

RFID For IT Asset Tracking

Newsletter
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The New Year brings exciting opportunities for RFID. One of the most active applications continues to be the tracking of IT assets in data centers. Because of the compelling ROI, many firms are adopting RFID as a means to track their most important assets. Working closely with Oracle and other industry leaders, RCD has responded with a family of passive UHF tags, called the Sentry Tag, for this global market application.

In 2009 and 2010, RCD Technology began working with Sun Microsystems, now part of **Oracle**, to develop a mount on metal RFID tag that can be read across all three worldwide RFID bands. This tag eventually became RCD's **Sentry-M WW tag** and the program was featured in an

article in **RFIDJournal**. The Sentry-M WW tag by RCD meets the FSTC requirements, Department of Defense (DoD) requirements as well as the EPCglobal specification. It uses minimal footprint and provides excellent performance around the globe.

Oracle will now be applying the Sentry-M WW to all of their hardware products to facilitate automated tracking. They also realized that while their equipment is now RFID enabled, many of their customers were not familiar with RFID and how it can improve their ability to track and account for IT equipment in their data centers. In response to this need, Oracle recently published their white paper, "**How to Track Your Oracle Sun System Assets by using RFID**", which describes and outlines a successful RFID implementation in a data center environment. The white paper goes on to explain how to get started with your own RFID system to manage your IT assets. The standards for implementing this system were defined by the Financial Services Technology Consortium (FSTC) in the early part of the decade.



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The Sentry-M WW RFID tag used by Oracle is a part of the **Sentry asset tag family** offered by RCD Technology. The world wide tag is critical for the Oracle global customer base and allows one tag to be used regardless of the final customer destination for the IT equipment. Other tags featured by RCD in the Sentry line for a total IT equipment RFID solution include:

- **Sentry-AS** - an all surface mount tag with a small footprint that is ideally suited for the tracking of assets such as blade servers, rack mounted IT equipment, computers, laptops, printers, monitors and other IT assets. The tag features a read range of 7 feet with a fixed reader and 6 feet with a handheld reader.
- **Sentry-M** - a mount on metal tag that is ideally suited for the tracking of metal assets such as rack mounted IT equipment, blade servers, printers, and laptops. The tag features a read range of 13 feet with a fixed reader and 11 feet with a handheld reader.
- **Sentry-M Slim** - a thinner version of the Sentry-M at half the thickness and is optimized for rack-mounted and stacked IT equipment. The tag features a read range of 10 feet with a fixed reader and 8.5 feet with a handheld reader.

RCD's Sentry family of passive UHF asset tracking tags have been designed to track and identify IT Assets and are particularly beneficial for use in data centers. All of the Sentry family tags exceed the FSTC read distance requirements and are sized to properly fit on your IT equipment. In addition to the family of Sentry tags, RCD also offers a Universal tag (soft form factor with an excellent read range and able to be mounted on any hard surface) and an **LTO RFID** enabled label to track your tape libraries. Our Sentry tags can also be used in other tracking applications such as tool tracking, metal pallets/racks, and plastic coated components. RCD also offers a high-temperature version of the Sentry tag called the **Sentry-HT**, this tag was featured in our November **newsletter**.

If you are interested in learning more about how RFID can benefit your IT asset management system, please contact us using our contact us **form**.


Ask The Expert



Have a question about using RFID? **Submit** your questions to our Chief Technology Officer Bob Oberle.

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RCD Technology's core competency is the innovative design of RFID tags to effectively solve our customers' most difficult challenges. Because of this RCD has built considerable knowledge and experience in a wide variety of RFID applications. RCD is more than just a RFID tag manufacturing and design company. RCD is also capable of conducting site surveys to ensure you are using the proper reader antenna design, set-up, and tag system for your application. RCD also provides testing services to assure you that your tag is performing in your application. Through this testing RCD can provide quantitative data on the performance of this critical piece of the RFID application. To find out more about RCD's services beyond the tag please **contact us**.

RCD Technology Passes Annual Surveillance Audit

RCD Technology's Quakertown, PA manufacturing facility has once again passed their annual ISO9001:2008 Surveillance Audit. RCD has been ISO certified since 2007.

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