



# Auto-ID Labs

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA USA

## Auto-ID and The Data Center: Creating an Intelligent Infrastructure for Business



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Massachusetts Institute of Technology





# **A Special Word of Thanks to my Colleagues**

- **Stuart J. Allen - Professor Emeritus, Penn State**
- **David L. Brock - Principal Research Scientist, MIT**
- **Pinaki Kar - Independent Consultant, NYC**
- **Mark Dinning- RFID Project Leader, Dell.**
- **Tom Scharfeld - Research Manager, Auto-ID Labs**
- **Robin Koh – Director of Applications Research, Auto-ID Labs**





# A Special Word of Thanks to my Colleagues (continued)

- Nhat-So Lam – **Family Retail Business, Toronto**
- Attilio Bellman – **Manager of Consulting, Bearing Point**
- Elaine Lai, **graduate student UC Berkeley**
- Daniel Engels – **Research Director, Auto-ID Labs**
- Ming Li – **Supply Chain Analyst, Analog Devices**
- Indy Chackrabarti and Nhat-So Lam - **Former Graduate Students of the MLOG Program at MIT now employed in industry**
- Tatsuya Inaba – **Research Affiliate Auto-ID Labs**





**A Number of Articles on Auto-ID are  
Available at my Personal Web Site**

**[www.ed-w.info](http://www.ed-w.info)**

**All Presentation Materials are Posted**



# Research Projects – Six Major Categories

- Auto-ID Technology
- The Data Center
- Harvest Analytics
- The Comparative Logistics Project
- MODS Scheduling Lab
- Achieve for Process Manufacturing





# The Data Center

- Entrepreneurial, research-oriented, non profit, bigger than Auto-ID
- Develop better methods to use data gathered through Auto-ID
- Assemble mathematical models quickly, become the Henry Ford of Modeling.
- Idea to link models and other abstractions similar to the way Auto-ID links physical objects to the Internet
- **“An Introduction to Semantic Modeling for Logistical Systems”** by D.L. Brock, E.W. Schuster, S.J. Allen and P. Kar.





## The Data Center (continued)

- Winner of the 2004 **E. Grosvenor Plowman** Award given by the Council of Logistics Management for the “paper judged to have contributed the most to the logistics profession in the way of original material and original thinking.”











# Harvest Analytics

- Understand how harvest operations can be optimized
- Establish a new discipline of study within INFORMS based on practical research
- Looking to apply thinking across all areas of agriculture
- Extensions to other areas, such as fashion industry
- **"Controlling the Risk for an Agricultural Harvest"** by *S.J. Allen and E.W. Schuster*. Published in *Manufacturing & Service Operations Management*.
- **"Managing Risk for the Grape Harvest at Welch's"** by *S.J. Allen and E.W. Schuster*. Published in *P&IMJ*.







# The Comparative Logistics Project

- International Logistics is a weak area of university supply chain programs
- Few methods of analysis
- Overseas trade is important to US economic growth
- **"The Impact of e-Commerce on the Japanese Raw Fish Supply Chain"** by *K. Watanabe and E.W. Schuster.*
- **"Chinese Home Appliance Manufacturing: A Case Study of TCL Corporation"** by *P. Wang and E.W. Schuster.*





# The MODS Scheduling Lab

- Increase the effectiveness of finite capacity scheduling
- Encourage the use of MODS method for scheduling.

"Capacitated Scheduling of Multiple Products on a Single Processor with Sequence Dependencies" by *M.P. D'Itri, S.J. Allen and E.W. Schuster*.

"A Simple Method for the Multi-Item, Single-Level, Capacitated Scheduling Problem with Setup Times and Costs" by *S.J. Allen, J.L. Martin and E. W. Schuster*.

"Practical Production Scheduling with Capacity Considerations and Dynamic Demand: Family Planning and Disaggregation" by *S.J. Allen and E.W. Schuster*.

"A Deterministic Spreadsheet Simulation Model for Production Scheduling in a Lumpy Demand Environment" by *E.W. Schuster and B.J. Finch*.





# Achieve for the Process Industries

- A repository for information relating to the process industries
- Combination of research materials and other documents that might be of historical value
- Establish a long-term resource for practitioners
- Unfortunately, many process industries are not doing well financially; chemical, paper, pharmaceutical





## Our Discussion Today

- How did I get interested?
- How does Auto-ID Work?
- What are typical applications being considered in the consumer goods, pharmaceutical and the military industries?
- A case study of Dell
- What is the future?
  
- **FEEL FREE TO ASK QUESTIONS DURING THE PRESENTATION**





**8:30 AM to 10:00**

**15 MIN. BREAK**

**10:15 AM – 12:00**







# Temporal and Spatial Utility

Time and Place

Logistics versus Data





# Auto-ID Technology--Thesis Research

- “An Exploration of Product Diversion in the Consumer Goods Supply Chain.” *Joseph Dahmen*
- “Applications of Auto-ID Technology to Gain Supply Chain Process Efficiencies in the Consumer Packaged Goods Industry.” *Mark Dinning*
- “A Study of the Impact Of Auto-ID on Shrinkage Within the Fast Moving Consumer Goods Supply Chain.” *Nhat-So Lam*
- “An Exploration of Distribution Network Design for Computer Service Companies.” *Ming Li*





## Thesis Research (continued)

- "Product Traceability in the Pharmaceutical Supply Chain: An Analysis of the Auto-ID Approach." *Attilio Bellman*
- "An Auto-ID Based Approach to Reduce Counterfeiting in the U.S. Pharmaceutical Supply Chain." *Indy Chakrabarti*
- "An Analysis of the Department of Defense Supply Chain: Potential Applications of the Auto-ID Center Technology to Improve Effectiveness." *Elaine Lai*





# Auto-ID Center – Historical Overview

- Auto-ID Center Founded
  - 1 October 1999 at M.I.T.
  - UCC, Gillette, and Procter and Gamble
- Global, Industry Sponsored Research Program
  - 103 Sponsors by 31 October 2003
- Deliverables
  - IP Free or Freely Licensable IP
  - Recommended Standards
  - Reference Implementations
- Vision
  - Networked Physical World

Adapted from D.W. Engels





**DR. DAVID BROCK**



**PROF. SANJAY SARMA**



**KEVIN ASHTON**



**DR. DANIEL ENGELS**



# Auto-ID Center

- Research Laboratories

  - M.I.T. (1999)

  - University of Cambridge (2000)

  - University of Adelaide (2001)

  - University of St. Gallen (2002)

  - Keio University (2002)

  - Fudan University (2002)

- Delivered

  - Networked Physical World EPC System

    - (Recommended Standard)

  - Series of business cases for use of EPC System

  - Retail community support for use and adoption of EPC System





# The Auto-ID Center's Technology

Networked Physical World EPC System designed to connect all physical objects to the Internet.

Applications execute within (on-top-of) the EPC System

Adapted from D.W. Engels





# The Auto-ID Center's Technology

- The EPC System is comprised of a set of building blocks
  - EPC** – Electronic Product Code provides unique identifier
  - ONS** – Object Name Service locates information server
  - Savant** – Scalable data collection and system management system building block
  - PML** – Describes objects and captured information
  - eTags** – On item electronic tags and readers (enable smart objects)







# Auto-ID Center

- Transformed...  
...26 October 2003
- Auto-ID Labs
  - Performs fundamental research related to EPC System and ubiquitous intelligent objects
  - Builds communities not already using EPC System
- EPC Global (**UCC+EAN=GS1**)
  - Manages and develops EPC standards
  - Markets EPC System





# The Auto-ID Labs: Overview

AUTO-ID LABS





- Auto-ID Labs...
  - ...is a federation of research centers
  - ...performs an integrated and coordinated program of research, development, and education related to automated identification, intelligent objects, and the EPC System
  - ...performs industrially relevant fundamental research
  - ...performs industrially relevant applications research
  - ...performs system and tool research and development
  - ...performs education



# Auto-ID Labs: Member Labs

- Current Member Laboratories

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Research Director: Dr. Daniel W. Engels

University of Cambridge (manufacturing, EPCIS)

Research Director: Dr. Duncan McFarlane

University of Adelaide (RFID systems)

Research Director: Prof. Peter H. Cole

Keio University (ubiquitous computing)

Research Director: Prof. Jun Murai

Fudan University (microelectronics, VLSI design)

Research Director: Prof. Hao Min

University of St. Gallen (supply chain, PML)

Research Director: Prof. Elgar Fleisch





# Vision

World of ubiquitously connected intelligent objects.

Also stated as a world where...

- ...bits and atoms are merged.
- ...physical objects communicate in real-time all the time.
- ...information flows and physical flows are synchronized in real-time.
- ...object-centric systems are ubiquitous.
- ...all objects are connected to the Internet.





# Mission

- Our mission is to...
  - ...**educate** the world on the capabilities, limitations, and applicability of intelligent objects.
  - ...perform fundamental **research and development** into the design and manufacture of **automated identification technologies and intelligent objects**.
  - ...perform fundamental research and development of **systems** that enable ubiquitously connected intelligent objects.
  - ...perform research and development of knowledge, technologies, and systems that enable the **application** of intelligent objects.
  - ...develop **tools** that enable the practical deployment and use of intelligent objects.





# Packaging and RFID SIG (MIT)

Investigate the impact of materials on the performance of RFID systems

- Field Probe

Develop a physical tool to aid in the analysis of RFID systems. Tool will measure power levels, simulate an RFID tag, and monitor important system parameters.

- Simulator

Develop a simulator tool of RFID electromagnetic energy in the presence of physical objects.

Tool will provide first order simulation on the capabilities of RFID systems in the presence of physical objects.

- Antenna

Develop RFID tag antenna (for cases) that work well in the presence of metallic contents.





# Web Services WAN SIG (MIT)

Investigate the Wide Area Network networking requirements for secure, real-time web services

- SOAP

Develop SOAP messaging system to enable secure, real-time communication.

- Sensor Networks

Develop description and communication framework compatible with the SOAP Project that enables real-time data captured by a sensor network to be communicated over the WAN.







# Manufacturing and Materials Handling SIG (Cambridge)

- Investigate the requirements and application of the EPC system in manufacturing and materials handling applications.
- Launch: 23 June 2004





## China SIG (Fudan)

Investigate the use of EPC technologies within China, support its adoption within China, and support and educate regulatory efforts within China.





# Automotive Research Initiative (St. G)

Perform fundamental research and development to achieve the vision of ubiquitous intelligent objects in the automotive industry.





