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RFID: Fulfilling the
prophecy

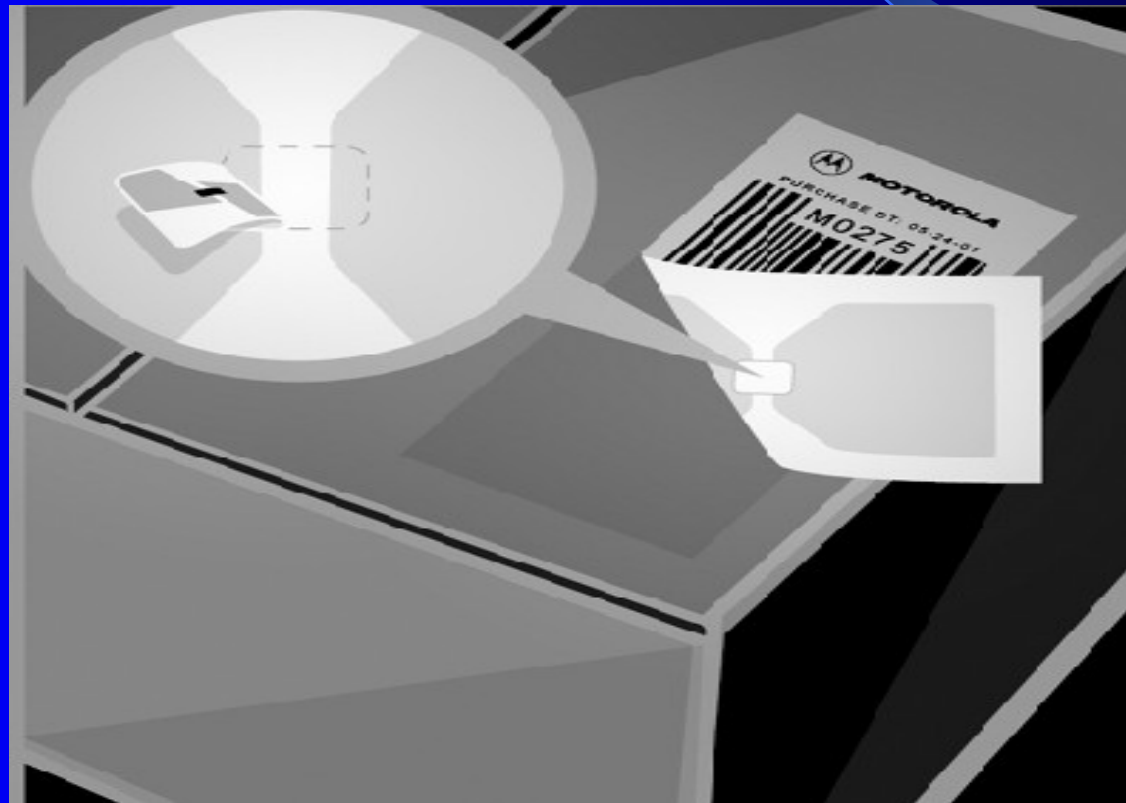


ARRRGGGHH!!!!!!





