



**Transforming business with Radio Frequency Identification:**

Radio frequency identification is a powerful enabling technology that, when coupled with process change, can transform the management of an organization’s supply chain, its manufacturing processes, its assets – even its entire business.

Most often associated with inventory tracking and supply chain management, RFID applications are growing rapidly. From manufacturing facilities to vehicles, to airport military compounds, store shelves and toll booths, this technology which has actually been around since 1969 – is steadily (and inevitably) transforming how the world does business.

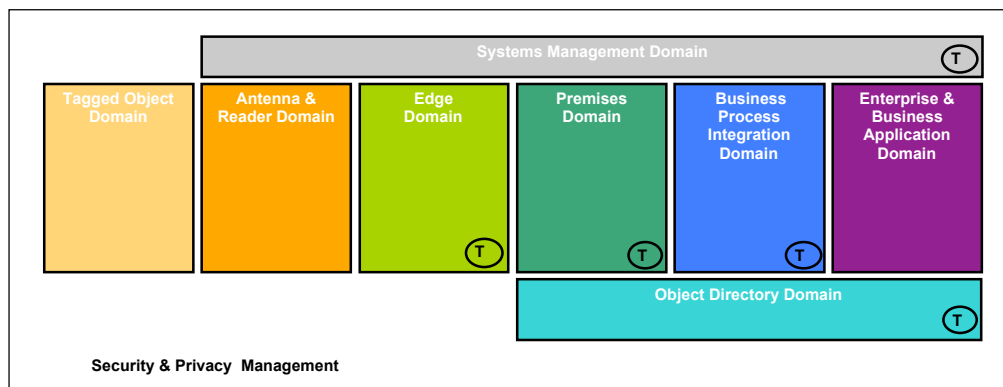
RFID enables users to access information – serial numbers, colors and sources, for example – from a remote location. The technology is based on a relatively simple concept that relies on radio waves to transfer data from a pre-programmed tag to a reader. RFID systems have three primary components:

- Tags – active, passive or semi-passive – that store information
- Readers – stationary and handheld – that read/write information from the tags
- A host System with its own hardware, functions and predefined tasks

Today, IBM is playing an active role in helping businesses across industries - -including themselves – realize the promise of RFID, For example: RFID is used in IBM’s microelectronics plant in Fishkill, NY. Every wafer has a passive RFID tag, RFID readers communicate the location and status of wafer to applications and databases. IBM is also implementing RFID solutions for METRO Group Future Store, which will monitor and locate items on the floor and help ensure that shelves are appropriately stocked.

**The IBM Solution Framework:**

IBM’s end to end component model is split into specific domains to contain the architecturally significant groups of components. This solution framework for RFID encompasses hardware, software, middleware and services (including business transformation consulting and outsourcing), plus offerings from IBM’s global network of IBM business partners.



**T** Toolina – support for customized business logic

With IBM’s partnering strategy, IBM can provide end to end solutions to their clients that allow a single service provider provide a total solution. Working with IBM, businesses in virtually every industry can determine when and how best to employ RFID in the context of their organizational and industry requirements, and at the appropriate time.