# Healthcare Research Initiative

AUTO-ID LABS





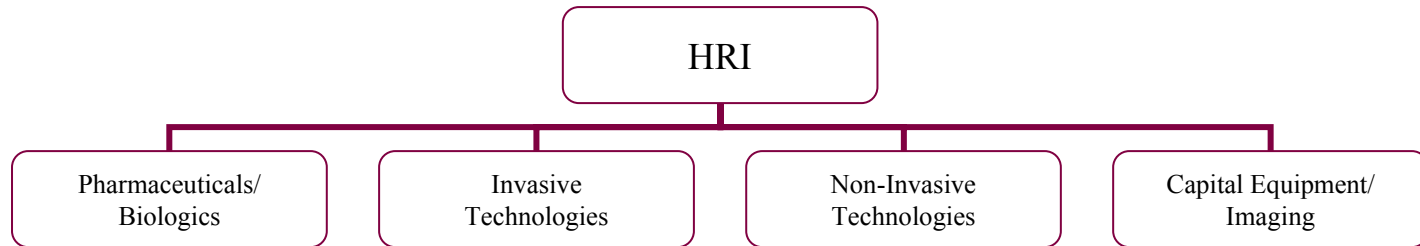
# Mission

The mission of the HRI is to provide an objective, coordinated and comprehensive body of research for the application of automatic identification, mass serialization, networking and sensing technology to healthcare.





# HRI Research Structure





# Basic Research

- Radio Frequency ID
  - The effect of RF on Product
  - The effect of RF on Environment
  - Guidelines on frequencies for different packaging levels
- Study the special requirements of Cold Chain Logistics
- Active/Semi-Passive tags
- Research the integration of telemetric and sensor technology into the pharmaceutical supply chain





# Basic Research

- The IT Network

  - Security & Privacy

    - 21 CFR Part 11

    - HIPAA

    - Prime

  - PML

    - Aggregations & Associations

    - Product Catalogs

    - Business Dictionaries

    - Technical Dictionaries

  - Redundancy







# Applications Research

- Efficient Receiving, Picking, Shipping Operations
- Shrinkage
  - Shelf Life Management
  - Perpetual/Physical Inventory Reconciliation
  - Warehouse Operation Errors
  - Internal & External Theft Control





# Tactical Applications Research

- Inventory Management
  - Product Availability
  - Demand/Supply Synchronization
- Diversion Control
- Returns
- Recalls
- Sample Administration
- Kitting/Consolidation





# Strategic Applications

- Inventory Parking
- Brand Protection
- Additional Services
  - VMI Programs
- Complexity Management
  - Individualized Drugs
  - SKU Proliferation
  - Distributed Manufacturing Infrastructure
  - Virtual Inventory





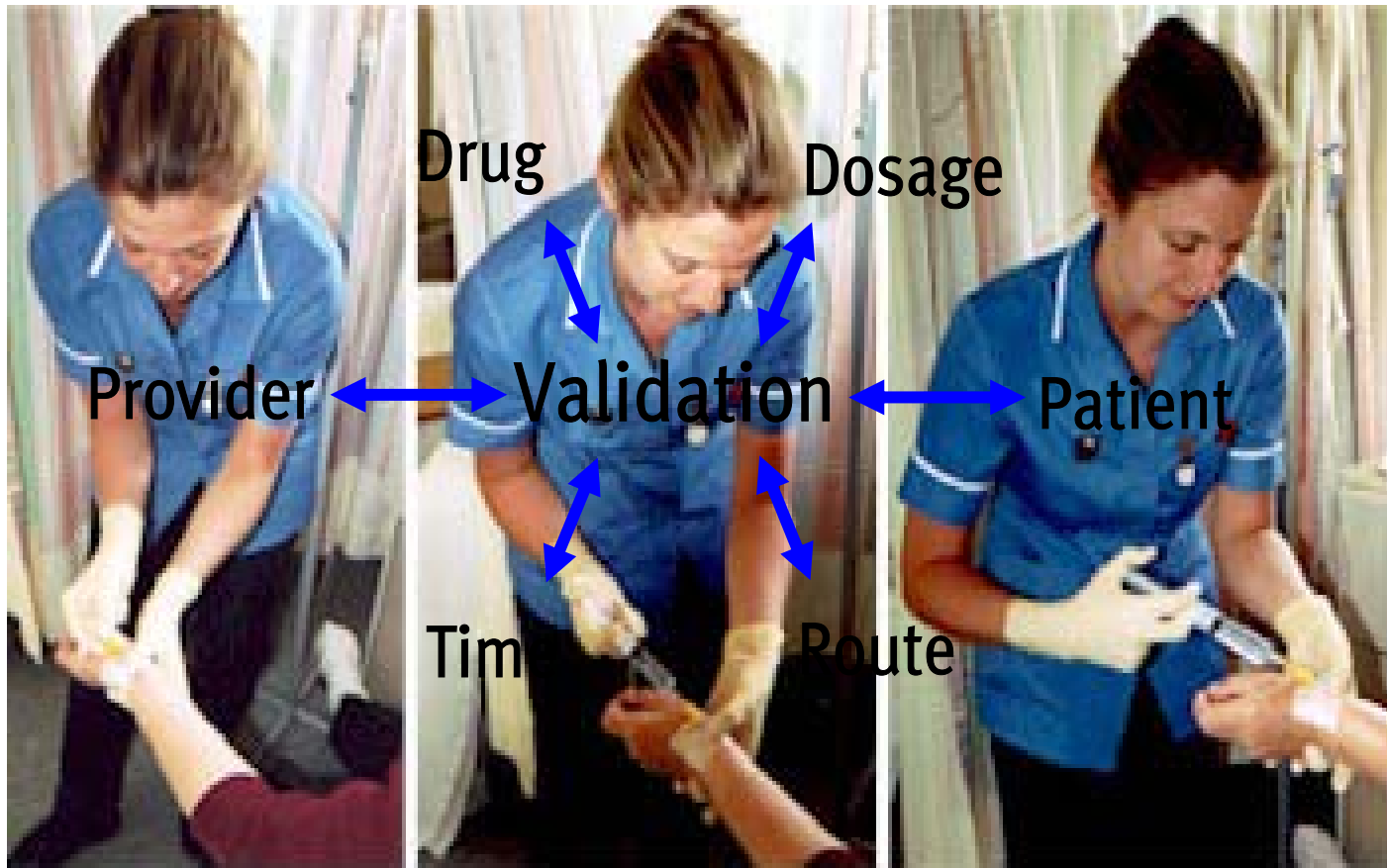
# Product Integrity

- False Product
- Tampered Product
  - Adulteration
  - Substitution
  - Re Labeling
- Unacceptable Status of Product
  - Expired
  - Discarded
  - Samples
  - Returned
  - Recalled





# Patient Safety





# A Brief History

## 1940's

- WWII  
Friend or  
Foe

## 1960's

- EAS

## 1980's

- Automated  
Highway  
Tolling
- Animal  
Tracking

## 1990's

- Security  
Access &  
Control
- Exxon  
Speedpass
- Rail Car  
Tracking

## Today

- Increased  
Interest





# Brief History of RFID

1846: Faraday:  
Light and Radio  
Waves Part of  
Electromagnetic  
Energy

1864: Maxwell:  
Maxwell's  
Equations

1887: Hertz:  
Electromagnetic  
Waves

1896: Marconi:  
Trans-Atlantic  
Radio  
Communication

1906: Alexanderson:  
Continuous Wave

1926: Baird Patent:  
Radio Object  
Detection

1935: Watson-Watt  
Patent: Radar



1948: Harry  
Stockman:  
Communications  
by means of  
Reflected Power

1952: Vernon:  
Application of the  
Microwave  
Homodyne

1950's: Harris  
Patent: Radio  
Transmission  
Systems with  
Modulatable  
Passive Responder

1966: Sensormatic  
and Checkpoint  
EAS



1973: Cardullo  
Patent: Passive  
RFID

1975: LASL: RFID  
Research Released  
to Public (IDX and  
Amtech)

1979: Animal  
RFID

1987: Norway:  
Motor Vehicle Toll  
Collection

1991: AAR  
Standard

1994: All US  
Railcars RFID  
Enabled

1999: MIT Auto-  
ID Center  
Founded

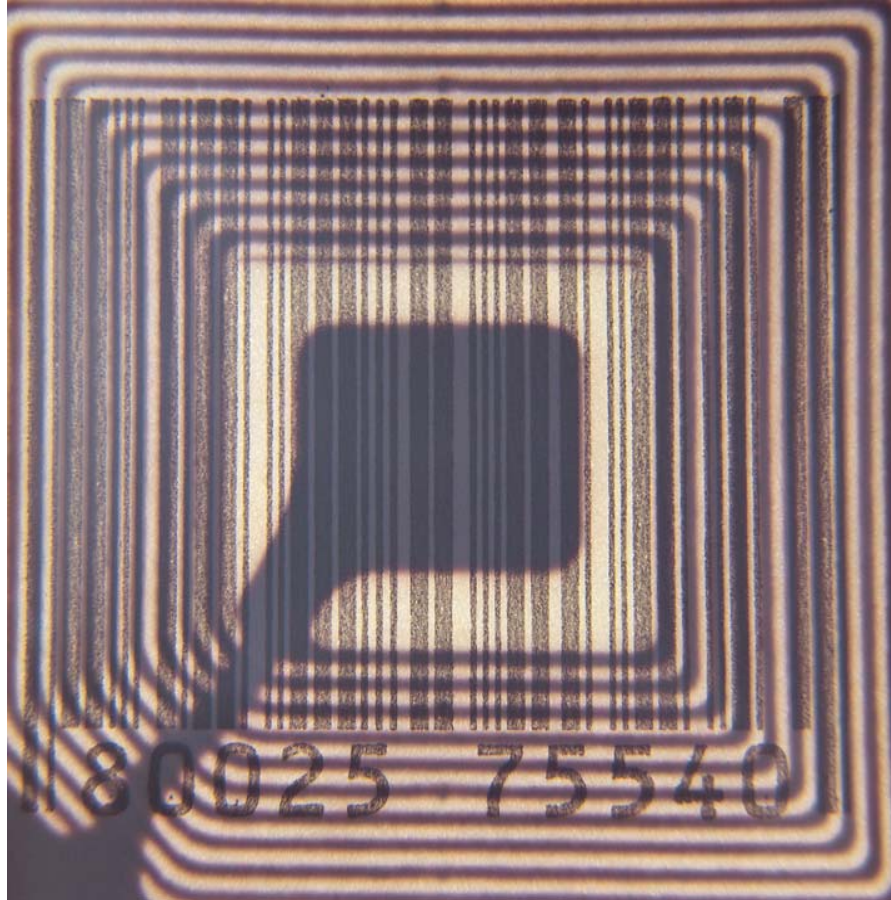
2003: RFID  
Container  
Tracking in Iraqi  
Freedom

