

PRODUCT BRIEF

AT&T RFID

Healthcare Solutions

Location Matters

In the dynamic environment of health care, accurate visibility – knowledge of where critical assets and people are at all times – can mean the difference between clinical success and failure. All too often, though, valuable time and resources are wasted due to low visibility: not knowing where the nearest clean infusion pump is, or not being able to locate the right doctor when needed. The results can be costly:

- Loss of equipment (through shrinkage or misplacement) is often as high as 20% of mobile assets per year
- Nursing, central supply, materials management and clinical engineering staff spend hours each day searching departments for the equipment they need
- Patient care is delayed when the right doctor or equipment cannot be found, causing staff and rooms to sit idle
- Inability to quickly find the right device leads hospitals to overstock or temporarily rent extra equipment, much of which sits idle or underutilized
- Preventative maintenance is not completed on equipment that hospitals are unable to locate, introducing JCAHO liability risk
- Patients put themselves and others at risk by entering unauthorized areas

The Search is Over

AT&T provides complete solutions that deliver full visibility of assets, patients and staff to healthcare organizations. With AT&T RFID Service, hospitals around the world now wirelessly track the location of equipment and people, and use that location information to improve everyday processes. And because the

AT&T RFID Service is based on standard Wi-Fi networking equipment, these solutions are easy to implement and cost effective for hospitals. Ultimately, this means better care for patients without disruptive and expensive infrastructure changes.

More Than Just “Where”

Installing a complete AT&T RFID solution in a hospital means more than just finding things faster. It means automatically notifying nursing units before they run out of critical equipment. It means empowering materials managers to deliver equipment more efficiently, and track utilization rates. It means alerting security as emergencies happen, in real-time. It means updating existing hospital IS systems with accurate, valuable data about patient movement. Location is more than just “where” – it’s the power to improve processes.

Bringing Visibility to Hospital Networks

AT&T RFID Service uses AT&T’s WiFi Service or other standard Wi-Fi wireless networks to locate any standard wireless mobile unit, such as laptops or PDAs, in addition to compact AT&T Active RFID Tags attached to people or any other asset and equipment. The tags or devices send Wi-Fi signals, which are received by standard Wireless LAN access points to determine the location of the person or equipment. The system continuously monitors the location of assets and people in real time, anywhere within the Wi-Fi network.

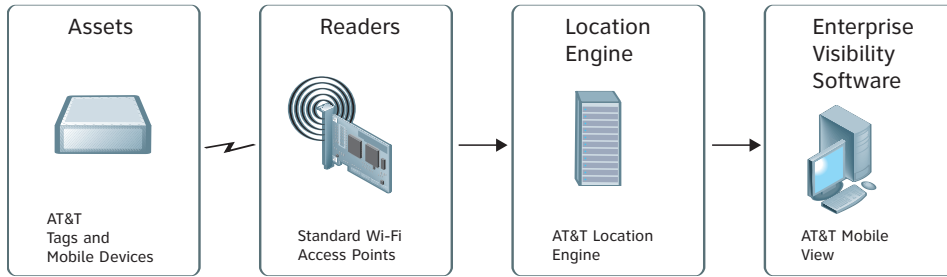
AT&T MobileView software then delivers location data to nurses, materials managers and other staff in a common-sense Web interface that makes it easy to find assets and improve everyday operations. With this information, hospitals can:

- Track the current and historical movement of all assets

Features

- Compact active RFID tags send out Wi-Fi signals received by the wireless LAN access points
- Synchronized alerts provide information on location-based events
- Call button capabilities can communicate specific alert messages
- Easy to use Web interface for nurses, staff and materials management
- Utilizes existing wireless LAN access points
- Seamless integration in most wireless healthcare environments





- Alert staff when location-based events occur (such as a wheelchair exiting the floor, or a pump remaining in a dirty utility room for 1 week)
- Manage all valuable assets and people across multiple sites from a single interface
- Integrate location information into existing clinical systems

Why Wi-Fi?

Most location technologies rely upon a costly and inconvenient network of dedicated installed “readers” throughout the hospital. The AT&T RFID Service instead utilizes wireless LAN access points to act as readers. In facilities that have an existing WLAN, this keeps infrastructure costs and installation disruption to a minimum. This provides a clear financial benefit for deploying a wireless network that can simultaneously deliver wireless voice, data services and location.

Through integration with our AT&T Wireless LAN and other WLAN vendors, AT&T works seamlessly in most wireless healthcare environments.

AT&T Visibility System

AT&T MobileView software. This full-featured software suite for end users turns location data into a complete asset management solution. It features Web-based asset searching (by device type, status or other parameter), automated asset status, sophisticated event management, rules-based events and alerting, and in-depth reporting on location, status and history. AT&T MobileView integrates with leading healthcare applications, and is easily scalable from a single hospital up to a large multi-site enterprise.

AT&T Tags

These small, rugged wireless devices can attach to any asset or person to accurately and conveniently track their location. Each Wi-Fi-based Active RFID tag unit sends out a

unique identifier, allowing the AT&T software to recognize the transmissions of an individual tag and identify its movements without interfering with the network. AT&T Wi-Fi-based tags lead the pack with a battery life of up to 4 years and advanced features such as temperature monitoring, data telemetry, call buttons, tamper-proofing and motion detection.

Wireless Infrastructure

Standard wireless access points act as “readers,” receiving all AT&T tag transmissions and forwarding them to an engine (either the AT&T Location Engine or the Cisco Location Appliance) for determining accurate location. This means that hospitals can use the same standard wireless equipment to achieve quality wireless voice, data and location-based services, without compromising the security of the network. If a wireless network is already in place within the hospital, little or no additional hardware is necessary.

AT&T Exciters

Exciters add highly accurate “choke-point” detection to the AT&T system, using a short-range wireless transmitter that causes tags within range to send a special message. This ensures that hospitals not only have the ability to locate a particular asset, but can also identify which bed or shelf that asset is on, and pinpoint exactly when that asset goes through a doorway or enters an elevator. The Exciter is a short-range wireless transmitter that causes tags within range to send a special message. Exciters can also reprogram tags automatically, or trigger rules-based alerts.

AT&T is the leader in Active RFID asset tracking and location solutions over standard Wi-Fi networks. Its enterprise visibility solutions accurately locate and monitor assets and people in both indoor and outdoor environments to improve business processes.

You Can See Clearly Now

AT&T’s location-based solutions have been proven to deliver ROI to hospitals in less than one year, by applying the power of location to improve operations throughout the hospital and across multiple functional areas. Benefits of the AT&T RFID Solution within healthcare include:

- **Locates mobile assets accurately and in real-time, from any Web browser**
- **Automates asset management processes through instant alerts**
- **Improves the utilization of high-value assets, to reduce wasted inventory**
- **Increases patient throughput by ensuring that patients and staff are in the right place at the right time**
- **Automates hospital-wide inventory counts, eliminating the need for manual counting**
- **Improves regulatory compliance, through higher maintenance success rates for JCAHO and greater financial control for Sarbanes-Oxley**
- **Enables immediate alerts when patient help is needed, with call-button location tag**
- **Reduces the need for high-cost equipment rentals**
- **Improves billing accuracy, through location-based association between patient and equipment**
- **Eliminates shrinkage and loss of assets with automated perimeter alerts**
- **Reduces time spent searching for assets, allowing staff to spend more time delivering clinical care**
- **Delivers location information to existing hospital applications (nurse call, maintenance, patient monitoring, billing, etc.)**

For more information contact your AT&T Representative or visit us at www.att.com/healthcare.



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