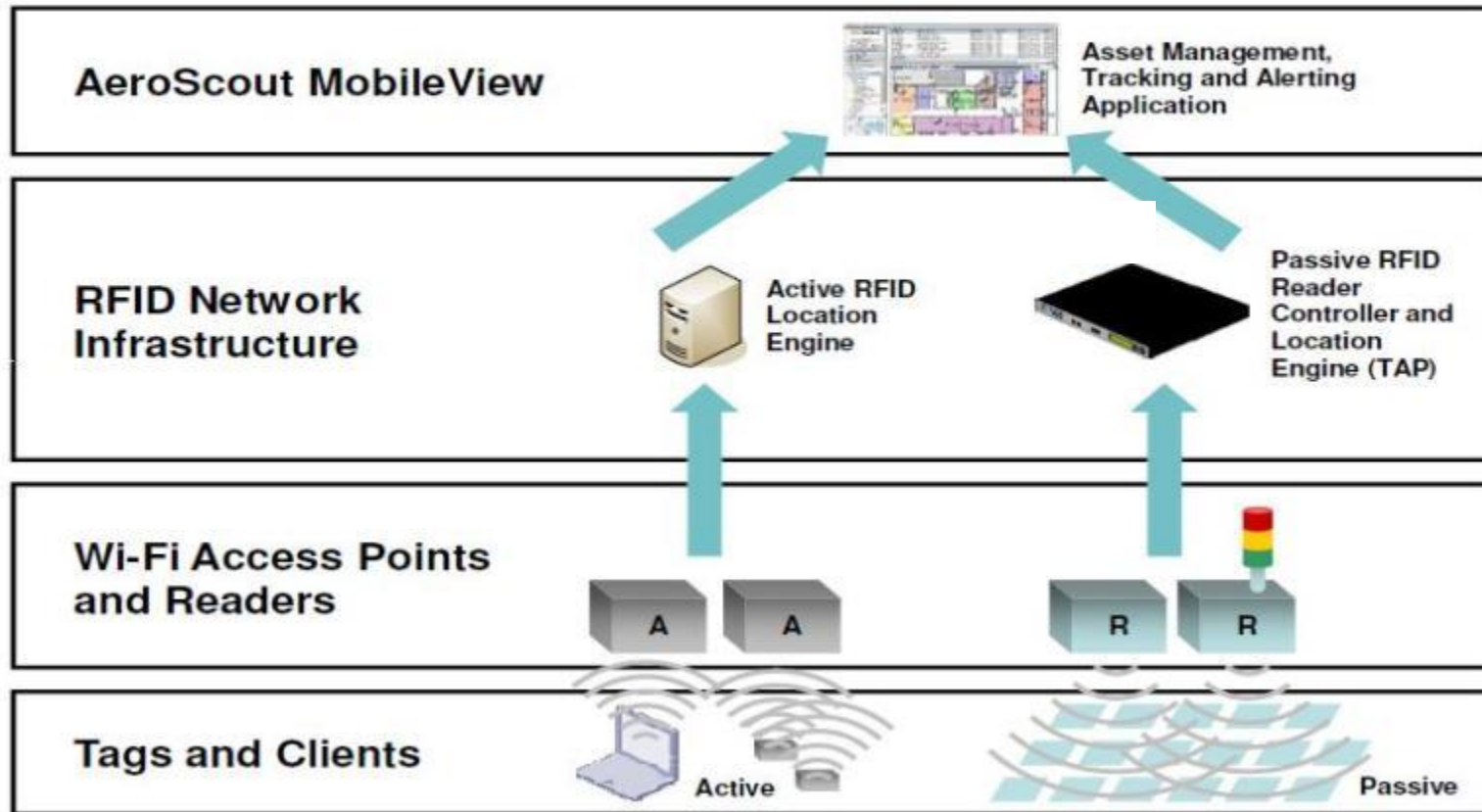
### Consider a car manufacturer....

- Active RFID could track large, high value parts like engines or chassis in real-time
- Passive RFID could track smaller components stored in pallets, totes, or bins within a standard material flow

### Challenges:

- Disparate data stuck in silos
- Operators needing to remember which tags track which assets
- No holistic view of assets

## Solution Architecture



## Great Hybrid Use Case



### Large jet engine and gas turbine repair facility

- Critical to track major components in real-time
- Thousands of smaller parts with standard material flows



## Main Unit and Cart Tracking

- After arrival, the main engine gets disassembled at the beginning of the process
- The main unit and all the small parts that need to be repaired are separated and identified with paper bar-coded tags, to form one complete unit
- At the end of the processes that involves different shop floor operations, all the components are assembled back together into the main unit and shipped



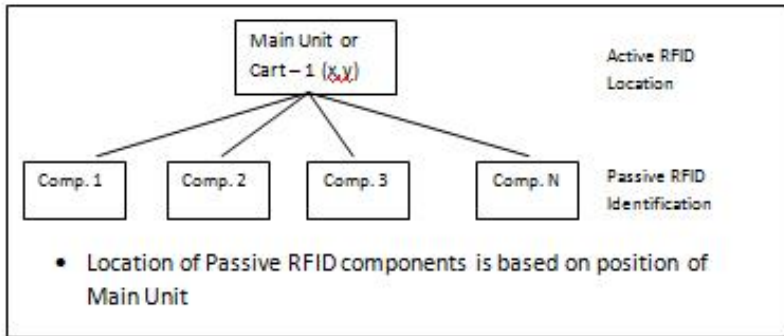


# FIND WHAT'S NEXT.

## RFID Active + Passive = Optimum Traceability



Passive RFID Tags used on individual parts for ID





## Hybrid RFID Case Study Results

- Full traceability of all components in one system
- All Systems integrated - MES, WMS and ERP
- Real-time TAKT Time tracking on major components
- Cut overall turnaround from 55 to 45 days
- Increased unit output by 18%
- Expediting ability for customer service and additional revenue



Combining active and passive in one system is more efficient, accurate, and connected.



# Benefits of Hybrid to Business Goals

## Reduce Operational Costs

- One system for unified asset tracking
- Less loss and time wasted

## Increase Revenue Opportunities

- Increased capacity without additional investment

## Improve Customer Experience

- Faster turn times
- More accurate inventory

**FIND WHAT'S  
NEXT.**



**PROMAT** 2015

McCormick Place South | Chicago  
March 23-26, 2015  
promatshow.com

powered by  MHI

## In Summary, HYBRID RFID Equals:

- Single, holistic view into the location of assets and inventory
- Infrastructure capable of growing with your organization (future-proof)



**Hybrid RFID delivers efficiency, accuracy, and connectivity**

**FIND WHAT'S  
NEXT.**



***For More Information:***

Speaker email: [tom.oboyle@barcoding.com](mailto:tom.oboyle@barcoding.com)

Website: [www.barcoding.com/RFID](http://www.barcoding.com/RFID)

Or visit ProMat 2015 Booth 4263

