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# RFID in Food Chain Virtual Event

# QSCC RFID Pilot

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# What You Will Learn

- What is RFID and what is the business case?
- How we performed an RFID pilot in a restaurant
- Pilot Findings
- Benefits extend beyond traceability

# About Quality Supply Chain Co-op

- QSCC is an independent, not-for-profit cooperative in Dublin, OH
- Third-largest cooperative in the quick-service restaurant industry with nearly \$4 billion in buying power
- Part of the Wendy's extended family
- Negotiate with suppliers in purchasing, distribution & logistics, equipment and services

# Next-Gen Traceability Solutions

- QSCC continues to research and evaluate next generation technologies and solution platforms
- Key Technologies
  - RFID
  - Internet of Things (IoT) enabled scanners
  - Blockchain
- Restaurant-level RFID Pilot
  - In coordination with Avery Dennison (RFID providers) and Zebra Technologies (RFID scanners and reporting portal), QSCC conducted a restaurant-level RFID pilot at a franchise restaurant in Dover, OH

# Restaurant-Level RFID Pilot Scope

- Pilot within the four walls of the restaurant
- Mid-November through early May
- Inclusive of all items delivered by foodservice distributor
  - Food, packaging, cleaning supplies, etc.
- Assumptions
  - Cases have barcode
  - If no barcode or unreadable barcode have a printed list of barcodes in restaurant
- Keep product in cases even if partially used



# How does RFID work?

## RFID Labels

Product data is linked to the RFID microchip and can be read by the RFID reader



## RFID Readers

RFID readers pick up the signal of hundreds of labels per second and transmit data to the software platform



## Software

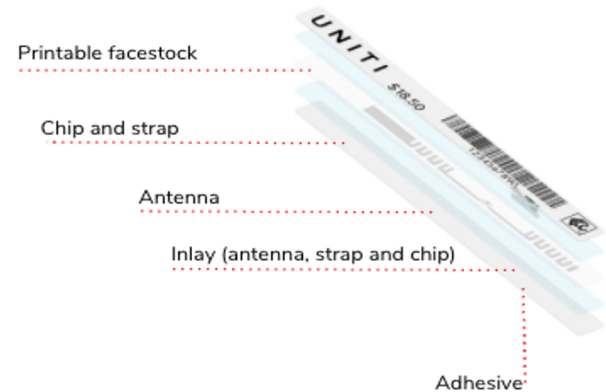
Software processes the data to guide in-restaurant operations and feed accurate data to backend systems



# RFID Tags

Provided by Avery Dennison

- Integrated consumable label that can leverage current print process to drive item level identification and automate reading multiple items simultaneously
- Pre-serialized rolls of tags with barcode and human readable
- Adhesive for use for all purpose food service
- Integrated Label with AD-238 UHF RFID inlay
  - Average corrugate read range: 10 feet
  - Ability to read in a mixed environment without line of site





# Handheld Reader

## Provided by Zebra Technologies

- Integrated UHF RFID Android mobile terminal
- 1D and 2D barcode scanning
- Keypad and Large Touchscreen
- Cycle Count and Geiger counter functionality



# Pilot Initial Preparation

Performed prior to receiving items at pilot onset

- Obtain RFID labels
  - Each RFID tag has a unique serial number
  - Keep unused labels in a metal container so reader won't pick them up during cycle counts
- Tag and associate all inventory in restaurant
  - Provided baseline for subsequent cycle counts
- Training is critical for success
  - Receiving
  - Cycle counting



# Process Overview

## Receiving

- Receive items from distributor and apply RFID tag to cases
- Scan GTIN then scan barcode on RFID tag to associate to product
- Cycle count newly received cases using RFID reader
  - New Receipt Report can be used to compare to Invoice
- Put cases away in designated areas



# Process Overview

## Cycle Count

- Count inventory
  - Full cases
    - “Paint” the storage areas throughout the restaurant with the handheld reader
  - Partial cases
    - Barcode scan with handheld reader the RFID tag of a partial case
    - Enter quantity or percent to adjust appropriately
- Manually enter amounts into backoffice using dashboard report or if integrated leverage API to automatically feed data collected into back office system