2003: EPC System  
Version 1.0

2005: Wal-Mart  
Mandate

2005: DoD  
Mandate











# Types of RFID Tags

**Passive** - passive communication, no on-tag power source (Wal-Mart Mandate)



**Semi-Passive** - passive communication, on-tag power source

**Active** - active communication, on-tag power source



Adapted from D.W. Engels





# RFID Tag Functionality

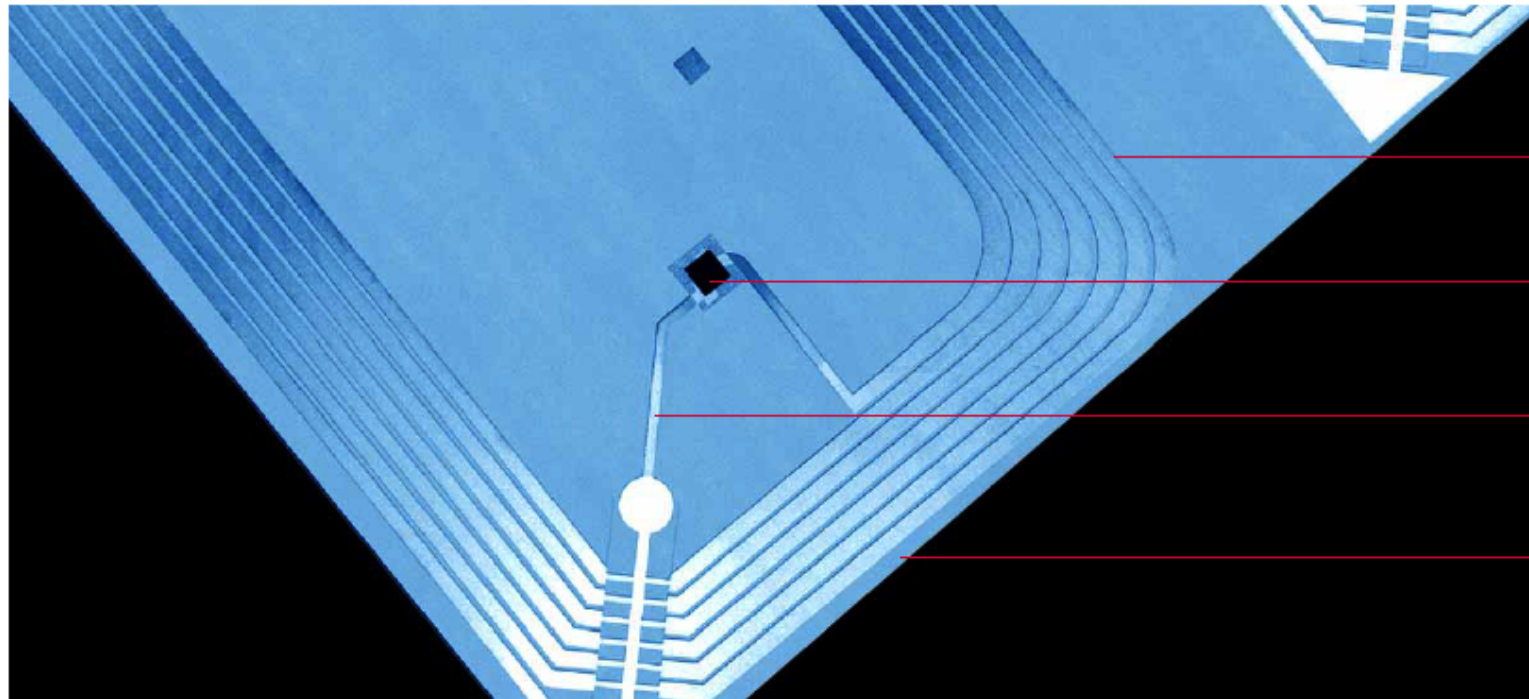
- Communication
- Identifier (Object Identifier)
- Anti-collision algorithm
- On-tag Memory (optional)
  - Mission Critical Information
  - Portable Database (Cache)
- On-tag Functionality (optional)
- On-tag Sensors (optional)

Adapted from D.W. Engels





# The Components of a Tag



Antenna

IC

Connection between  
IC and Antenna

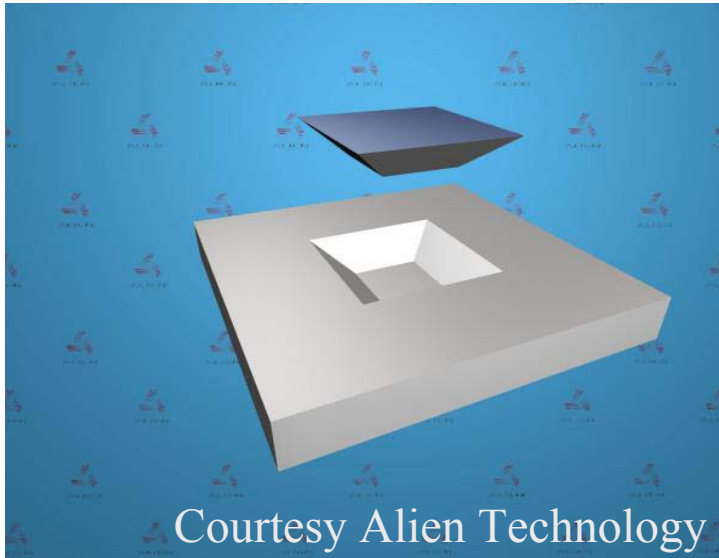
Substrate on which  
the antenna resides

Adapted from S.E. Sarma

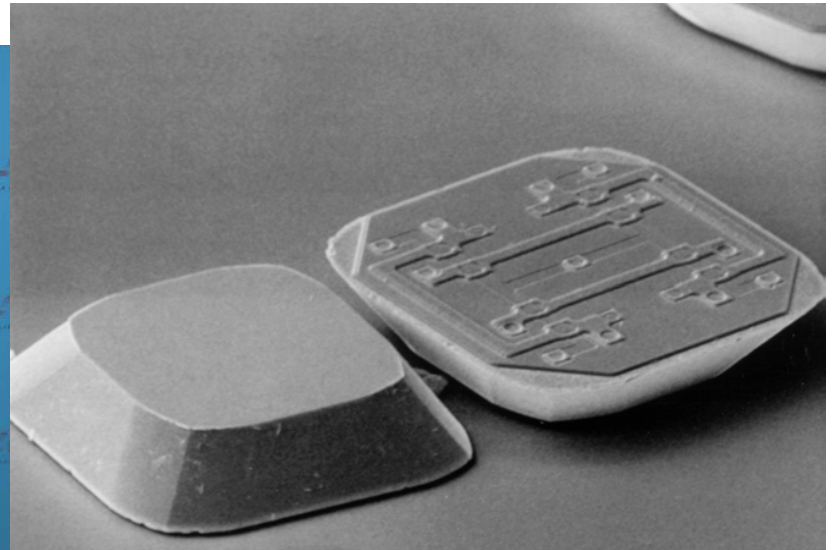




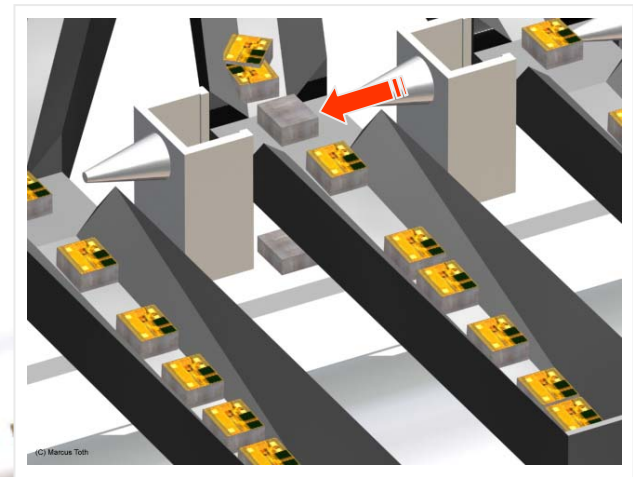
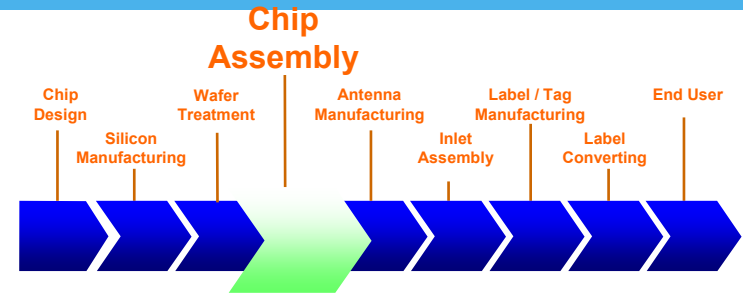
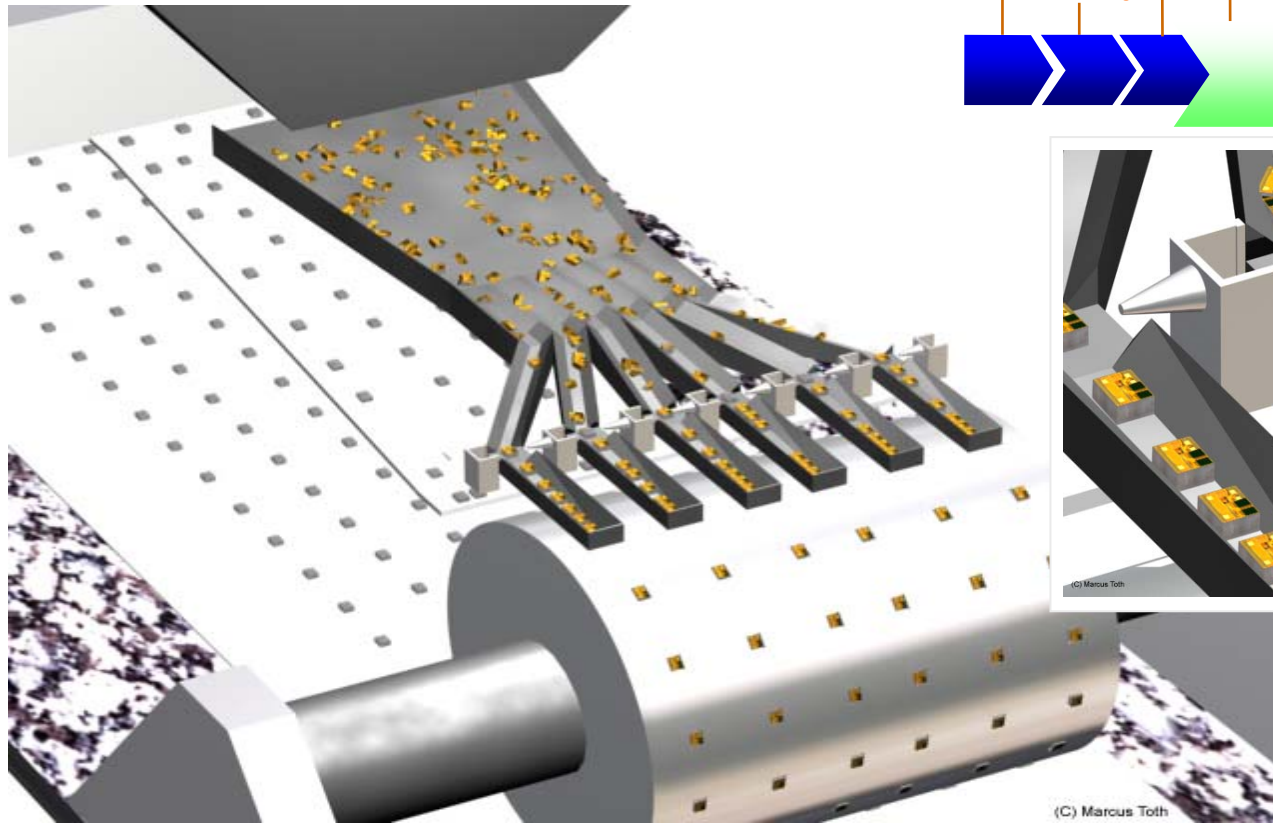
# Fluidic Self Assembly



