

TECH TIPS - RFID Reader: How to track lab equipment

Application Challenge

Customers are always looking for ways to improve their operations and many companies are starting to inquire about how to track items around their physical environment. From corporate assets on a depreciation schedule to files for a legal or medical office, nearly all types of businesses could use a little help finding and organizing their assets using RFID. Software companies need to integrate RFID into their products as device makers need to begin to tag items on the production line. How will your company be affected by the upcoming RFID revolution?

Have You Thought of This?

Fortunately, 3M has several products to help you prototype using RFID.

Software Asset Module: many software products contain modules to help organize and maintain assets around an environment. One example is corporate assets on a depreciation schedule. However, when a person needs to go about using the module to perform and audit it becomes very painful. Typically they print off a spreadsheet and walk around their facility; they read the serial number off the asset, dig through the spreadsheet and check off the matching number. This is a time consuming and ineffective process that RFID can help you master. By tagging their assets your software can help easily perform their asset audit which is an annual requirement by the Sarbanes-Oxley act. Use the following 3M products to prototype and RFID tracking module in your software product.

- 3M™ Model 210 RFID Reader is a USB powered RFID reader and is the perfect tool for a quick interface to your software product. Simply purchase the reader, download the drivers and software protocol specification and you can quickly begin interfacing with the reader. [More...](#)
- 3M RFID Labels are the perfect way to begin prototyping your tracking system. Place the labels on items you want to track and begin testing and prototyping right away.

RFID Test Bed: many customers are requiring RFID to be integrated into components and modules. If you need to integrated RFID then you need a test bed. By using 3M RFID component and software you can quickly develop your own RFID test module.

- 3M™ Model 210 RFID Reader is a USB powered RFID reader reads ISO 15693 and ISO 18000-3 RFID tags. The reader is simple to use and is a great way to test how far and if RFID tags are reading. Mount the RFID reader in a piece of wood and have a measuring tape to measure how far RFID tags in your product are reading. By having a standard test you will begin to develop comparative data on your integrated RFID components. [More...](#)
- 3M™ Model 210 RFID Software is a free download. It shows the serial numbers of tags shown and is a quick and easy software tool to develop your test bed. The software can be downloaded free at www.3m.com/rfidtools

3M Tech Tips

- A USB powered RFID reader is a great tool for an RFID test bed.
- 3M has RFID readers and tags to quickly prototype RFID with your products or software

Static Resources

- [ESD Control Handbook](#)
- [Pictures of Static Damage](#)
- [Static Electricity Test](#)