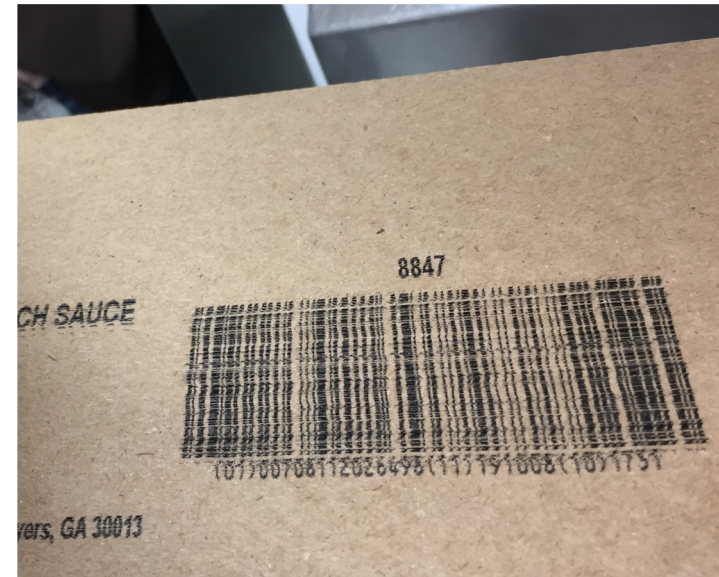
# Pilot Findings

## Findings addressed

- Validate that you can read all barcodes on cases
  - Barcode present
  - Check for quality/scannability
  - Utilize audit report to identify unassociated RFID tags
- Have a process in place to manage partial cases if in scope
  - Keep RFID tag with box when removing flaps
- Utilize reports to compare receiving counts to distributor invoice and to facilitate cycle count data entry into backoffice

## Pending Opportunities

- Validate need for 100% wi-fi coverage, including coolers and freezers, to associate product for key-drop deliveries
- Lack of backoffice integration
- Apply RFID tag at supplier
- Product expiration report



# Potential Labor Opportunity

Receiving	Daily Cycle Count (2x's)	Weekly Cycle Count	Monthly Cycle Count
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Attended delivery:</b> 30 minutes</li> <li>• <b>Manual RFID:</b> 45 minutes <i>(Tagging and associating in restaurant)</i></li> <li>• <b>Future state RFID:</b> 3 minutes <i>(Source tagging)</i></li> <li>• <b>Annual savings (with source tagging)</b> 3X delivery per week: 70 hours 2X delivery per week: 47 hours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pre-RFID:</b> 15 minutes manually</li> <li>• <b>With RFID:</b> 7 minutes</li> <li>• <b>Annual savings:</b> 97 hours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pre-RFID:</b> 120 minutes manually</li> <li>• <b>With RFID:</b> 60 minutes</li> <li>• <b>Annual savings:</b> 40 hours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pre-RFID:</b> 120 minutes manually</li> <li>• <b>With RFID:</b> 60 minutes</li> <li>• <b>Annual savings:</b> 12 hours</li> </ul>

**Observed: Annual estimated restaurant labor opportunity: 110-123 hours** (Range for delivery frequency)

**Future State: (tag at source) Annual estimated restaurant labor opportunity: 266-290 hours**

(Range for delivery frequency; deducts manual key entry and scan/scan receiving)

# Key Take-Aways

## Food Safety / Brand Protection

- Traceability & increased legislation
- Social media
- Improved product handling and rotation
- Enhanced customer engagement

## Save Labor

- Wage increase, labor shortage and turnover
- Mitigate risk by removing mandatory labor activities
- Digitize manual labor tasks: receiving, cycle counts, replenishment
- Automate decisioning and reduce restaurant manager workload

## Sustainability

- Reduce inefficiencies and food waste
- Reduction in out-of-stocks and restaurant-to-restaurant transfers
- Opportunity for proactive replenishment



**THANK YOU**