Courtesy Alien Technology



# Vibratory Assembly



**Orientation Check**  
*Courtesy Philips*



# Regulatory Regions





# Why Low Cost?

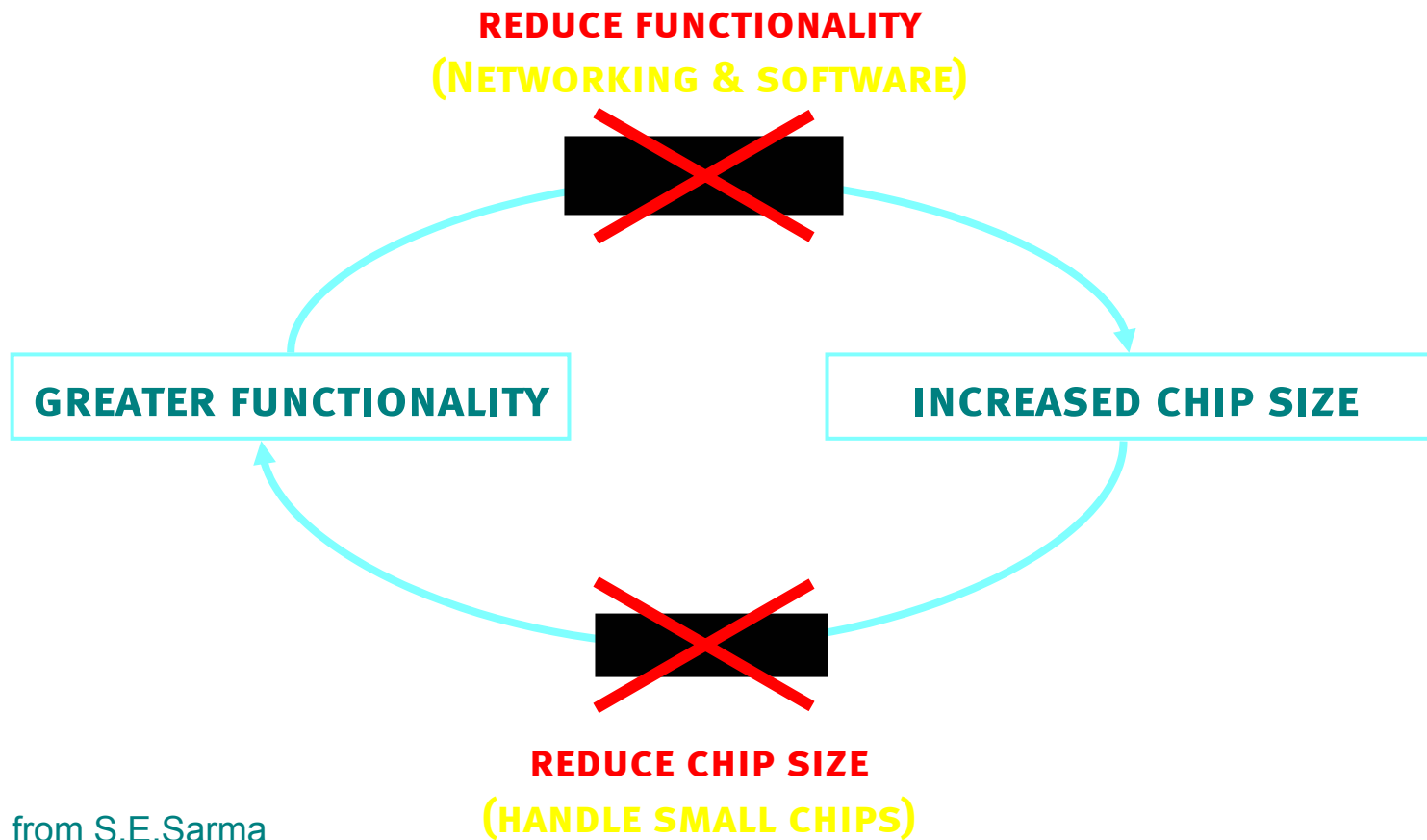
END USER	ESTIMATE NO. OF UNITS IN SUPPLY CHAIN (BILLIONS)
CHEP	0.2
JOHNSON & JOHNSON consumer goods division	3.0
KIMBERLY CLARK*	10.0
WESTVACO*	10.0
THE GILLETTE COMPANY	11.0
YFY*	15.0
TESCO	15.0
THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY	20.0
UNILEVER	20.0
PHILIP MORRIS GROUP*	25.0
WAL-MART*	30.0
INTERNATIONAL PAPER	53.0
COCA-COLA*	200.0
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>412.2</b>
(Adjust for double counting @15%)	- 61.8
United States Postal Service	205.0
<b>TOTAL INCLUDING USPS</b>	<b>555.4</b>







# Why Are Tags Expensive Today?

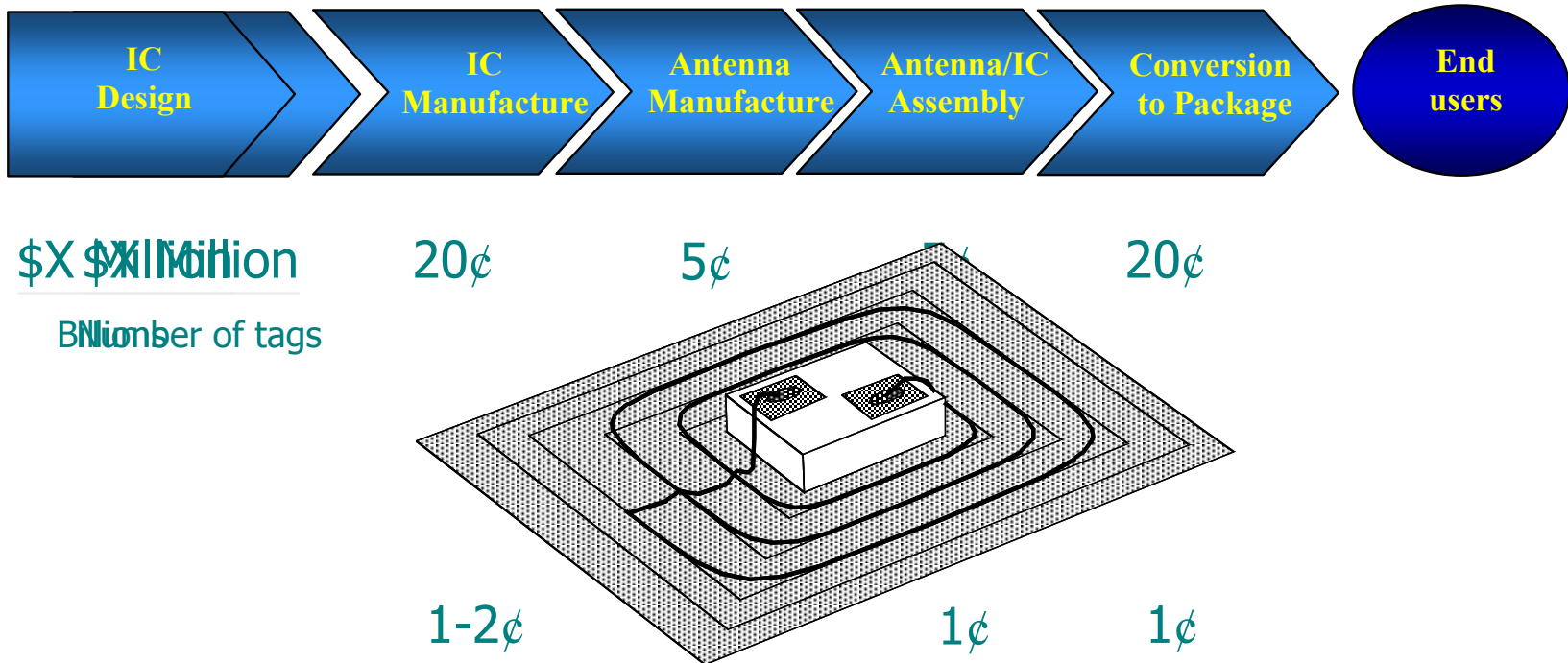


Adapted from S.E.Sarma





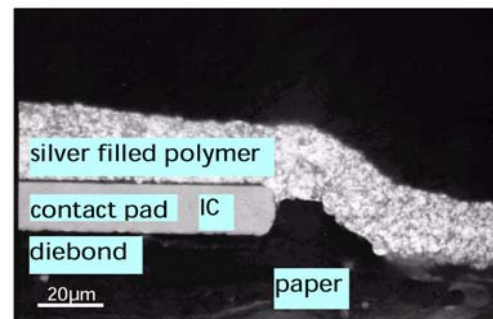
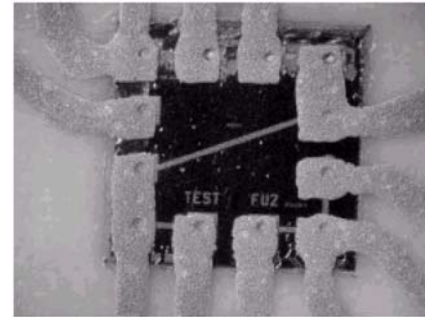
# Low cost RFID (est. by Sanjay Sarma)



