



Affordable Real-Time Locating
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The industrial strength finding machine!

Heavy industrial manufacturing is known for having some of the roughest, dirtiest, and least electronics friendly environments on the planet. Our client for today's discussion was no exception. They asked us to answer this question for them, "Where are my raw materials?"



In a large, open area, thousands of large items weighing several tons per were setup for staging into the manufacturing process. Workers would then spend hours working their way in between the pieces to identify them, and write numbers on them in markers so the overhead crane operators could attempt to identify them for next order consumption. The crane operator would be forced to move one to identify and grab another, and during that process, often covered another piece which only promised more time sorting it out later. This process was hugely inefficient and a solution was needed to make sense of the chaos.

The solution had to be simple, yet effective. Workers did not have the training to become technology experts, and adding complicated systems to their job would only increase the amount of time spent making this work. Long term, the goal was to perform this process with as few resources as needed, so why not design it for a single user to be able to identify the parts and move them?

Competitive analysis performed by the client revealed that RFind answered this challenge in a way no one else could. Competitive systems were either not accurate enough, not tough enough for this environment, too expensive, or required too much infrastructure installation and disruption of the workflow. In the end, Real time location of each part was achieved through use of RFind's innovative tag-to-tag technology allowing for fast installation, seamless operation, and efficient workflow optimization.

Reference tags were attached to existing infrastructure such as steel walls and building support columns. This provided the information needed for physical location to the back end system in the plant topography. Because RFind's technology is built into sealed, rugged enclosures, the harsh conditions of the plant posed no environmental hazard to the tags. Asset tags were then attached to the pieces to be used in the process. Using

RFind's Expeditor 2D, an operator needing a specific part simply identified the component needed and clicked on the "Find it" button. A map of the facility would immediately display exactly where the part was located.

Thanks to our wireless tag-to-tag communication, our installation took place with no impact to the operation, which was running 24/7. Workers did not have to undergo extensive training to learn the new system, as the simplicity in its design was what made this system so effective for day to day use. The amount of time needed to locate the right parts for the next manufacturing job was cut dramatically, as the hours spent searching for parts was simply eliminated. And best of all, the client's goals were achieved at a fraction of the cost that our nearest competitor could deliver this system!