

Combining IUID Tracking and Reporting with Military Maintenance

The Challenge

In the world of identifying, marking and tracking critical assets, the challenge is finding a system that manages all of the steps of compliance, which include creating the UII, marking the item, verifying and validating the mark and submitting the information to the IUID Registry. A2B Tracking, a leader and innovator in IUID and RFID software, systems and services for accurately identifying, marking and tracking critical assets allows the Department of Defense and DoD contractors to do just that.



The Idea

A2B Tracking Solutions' UC! Web™ Software offers the military's largest manufacturing depots to streamline production as well as meet the MIL STD 130 compliance. In addition, the expertise and responsiveness of A2B's staff makes a huge difference in offering the military depots what they need. A2B's team of engineers makes several onsite visits to assess technical considerations including IUID plate design, marking options and the IUID registration process.

The Details

In 2005, A2B began implementing comprehensive IUID data management software to drive YAG and CO2 flatbed lasers as well as Metalphoto and dot peen marking systems. A wide variety of labels and plates were used to accommodate the material and environmental requirements of individual components to serve the one of the military's largest manufacturing depot's maintenance department in creating vehicle plates and data tags for numerous military vehicles coming in from the field for maintenance, repair and overhaul.

The Results

As a result the program has grown in the last five years to over 100 discrete components, with a greater range of label and plate options to satisfy component requirements. The software has been upgraded to A2B's cloud-based UC! Web™ with integrated handheld technology, resulting in increased mobility and efficiency.

"UC! Web was a game changer. Before, we only dreamed of being able to implement serialized item management in order to track all items through the re-build assembly process. Now that dream is taking shape. The main reason our program has grown so dramatically in five years is the way we have been able to streamline our process," commented Charlie Fargo, director of maintenance at one of the military's largest manufacturing depots.

Combining IUID Registry With State-of-the-Art Software

Mobility allows technicians the ability to walk through the production floor to access IUIDs in embedded relationships and to process that information in real time. As a result bottlenecks are a thing of the past. Accuracy also increases with scanners that eliminate the need for pencil and paper. Hundreds of man-hours are saved and efficiency increased offering the perfect solution to the challenges the military depot was facing. A2B's UC! Web is also now being utilized for asset tracking, enabling depots to locate many parts in real time on the web.

In addition, maintenance cycle times are drastically reduced, which is a huge advantage. Fargo estimates that his line managers were spending up to 75% of their time tracking down missing parts for up to twelve production lines. Now his teams are saving hundreds of man-hours each week just by eliminating sterile time searching.

It is expected that IUID will be able to provide visibility behind every wall and inside every asset within the military's Wide Area Workflow (now called iRAPT) in the not so distant future. This would allow for efficiencies previously unknown and unheard of in military history. A streamlined system developed specifically for IUID is what makes the difference, breaking new ground in identifying, marking and tracking critical assets.

Based off of the following Case Study from A2B: <http://www.a2btracking.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Military-Depot-Speeds-Up-Maintenance-Cycle-Times-with-IUID.pdf>