Adapted from S.E. Sarma



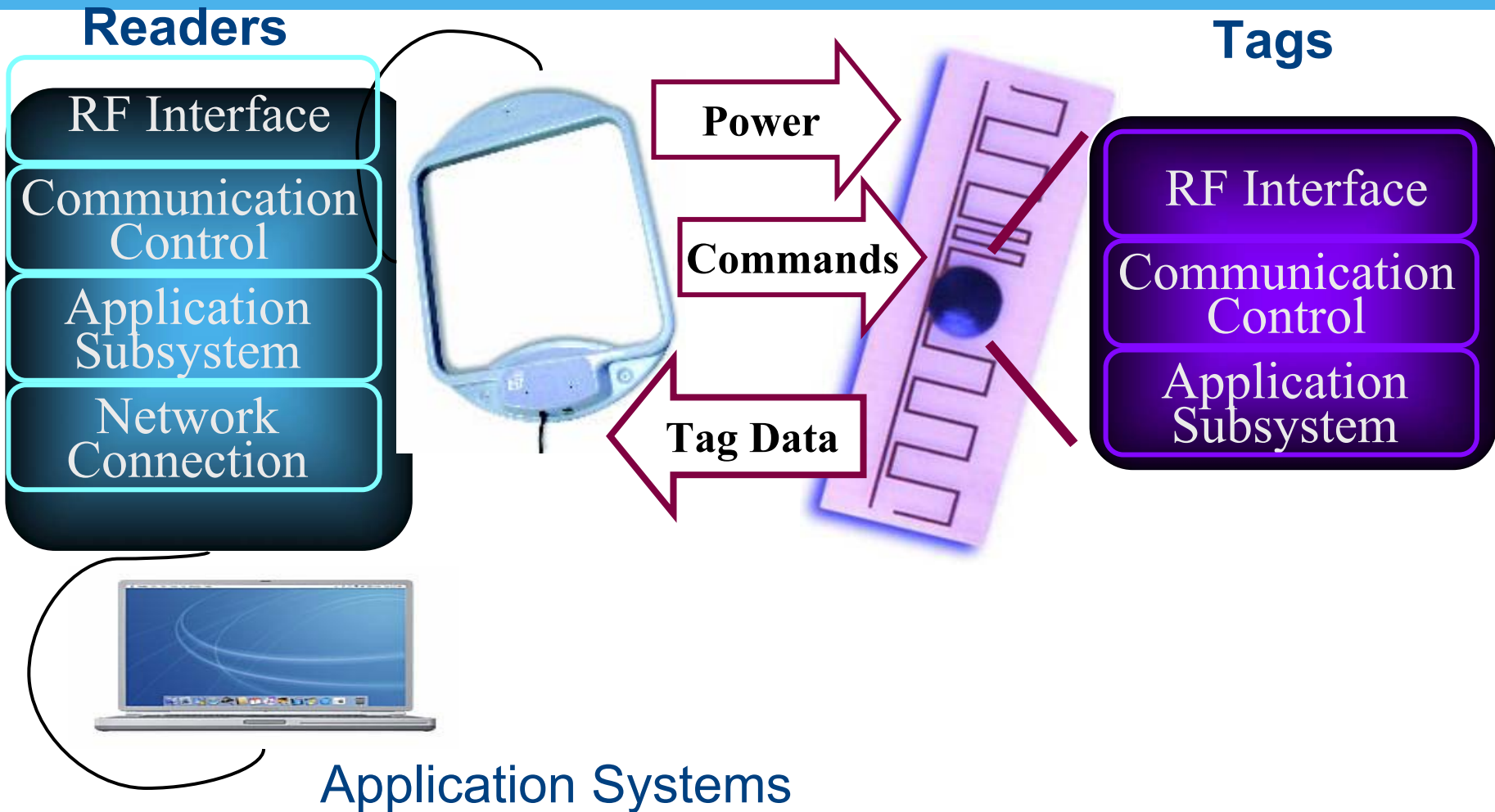
- Screen printing
- Etching
- Forming
- A printing process







# Passive RFID Systems





# What's wrong with bar-codes?

## Bar Codes

- Line-of-sight
- One-at-a-time
- Manual handling
- Limited range
- Limited data



## Auto-ID

- Non-line-of-sight
- 100(s) at a time
- Automatic handling
- ~1 meter
- 50 bits vs. Kbits

Adapted from material initially presented by Sanjay Sarma





## A Network that is...

- Always “on”
- Everywhere
- Facilitates interconnectivity
- Allows data sharing

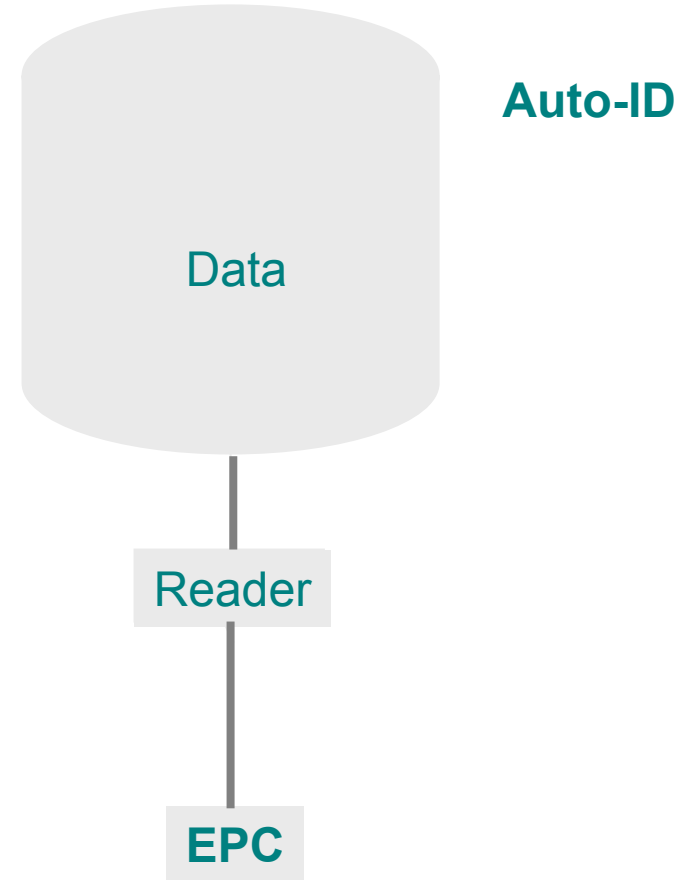
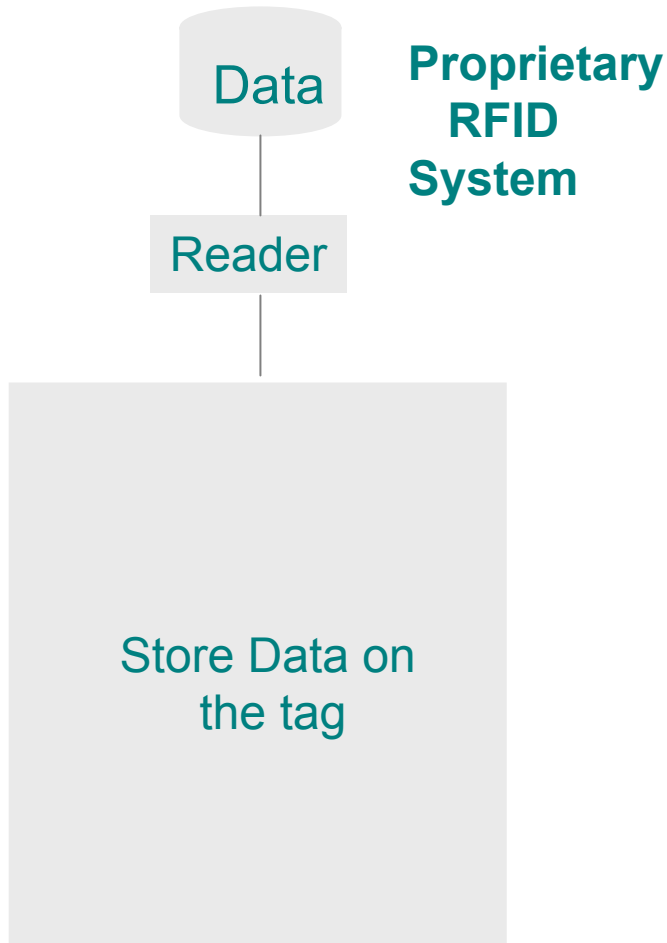
## The Web of Things







# Then and Now...





# Technical Aspects of Passive Tags

	LF 125KHz	HF 13.56MHz	UHF 868-915MHz	Microwave 2.45 GHz
Data Rate	<b>slower</b>			<b>faster</b>
Scanning near Metal/Liquid	<b>better</b>			<b>worse</b>
size	<b>larger</b>			<b>smaller</b>

