

## Managed Medical Inventory Access

### *Control of drugs, prosthetics & medical equipment **made easy** by CoreRFID*

Control of medical and pharmaceutical products at the point of use is a critical issue for manufacturers and for the medical community. Preventing loss and misuse of products is a priority in order to avoid medical accidents, compliance failures and potentially tragic events. At the same time both manufacturers and their customers have an interest in reducing the costs inherent in procurement, inventory management and logistics in the supply chain.

An innovative approach to managing the stock of drugs, prosthetics and other medical equipment offers a way of overcoming many of the problems in the supply chain. It does this by automating the process of allowing users to access inventory and notifying logistics systems of the need to re-order based on a live checking of the actual inventory present at the point of use.

For manufacturers it offers the chance to work with their customers in new ways. For hospitals and other medical users it offers reduced procurement costs, lower risks of stock out and much improved traceability of usage.

### **Improved Logistics : Better Patient Care**

Managing the use of medical and pharmaceutical products is a challenge for both manufacturers, wholesalers and the medical community. With stocks held at distribution centres or at the ward, theatre or laboratory level item the visibility of stock levels is often poor.

Studies have shown that computer records of stock quantities are frequently only 60% accurate, even in the best managed operations. This leads to holding excess stock in order to avoid potential stock-outs, exposing the user to the risk of stock wastage when items are unused by their expiration date. When stock-outs do occur, emergency orders cause extra costs for the user and additional logistic effort for the supplier with all the risks of mistakes inherent with rush orders. Distributed stock of high value goods also can be vulnerable to theft or misuse and, while good manual records may track usage, it may be costly to provide the trail of checks that allow the use of any one item to be monitored correctly and in line with regulatory requirements.

Fortunately, technology developments have now made it possible to manage individual stock items, tracking the identity of each specific packet of drugs, prosthetic or disposable as it is used. By electronically capturing the exact moment that an item is taken from stock, it becomes possible to model stock holding on a real time basis. Applying these techniques has enabled users of this technology to boost the accuracy levels of computer held stock files to 98%. At the same time it is possible to associate the issuing of an individual specific item with the identity of the individual that took it, so providing traceability and a vital link in the chain of information linking, say, a specific prosthetic implant, with a specific patient. The elimination of paperwork saves costs and helps speed the issuing process.



**Managed Medical Inventory is a new way to reduce the costs of handling drugs, prosthetics and medical consumables.**

## Managed Medical Inventory Access

This approach to Managed Medical Inventory Access (MMIA) can be used in a wide range of areas. Areas where MMIA can offer benefits include:-

- Theatre stocks of disposable items
- Ward, theatre or site local stock holding
- Laboratory stock holdings

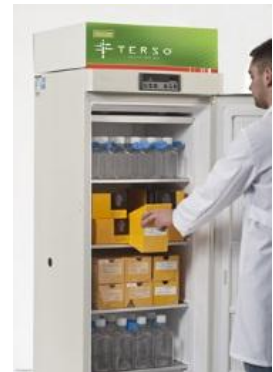
For each the MMIA approach provides inventory storage (environmentally controlled if needed) with management of who has access to the stock. This is coupled with an automatic way of detecting exactly which individual item has been removed from stock. Stock usage data is transmitted to a computer system which provides details of all stock movement and all stock levels, correct to the last transaction.

For manufacturers, MMIA makes it possible to offer their customers a complete managed service where items are invoiced on an as-used basis, saving the user procurement costs, stock holding costs, stock loss costs and reducing the risk of stock-outs. At the same time it provides the manufacturers with a unique insight into the way that stock items are used by their clients.

## Terso & MMIA

The MMIA solution was developed by Terso Solutions. The system is used, among others, by life sciences company Promega to deliver the Helix Smart On-Site Stocking Systems in support of their DNA and RNA related business.

Terso have developed a range of intelligent medical cabinets able to monitor in and out movements of stock. Refrigerated versions are available. The system uses tags on the products and electronic badges for staff which can all be provided. Information from the Terso cabinets is transmitted to a management application which makes information on stock holding and stock movements instantly available to authorised users. The MMIA software application is provided as a managed solution, accessible via the Internet so that systems can be implemented without impact on local applications.



A Terso MMIA cabinet gives monitored access.

## CoreRFID's MMIA Solution

CoreRFID is working with Terso Solutions to deliver the MMIA solution in the UK. It is a complete offering, combining all the hardware, software and services needed to operate a distributed stock management system that controls the issuing of individual items down to the item level at individual cabinets across a hospital or across many hospitals, providing instant on-line access to data on stock movements to users, managers and manufacturers as relevant. The CoreRFID solution conforms to the requirements of NHS coding systems such as the recent directive regarding the use of GS1 GTIN numbering.

CoreRFID provides UK based project management and installation teams and local software support. CoreRFID also offers integration services between the MMIA and the users information systems where needed.

CoreRFID is a member of the Active & Intelligent Packaging Association

## About CoreRFID

Contact us at:

CoreRFID Ltd, Dallam Court, Dallam Lane, Warrington, U.K. WA2 7LT

T: +44 (0) 845 071 0985 F: +44 (0) 845 071 0989 W: [www.corerfid.com](http://www.corerfid.com) E: [info@corerfid.com](mailto:info@corerfid.com)

