

A MODEL FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A RADIO FREQUENCY IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM INTO A WAREHOUSE ENVIRONMENT

By

Michelle Renee Ryan

As competition in business continues to rise, companies are becoming increasingly interested in achieving a competitive advantage. A competitive advantage can provide companies with success within the marketplace.

Many companies are examining the supply chain in order to identify opportunities for improvement. Traditionally, components of the chain operate independently, resulting in lack of communication. The value-based chain, however, views components holistically and focuses on increased communication flow.

Communication can be improved by increasing Information Technology (IT) capabilities. One type of IT is Automatic Identification and Data Collection (AIDC). AIDC can improve the speed and accuracy of operations within supply chain. An AIDC technology that is gaining popularity is called Radio Frequency Identification (RFID).

This research proposes a model that offers companies an unbiased method, in the form of decision trees, that can be used as a tool to help companies decide if RFID technology is a viable solution for their warehousing operations. Suggestions for utilizing RFID in the warehouse are provided based on how packaging is tracked through the warehouse. Benefits and issues to consider are also given for each suggestion.