source: SAMSys





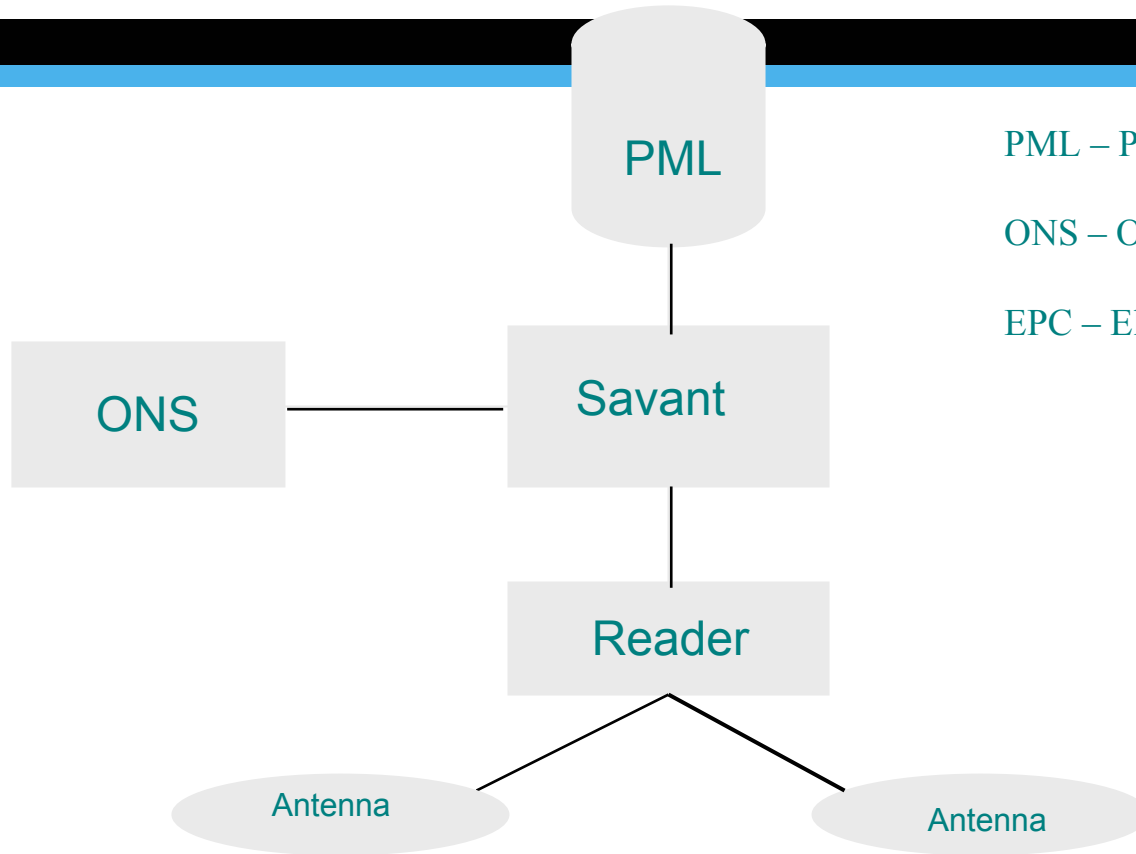
# RFID Frequency Comparison

Frequency	Regulation	Typical Range	Advantages	Comments
< 135 kHz	ISM Band, High Power	<10cm (passive)	High Liquid Penetration	Access Control
13.56 MHz	ISM Band, Nearly Identical Regulations Worldwide	<1m (passive)	Medium Liquid Penetration	Smart Cards, Access Control, Vehicle Immobilization
433 MHz	ISM Band, Short Range Communication Devices, Non-uniform Worldwide	<100m (active)	Low Liquid Penetration, Works well around metals	Active Tags
860-960 MHz	Non-uniform Worldwide	<10m (passive US) <4m (passive EU)	Best Passive Communication Range	Wal-Mart, DoD Mandates
2.45 GHz	ISM Band, Nearly Uniform Worldwide	<3m (passive) <50m (SAW)	Alternative to 900MHz	Wi-Fi, Bluetooth





# Standard Auto-ID Architecture



PML – Physical Markup Language

ONS – Object Naming Service

EPC – Electronic Product Code

Serial Number



EPC

EPC

EPC





# Things Are Different Now (Summary)

	Then	Now
	Proprietary RFID	Auto-ID Technology
Store Data	On the tag	On the network
Applications	Closed loop	Supply chain wide
Cost	Expensive	Inexpensive
Technology	Proprietary	Open Standards





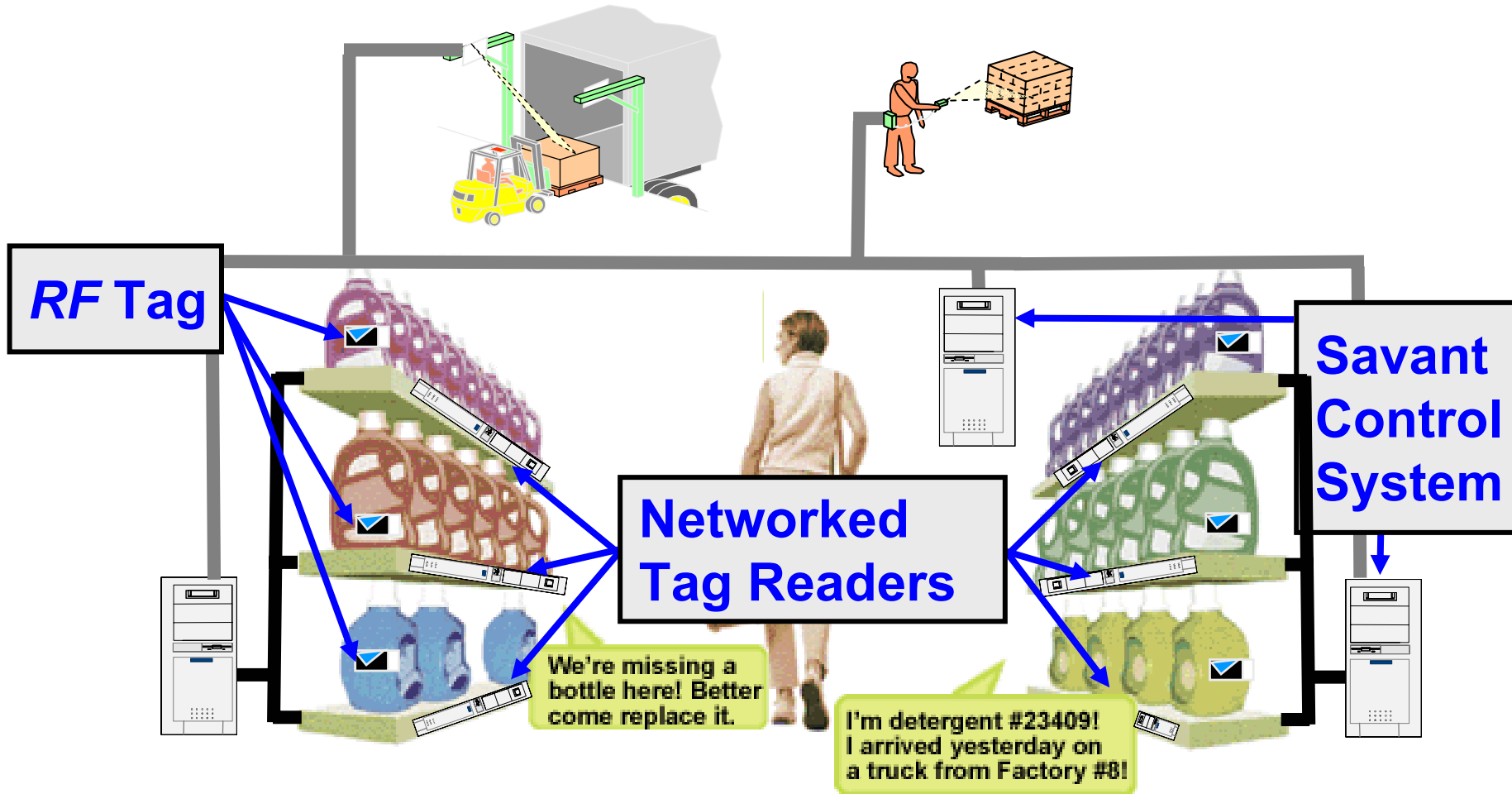
# Important Question

What out-front timing do you expect for an Auto-ID implementation at your company?

1 year, 2 year, 3 year, 5 year or 10 year.



# Networking the Physical World

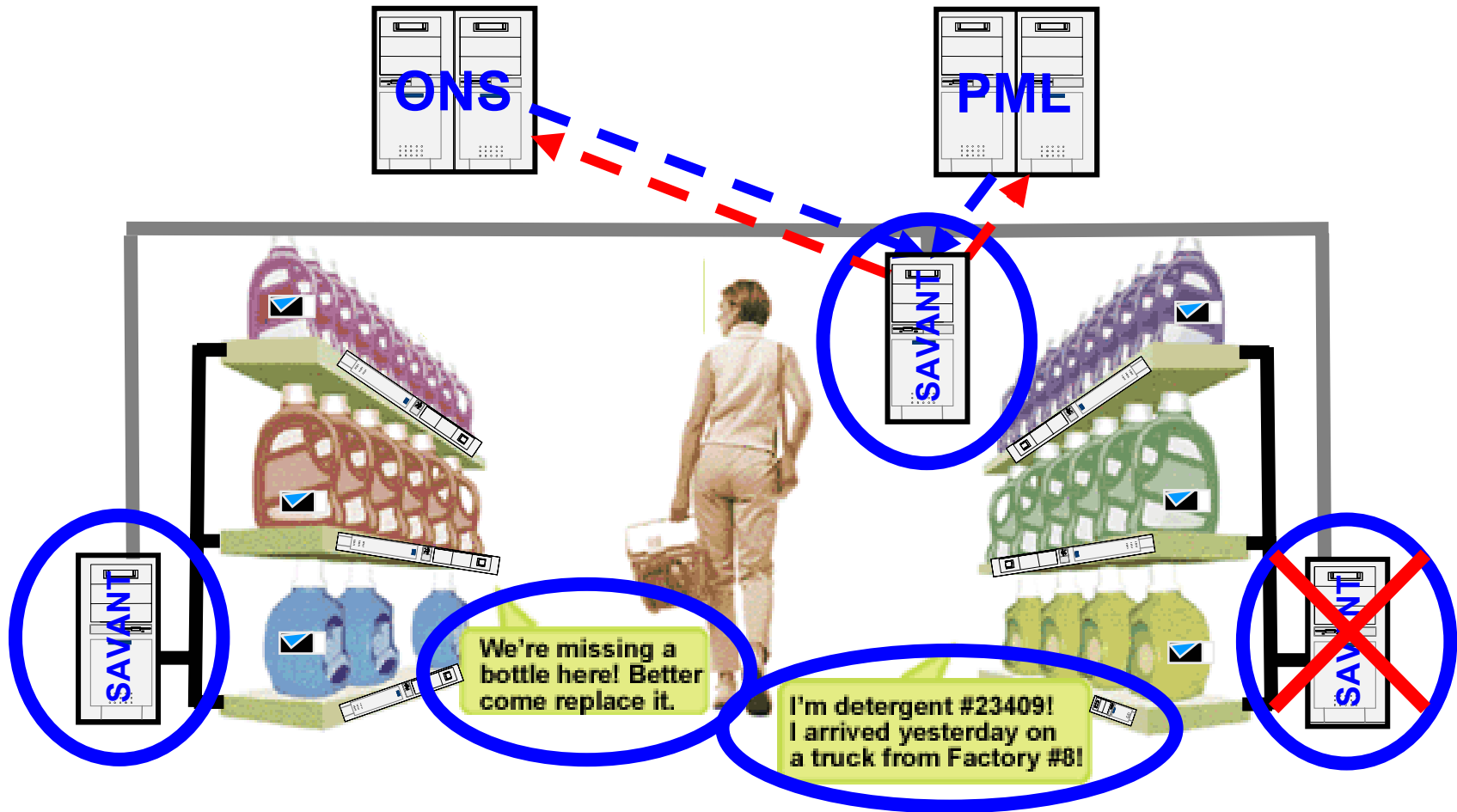


# Networking the Physical World





# Networking the Physical World





# Applications: Supply Chain

## Pre-Packaged Produce Supply Chain

Growing and  
Harvesting

Raw  
Materials

Processing  
Center

Retail DC

Retail Store

**Track and Trace**  
**Temperature Monitoring**  
**Humidity Monitoring**  
**Improved Freshness**  
**Reduced Out-of-Stock**