The tag





Downside to barcodes



- Each box of product must be scanned
- Individual product scanning
- Read only

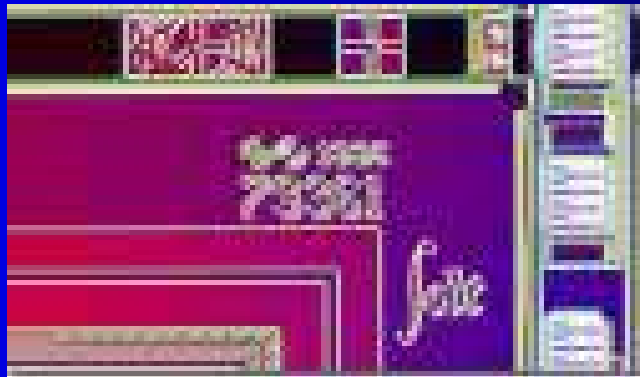


Inductively coupled

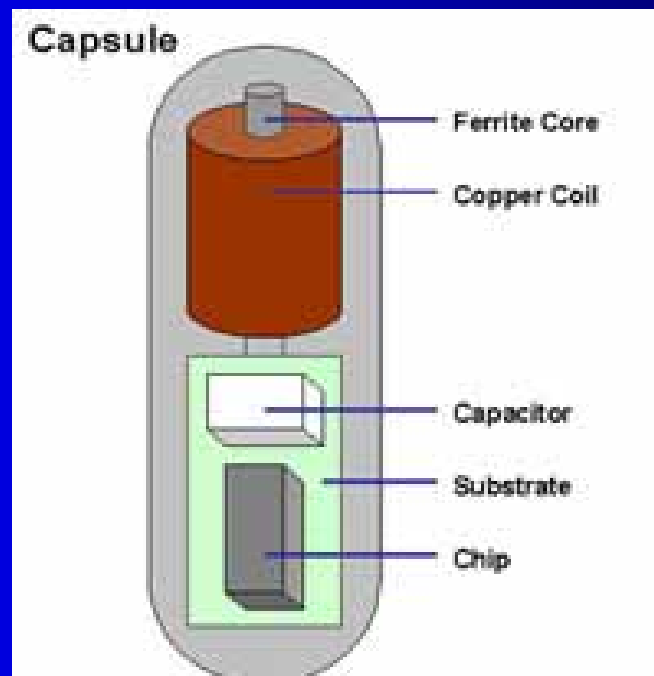


Inductively coupled

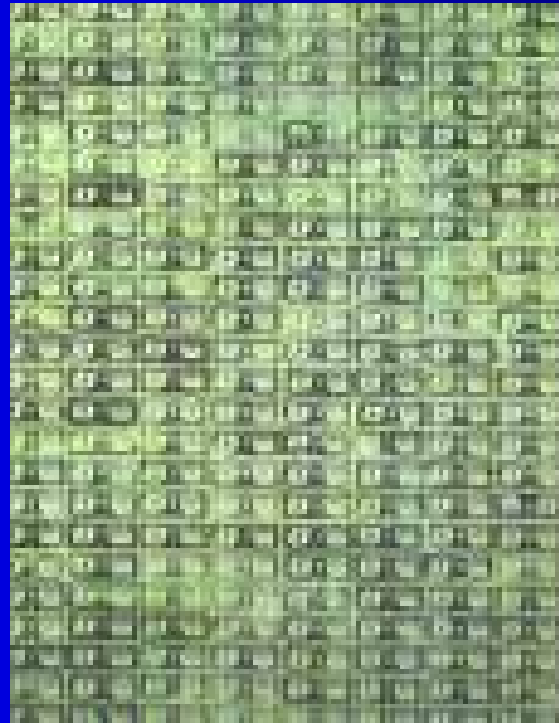
- Three parts:
- Silicon microprocessor



- Metal coil transponder



Cost still a problem...



Capacity coupled tags









Unique Product Number

Warehouse Applications

- Reduction in administrative errors



- Reduced labour costs
- Internal theft
- Errors in shipping goods
- Overall inventory levels
- Non-contact, non-line-of-sight
- High speed

Supply Chain Management

- RFID = Electronic Product Code (EPC)
- EPC Global is a venture between:
 - EAN International
 - Uniform Code Council
- AIM: To support the industry with standards for EPC

Positive developments:

- Introduction of EPC
- EPC Global
- Test cases offer realistic implementation
- Prices nearly at commercial level
- International frequency convergence

Benefits of such systems:

- Product waste minimal, theft detectable, inventory counts accurate, transfers automated and precise
- Automatic shelf-replenishment
- Synchronisation throughout the chain

Areas for voluntary standards

- Form factors
- Shape & size
- Application
- Product specific

Readers

- Quality of readers

Internal/External Infrastructure

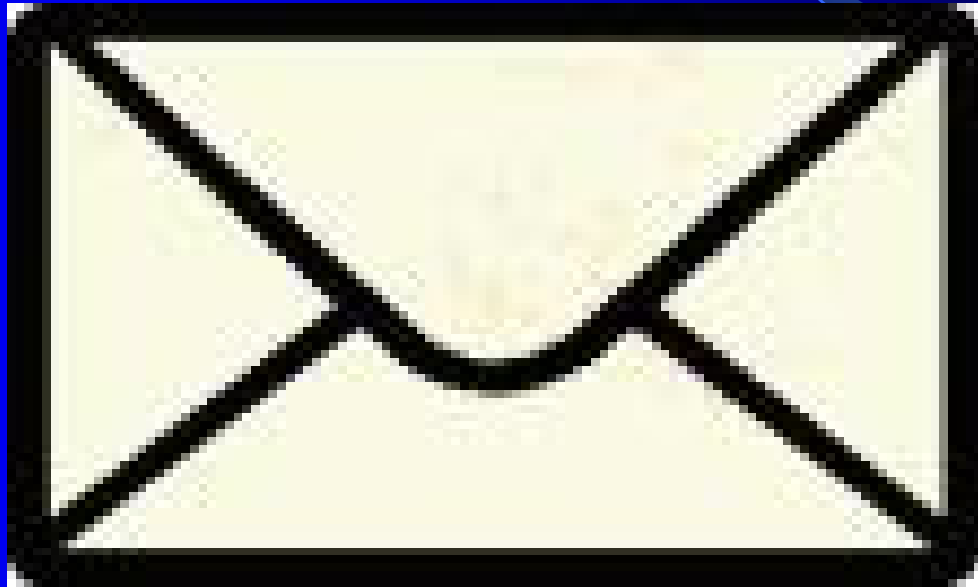
- How do we deal with such as increase in data volumes?
- How do we share this data with our partners?
- What data management policies do we need to consider?

Data volume

- Use as needed
- Data filtering
- No clutter
- Big leap
- Short term

Data sharing

- On demand
- Free data



CanTech ONLINE

The website for
the metal packaging industry



ENTER

Data management policies

- Data ownership
- Data confidentiality
- Data retention and archiving

- “In Unilever we see RFID technology, and the use of EPC, impact our total supply chain. More than we need total alignment across our logistics, our customer interaction and our technology to maximise the value of this technology. This is the challenge we face and we have taken up the gauntlet.”

Nigel Bagley, GCI Programme
Manager, Unilever.

The latest trials

- Elimination of shipping and receiving errors
- Productivity improvements and labour efficiencies
- Tracking high value maintenance, repair operations

Early feedback

- True data sharing
- Internal application
- Multiple links
- Case level tagging
- Consumer unit level
- Asset tracking

Making RFID a reality

- ACTION PLAN:
- Increase awareness
- Knowledge sharing
- Critical mass
- Data management





Enjoy!