# Sample Applications

## Supply Chain Management

Reduce out of stocks, reduce inventory, speed up delivery, check freshness, track and trace, produce to demand, identify sources of diversion, identify counterfeiting, theft prediction, faster recalls

## Healthcare Applications

Identify counterfeit products, provide a pedigree, smart healthcare, smart medicine cabinets

## Consumer Applications

Direct order from home, smart appliances, (e.g. microwave, washing machine, refrigerator), assisted living

## New and Less Expected Applications

Customized products, smart recycling, checkout-less stores





# Application: Baggage Tagging



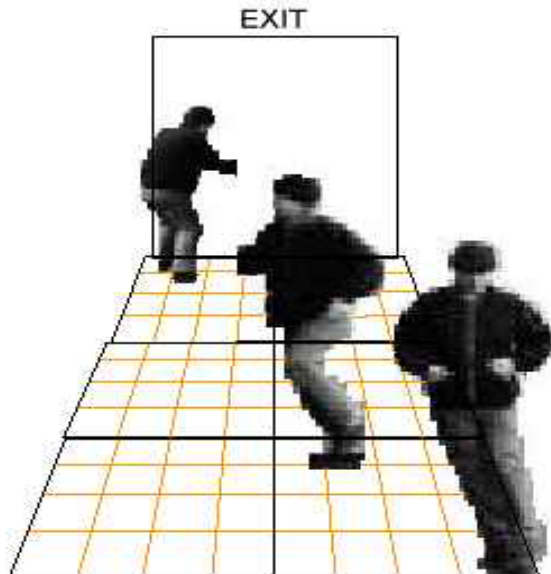


# Application: Parcel Logistics

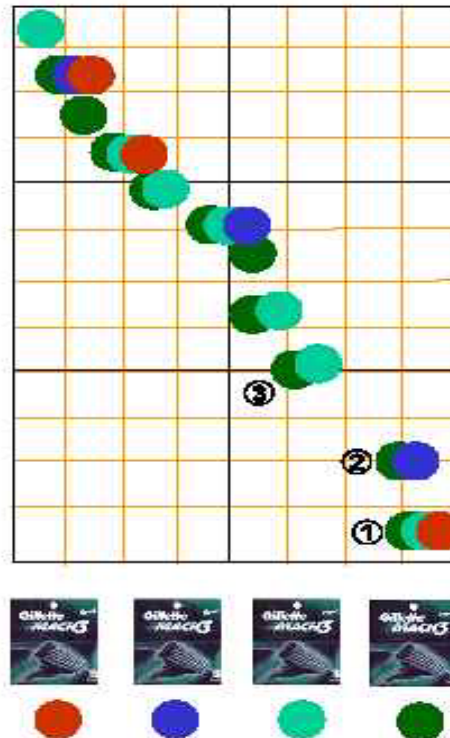


# Application: Theft Prediction

What happens in store



What the system sees



What the system thinks

- ① Read: 3 packs Mach3
  - ...very high risk item
  - ...normal purchase 1-2 units
  - ...not yet paid for
  - ...selected 4.21 mins ago
  - ...all removed within 34 secs.
  - ..95% risk: products together
  - ...70% risk: theft in progress
- ② Read: additional pack Mach3
  - ...not yet paid for
  - ...selected 4.21 mins ago
  - ...with pack from previous group
  - ..95% risk: products together
  - ...50% risk: moving towards exit
  - ...75% risk: theft in progress
- ③ Read: 2 packs from Mach3 group
  - ..95% risk: products together
  - ...75% risk: moving towards exit
  - ...85% risk: theft in progress

Action: ALERT SECURITY



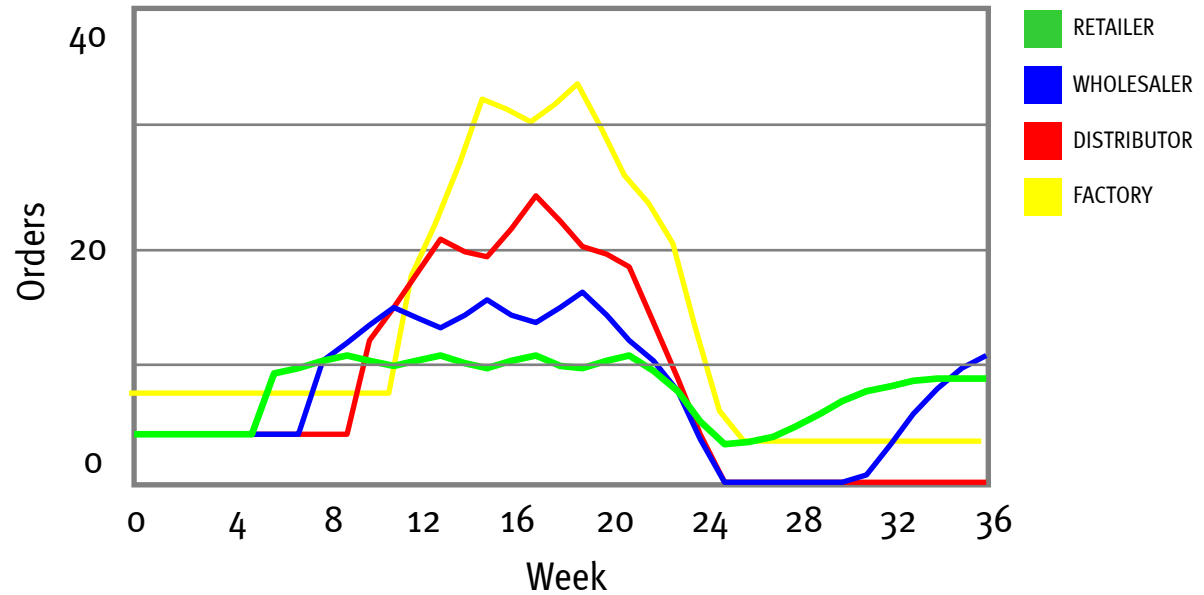
# Application: Automotive Manufacturing





# Supply Chain Behavior Today

## The “Bull-Whip” Effect



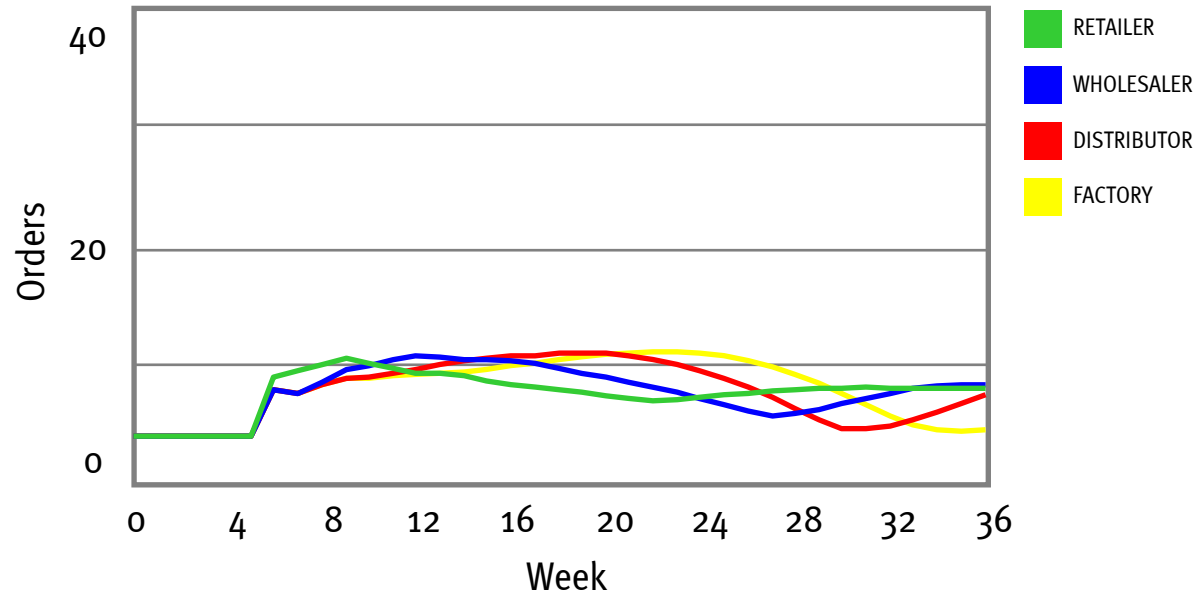
Sterman's control policy







# The Bull-Whip with Auto-ID Technology

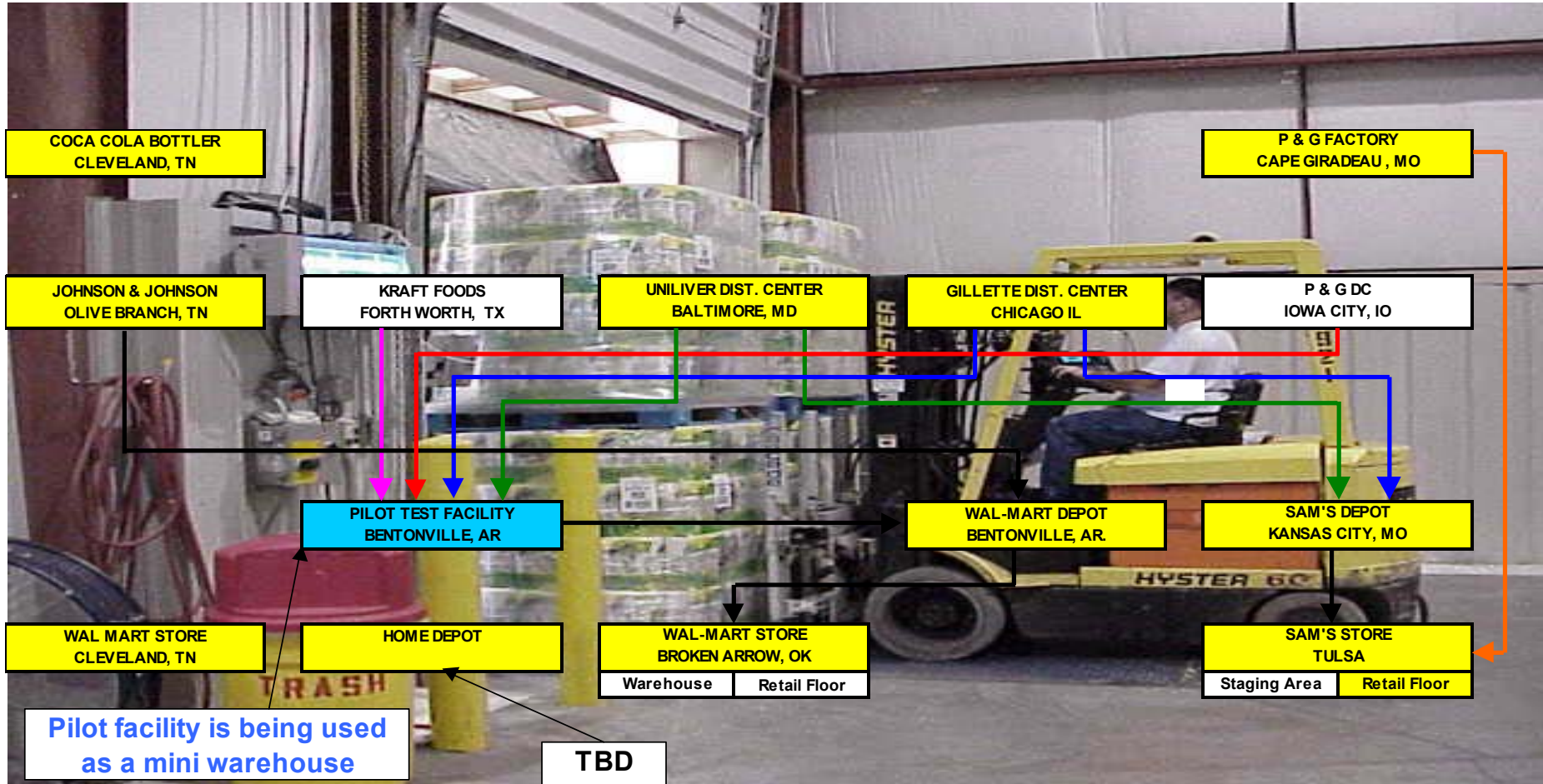


Joshi 2000





# The Field Trial





1 October 2001, 9:41am EDT





# Electronic Product Code (EPC)

01.0000A89.00016F.000169D<0

Header  
0-7 bits

EPC Manager  
8-35 bits

Object Class  
36-59 bits

Serial Number  
60-95 bits

Version 8 bits

Manufacturer 28 bits  
(> 268 Million)

Product 24 bits  
(> 16 million)

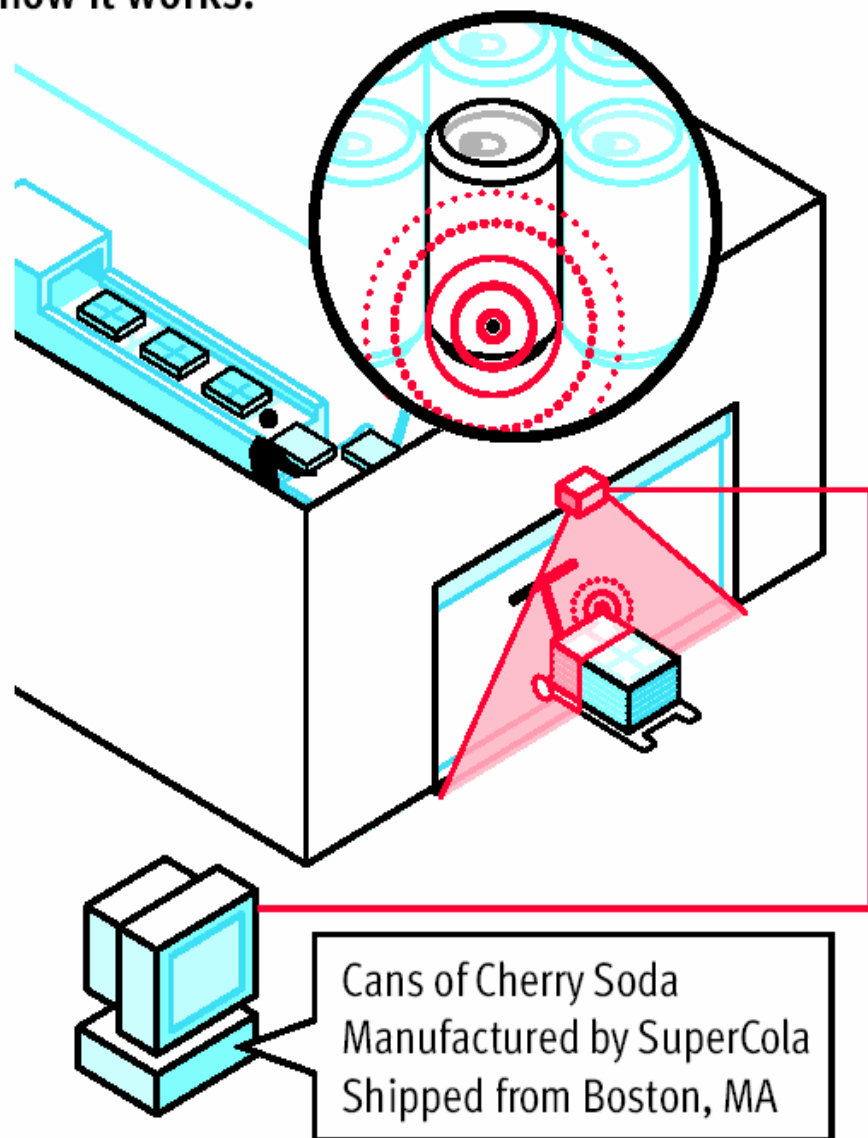
Serial Number 36 bits  
(> 68 billion)



# WHAT IS THE EPC™ NETWORK?

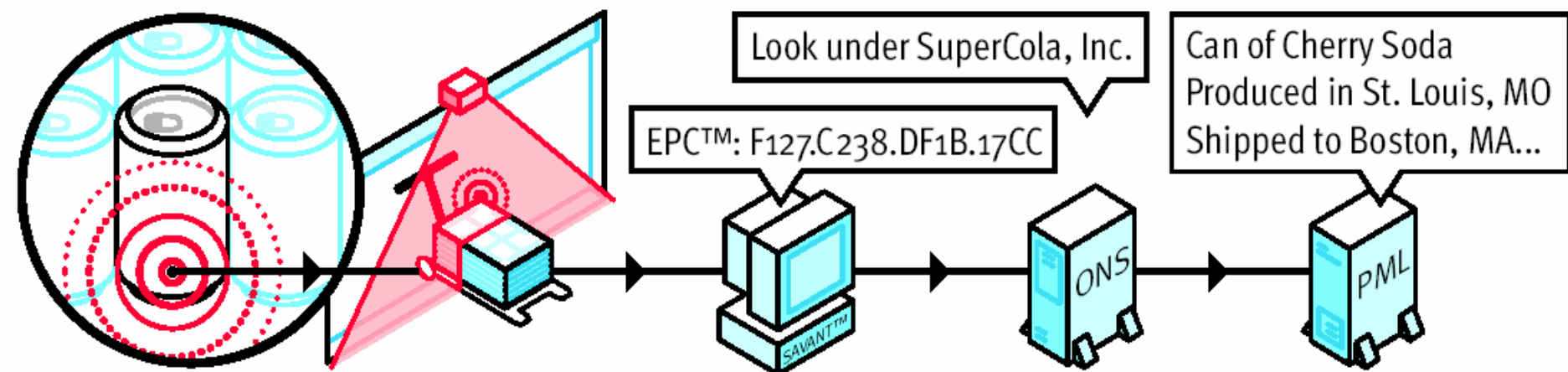
With the new EPC™ network, computers will allow manufacturers to track and trace items automatically throughout the supply chain. Here's how it works:

1. The Auto ID Center is developing a network that connects computers to objects – enabling anything in the supply chain to be identified, counted and tracked automatically.
2. Electronic Product Codes (EPCs™) are embedded in microscopic Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags, which are attached to objects, cases and pallets. Every EPC™ is a unique identifier.
3. RFID readers can “see” the objects and query computers that give information about that object. The object now can be identified by manufacturers, distributors and retailers – anywhere, anytime in the global supply chain.
4. If an incident involving a defect or tampering arises, the source of the problem can be tracked and the products can be recalled.



# THE EPC™ NETWORK: HOW DOES IT WORK?

With the new EPC™ network, manufacturers, distributors and retailers will be able to track and trace items automatically throughout the supply chain. Here's how it works:



1. An Electronic Product Code (EPC™) is embedded into microscopic “smart tags,” and attached to an item. At 400 microns square, the tags are smaller than a grain of sand. These tags allow the items to be tracked in a completely automated, cost-effective fashion.
2. Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) readers can scan each smart tag and send the item’s EPC™ to a computer running Savant™.
3. Savant™, middleware that connects the Auto ID architecture, queries an Object Name Service (ONS) database.
4. The ONS maps the EPC™ to a URL where all of the item’s information is stored using Physical Markup Language (PML).
5. The PML server contains information about the item itself, its manufacturing, shipping and other related data.



# Data Capture and Sharing within Supply Chains

## Typical Processes

- Manual
- Slow
- Error Prone
- Friction
- No Value Added

## Auto-ID

- Automated
- Integration
- Fast
- Frictionless





# Important Question

Would you delay a bar code implementation or upgrade in anticipation of Auto-ID technology?

Yes or No







# What is Next for Auto-ID

- Reduce cost, improve quality and read rates
- Gaining critical mass
- Build vendor base
- Slow build-out, over 3 – 8 years
- Changes to ERP systems
  - Transactional Bill of Material
  - Intelligent infrastructure
  - Smart products
- Making sense of the data?





# The Data Center

- Entrepreneurial, research-oriented, non profit, bigger than Auto-ID
- Develop better methods to use data gathered through Auto-ID
  - The Web of Information
  - The Web of Things
  - The Web of Abstractions (models)
- Assemble mathematical models quickly, become the Henry Ford of Modeling.
- Idea to link models and other abstractions similar to the way Auto-ID links physical objects to the Internet



# “Mexican Officials Implanted With Microchips: Getting 'Tagged' Permits Special Access to Secure Areas”

By WILL WEISSERT, AP July, 15, 2004

